

GM567

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ERNEST MATSUMURA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015. (Term
amended to 6-30-2013 by GM575)**

April 4, 2011

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Water Land and Housing
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

To: Senator Dela Cruz:

Re: Nomination to the Land Use Commission – MSG 567

The following is my response to your questions:

1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Land Use Commission?

My primary reason for wanting to be a member of the Commission is to be able to make a positive impact on our state, not just for today but for our future generations.

2. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Land Use Commission?

I perceive the role and responsibilities of a Commission member to be: thoroughly and accurately understanding the concerns of the state and making informed decisions and encouraging uses based on what is best suited.

3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Land Use Commission? Why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Land Use Commission.

As the past chair of the Hawaii County Real Property Tax Board of Review (2006-09) I witnessed the concerns of landowners and the land values of the County of Hawaii and thereby made decisions which I felt were fair to both the County and the landowner. This experience, plus serving as chairman or director of various community and statewide programs (see attached resume), gives me prior experience with and expertise in making decisions on matters that will be presented to the Commission.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

As Chairman of the East Hawaii Community Development Corporation, we are working closely with the University of Hawaii at Hilo in integrating Science, Technology, and Innovation in the field of agriculture to enhance our economy.

Being a member of the Land Use Commission will help assure that our prime agriculture lands are maintained and made available for future agricultural use.

5. Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these benefit the Land Use Commission?

The three qualities that describe me are as follows: Long term/long range strategic planner and team player with a community development focus. I believe a long term focus and community planning are integral in Hawaii, especially on a Commission such as this. As an example, once agriculture lands are developed, it is not possible to return it to agriculture. Thus, I will seriously take into consideration the impact decisions will have over the long term, especially on the impact decisions will have on future generations.

6. Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Land Use Commission?

My financial stability can be attributed to my ability to successfully plan for the future. I would like to share my experiences with my fellow citizens by helping in planning the land use, especially to the benefit of our future generations.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service the Land Use Commission? How would you overcome any possible conflict?

No, I do not foresee any conflict of interest arising during my service on the Commission. However, should any type of conflict of interest occur, I will gladly recuse myself from those issues.

Sincerely,

Ernest Matsumura

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor

ORLANDO "DAN" DAVIDSON
Executive Officer

BRIAN SCHATZ
Lieutenant Governor

BERT K. SARUWATARI
Planner

RICHARD LIM
Director



SCOTT A.K. DERRICKSON, AICP
Planner

LAND USE COMMISSION
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
State of Hawai'i

FRED A. TALON
Drafting Technician

RILEY K. HAKODA
Acting Chief Clerk

April 14, 2011

Statement of
ORLANDO "DAN" DAVIDSON
Executive Officer, State Land Use Commission
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Thursday April 14, 2011
1:20 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225
in consideration of

GM 567

**CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION OF
ERNEST MATSUMURA**

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and the Honorable Malama Soloman, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing.

My name is Dan Davidson, and I am the Executive Officer of the Land Use Commission ("LUC"). I am here to respectfully request that this Committee favorably consider the nomination of Mr. Ernest Matsumura to serve as Commissioner for a two-year term as the Hawaii County member ending on June 30, 2013.

It is clear from Mr. Matsumura's resume that he has a strong record of accomplishment in both the private sector and public sector that will serve him well as a Land Use Commissioner. In particular, it is important that the Commission always includes the perspective of an independent business person like Mr. Matsumura.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Mr. Matsumura's nomination to serve as Commissioner on the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before this Committee.

DONALD IKEDA
Council Member
District 2 South Hilo



Phone No.: (808) 961-8261
Fax No.: (808) 961-8912
E-mail: dikeda@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
Hawai'i County Building
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Date: April 12, 2011

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairperson
Water, Land and Housing Committee
and Members

From: Donald Ikeda, Council Member
Hawai'i County Council

Re: **GM 567 – Nomination of Ernest Matsumura - SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

I submit this testimony IN SUPPORT of the appointment of ERNEST MATSUMURA to the State Land Use Commission.

Ernest Matsumura will represent our island and state with integrity and honesty. Ernest brings to the table a wealth of knowledge and an excellent skill set that will enable him to provide keen insight into the diverse and complex issues that the Land Use Commission must address. A lifelong resident of the Island and State of Hawaii, Ernest has travelled extensively, giving him a perspective that will benefit the Commission.

That notwithstanding, Ernest has a well-rounded background. He has enjoyed a diverse and far-reaching professional life, encompassing the greater portion of 30 years. His experience ranges from teaching math to youths in Job Corp, to owning the former MIKO Meats and serving as CEO of American Trading Co. (since 1971). He has served on numerous boards and commissions, and has served in advisory positions for Hawai'i County and the State of Hawai'i, as well as for private entities. He continues to pioneer efforts to bring science and technology to the county and to the state. The common thread through all of Ernest Matsumura's endeavors is his abiding care, concern and sense of responsibility for the community and the residents therein.

Ernest Matsumura is highly educated, and keeps abreast of current events and issues throughout the county, state, nation and the world. His depth of knowledge and understanding of "the big picture" holds true for world wide issues as well as issues back here at home. Ernest Matsumura has his own mind, yet he is a team player, and is comfortable either as a leader or as a team member. He will be an asset to the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for allowing me to write IN SUPPORT of the appointment of ERNEST MATSUMURA to the State Land Use Commission.

From: [Dwayne Yoshina](#)
To: [WLH Testimony](#)
Subject: REQUEST SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S NOMINEE, ERNEST MATSUMURA TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION, GM #567
Date: Friday, April 08, 2011 5:41:30 PM

Dwayne D. Yoshina
P.O. Box 4684
Hilo, HI 96720-0684
(Phone: 808-933-1006)

8 April 2011

Ref: GM #567

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee On Water, Land, and Housing
Honorable Malama Solomon, Vice Chair, Committee On Water, Land, and Housing
Members of the Committee On Water, Land, and Housing
Honorable Carol Fukunaga
Honorable Pohai Ryan
Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro
Honorable Jill N. Tokudo
Honorable Sam Slom

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Members of the Committee On Water, Land, and Housing:

I request your support of Governor Abercrombie's nominee, Mr. Ernest Matsumura, as a commissioner on the Land Use Commission.

I have known Mr. Matsumura for a number of years as an active member of our Big Island community, a successful business person, and as a friend. During this time I have come to know Ernie as a person committed to sustainable economic development via the development of community and more specifically the development of a community's most important component, its human capital.

Over his many years of community service, he has served in leadership roles in organizations such as the Hawaii Job Corps, Alu Like, the Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association, the Hawaii County Workforce Development Association, the Science and Technology Group at the University of Hawaii, Hilo, and the Tax Board of Review for the County of

Hawaii. As a successful business person, he has worked with and closely watches developments in organizations such the Stanford Research Institute, Livermore Labs, the Solar Energy Research Institute, and the Natural Energy Lab of Hawaii. While working in county government and subsequently as a business person he has and now travels widely and interacts with individuals who are managers of corporations, entrepreneurs, and researchers who carry out research and development work as well as implementers of /projects/programs.

Additionally, he is a lifelong student of economic, community, and human development. He knows and understands how the many types of capital resources interact to make for a healthy and robust economy and society. He knows the need for wise use of these various resources especially in our island environment if we are to enjoy a sustainable and sustaining economy for Hawaii. I believe that his recent stint on the Tax Board of Review gives him special insights and perspectives relating to land use and the its role in the "big picture" of a community's economic health and development.

Ernie is well-respected and well-liked in our community. He freely gives of himself and his experience and knowledge. He mentors those who solicit his assistance openly, honestly, and non-judgementally. He is an amiable person and enjoys interacting with people. These qualities and attributes should assist the commission in its work and its decision making.

It is for these reasons that I recommend and request your support of Mr. Ernest Matsumura as a commission member on the Land Use Commission.

With Aloha and Appreciation:

Dwayne D. Yoshina

Clarice L. Suzuki
40 Kekela Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

April 10, 2011

Honorable State Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

Re: **GM 567, ERNEST MATSUMURA**, Nominee for Land Use Commission

Dear Senator Dela Cruz,

I am in support of nominee, **GM 567 ERNEST MATSUMURA** to the Land Use Commission.

He was a co worker of my father and since my father's retirement, they have maintained a continuing friendship for over 25 years. I have come to know Mr. Matsumura on my own. He is an upstanding man who is very connected in the business community. He is very well read and innovative with a keen sense of doing what is right.

His business ventures have provided Hilo with much needed employment. An example of his business insight was the successfully conversion of an older building into a multi business facility which is centrally located. This has afforded these businesses ease of access and convenience. In all of his business dealings, he has maintained a low and humble profile.

Mr. Matsumura brings with him a wealth of knowledge in personal and commercial taxation and finance. He will be able to call upon his personal experiences and he will know where to obtain additional information in order to make fair and intelligent decisions.

For these reasons, I ask that you confirm **GM 567 ERNEST MATSUMURA** to the Land Use Commission.

Mahalo and Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Clarice L. Suzuki

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLH Testimony](#)
Cc: johnaervin@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for GM567 on 4/14/2011 1:20:00 PM
Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 12:28:56 PM

Testimony for WLH 4/14/2011 1:20:00 PM GM567

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John A. Ervin
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: johnaervin@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/12/2011

Comments:

Aloha, I urge this committee to support GM 567, the Gubernatorial Nomination of Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission. I have known Mr. Matsumura for approximately eight years. During that time I have found Mr. Matsumura to be highly dedicated to the economic improvement of Hilo and the Island of Hawai'i. Mr. Matsumura is an inspiration to us all. His idea to bring a super computer to Hilo from the Livermore Laboratory is visionary. Mr. Matsumura is a man of vision. Vision is perhaps one of the most important qualities of individuals in public service. I cannot count or quantify the number of visionary projects to improve our community that Mr. Matsumura has promoted. I urge you to support Governor Abercrombie's Nomination of Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission. I cannot imagine a better Nominee than Mr. Matsumura.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify for such an important Appointment.
Mahalo, John Ervin

JIMMY TOYAMA
98-427 PUAALII STREET
AIEA, HI 96701

Email: toyamaj001@hawaii.rr.com

April 14, 2011
COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Testimony: GM 567

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Aloha. I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation of **Ernest Matsumura**,
Gubernatorial Nominee to the Land Use Commission.

I have known Mr. Matsumura for many years. We have been involved in and have worked together on a number of community projects. On the projects we worked on, he brought a level of commitment and dedication to getting the job done that's note worthy and impressive. His sincerity and caring are exemplified in the many years of community service he has performed. I have no doubt that he will bring that same sincerity, commitment and dedication to serving on the Land Use Commission, should he be confirmed.

Mr. Matsumura's long career in business, years of service on government commissions, and service on various boards of directors—like Alu Like, has prepared him to serve competently on the Land Use Commission. He understands the value of land and the importance of making good use of it. Mr. Matsumura is well qualified on the Land Use Commission. I urge you to confirm Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission.

With Aloha,

Jimmy Toyama

Conrad Hokama
1992 Waiuanuenue Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

April 11, 2011

Hawaii State Senate Water, Land & Housing Committee
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairperson
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice-Chairperson
Senator Carol Fukunaga
Senator Pohai Ryan
Senator Maile Shimabukuro
Senator Jill Tokuda
Senator Sam Slom

Re: GM 567 Governor's nomination of Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission.

I am writing in support of Ernest Matsumura's nomination to the Land Use Commission.

As a native son of the Big Island, Mr. Matsumura has the skills to serve our statewide community well. He is able to take in information, sift through the facts and weight the pros and cons and come to a conclusion for the public's benefit.

He is a seasoned and successful business person in the private sector and has demonstrated an unselfish ability to collaborate with others who are willing to absorb and learn from knowledge that can only be gained from experience.

He is constantly educating himself as he gathers information by reading, traveling and networking with people. He is able to articulate the relevant facts and share them with others. This ability will greatly complement the other members of the LUC and enhance the ability to make decisions for the overall community benefit.

His integrity, diligence and long term perspective will be an asset to the other members of the LUC and will strengthen the overall capacity of the commission as they set the foundation of development for the future generations to come.

Your favorable consideration of Ernest Matsumura to the LUC is humbly requested.

Sincerely,



Conrad Hokama
Big Island of Hawaii

TESTIMONY BY DWIGHT TAKAMINE
IN STRONG SUPPORT OF

NOMINEE, **ERNEST MATSUMURA**
TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Thursday, April 14, 2011
1:20 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I testify in **support** of Mr. Matsumura's confirmation to the Land Use Commission. The addition of Mr. Matsumura to the Land Use Commission would bring a wealth of experience, education and knowledge to the Commission. Mr. Matsumura has extensive board and committee experience including with Alu Like, the Pacific Educational Foundation (Hawai'i Job Corps), the Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association, the Hawai'i County Hospital Management Advisory Committee under Governor Ariyoshi, the East Hawai'i Community Development Corporation, and the Region IX Business Roundtable Program (USDOL), among others.

Mr. Matsumura's recent experience serving as the chair of the Hawai'i County Real Property Tax Review Board gives him a valuable perspective and insight on land use issues to bring to the Commission. Similarly, his experience chairing the East Hawai'i Community Development Corporation and participating in their recent efforts at boosting sustainability by integrating science, technology and innovation in the agricultural sector by working with various stakeholders, including UH Hilo, would help Mr. Matsumura contribute to the Commission.

Mr. Matsumura also spent three decades as a successful businessperson in Hilo, understands how capital and natural resources interact, and knows the wise use of these combined resources is necessary for a sustainable economy in our islands. Mr. Matsumura is committed to sustainable economic development, including the community's most important component—its human capital.

I can personally attest to Ernie's qualifications as I have had the honor to work with him in numerous efforts to improve the quality of life and promote sustainability on the Big Island over a number of years. Ernie has the character, knowledge, enthusiasm and commitment to serve as a valuable asset not only to the Land Use Commission, but ultimately to the entire State. In summary, Mr. Matsumura is well qualified and deserving of confirmation to the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

April 10, 2011

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Hearing Testimony, GM 567, Ernest Matsumura
Hearing Notice HEARING_WLH-04-14-11
1:20 p.m., Conference Room 225

To the Honorable State Senators:

This is my written testimony for the favorable appointment of Ernest (Ernie) Matsumura to the Land Use Commission. I am aware of the significance of the Land Use Commission to the future growth of the State as I am a retiree who spent numerous years working for Hawaii County's Real Property Division. I met Ernie many years ago when he first volunteered to be a member of the County's Tax Board of Review. He was a hard working, diligent and fair board member. Our friendship grew much closer five years ago when Ernie once again volunteered to be a member of the same board and upon my retirement, I was fortunate enough to be one of his co-members during the last two years of his term.

As a successful businessman, Ernie has been traveling extensively to the Far East and Mainland United States for many years. He is also an avid reader. The most outstanding feature I admire Ernie for is that he is constantly thinking of ways to improve the livelihood and economy of our community. After spending many hours reading and researching his "visions" and using his travel observations as his foundation, he enjoys putting his plans into action. He involves individuals and organizations within the community to accomplish his "visions." Because of his unselfish and relentless dedication to the improvement of our community, I truly believe Ernie will be an excellent member of the Land Use Commission.

I humbly ask for your support by confirming Ernie's appointment to the Land Use Commission.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



WESLEY TAKAI
1222-E Kaumana Drive
Hilo, HI 96720

April 10, 2011

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Hearing Testimony, GM 567, Ernest Matsumura
Hearing Notice HEARING_WLH-04-14-11
1:20 p.m., Conference Room 225

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As a successful businessman, Ernie has been traveling extensively to the Far East and Mainland United States for many years. He is also an avid reader. The most outstanding feature I admire Ernie for is that he is constantly thinking of ways to improve the livelihood and economy of our community. After spending many hours reading and researching his "visions" and using his travel observations as his foundation, he enjoys putting his plans into action. He involves individuals and organizations within the community to accomplish his "visions." Because of his unselfish and relentless dedication to the improvement of our community, I truly believe Ernie will be an excellent member of the Land Use Commission.

I humbly ask for your support by confirming Ernie's appointment to the Land Use Commission.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

WESLEY TAKAI
1222-E Kaumana Drive
Hilo, HI 96720

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLH Testimony](#)
Cc: amiwa@co.hawaii.hi.us
Subject: Testimony for GM567 on 4/14/2011 1:20:00 PM
Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 5:08:24 PM

Testimony for WLH 4/14/2011 1:20:00 PM GM567

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy W. Miwa
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: amiwa@co.hawaii.hi.us
Submitted on: 4/13/2011

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me to provide this testimony IN **SUPPORT** of the nomination and appointment of ERNEST MATSUMURA to the State Land Use Commission.

Ernest listens to all sides of an issue, does his due diligence when appropriate, and when he shares his thoughts, it is after careful consideration. Ernest is well-informed, quiet, but articulate. Even the most enthusiastic speakers will stop and listen when Ernest speaks, because they know that what he says is worth listening to. If Ernest's life was a commercial, it would be like the old EF Hutton commercials ("when EF Hutton speaks, everyone stops to listen") (true story, it happens).

I have had the privilege and honor of knowing Ernest Matsumura for many years. Ernest is "old-school", where a man is only as good as his word, and his word is his bond. I know he will represent our island and state with integrity and honesty. He will provide keen insight into the diverse and complex issues that come before the Land Use Commission.

Ernest is one of the smartest people I know, both intellectually and street-wise. Yet for all of his intellect, he remains humble, never seeking the limelight. What he does for his family, his businesses, his community, he does for altruistic reasons, not for his personal gain or glory. He will bring this characteristic with him to the LUC. But don't let anyone sell him short! Despite his quiet demeanor, he is focused on the task(s) at hand and can be counted on to see things to fruition. He has an extensive, proven track record. The common thread through all of Ernest Matsumura's endeavors is his abiding care, concern and sense of responsibility for the community and the residents therein.

His past and present life is diverse. He is a lifelong resident of the Island and State of Hawaii, but has travelled extensively, giving him a perspective that will benefit the Commission. He used to be a teacher and a counselor, became owner and CEO of several successful businesses, served on boards and commissions and has done extensive outreach in the community. He continues to pioneer efforts to bring science and technology to our island state to allow us to develop a sustainable economy, thereby reducing our dependence on tourism and other outside forces. He understands land use issues and has a deep appreciation of the need to balance progress with preservation.

Ernest Matsumura is highly educated, and keeps abreast of current events and issues throughout the county, state, nation and the world. He reads multiple books and periodicals at the same time, and can discuss all of them. He sees the big picture, and understands how, where and why we fit in.

Thank you for allowing me to write IN **SUPPORT** of the appointment of ERNEST MATSUMURA to the State Land Use Commission. . He will be an asset to the Land Use Commission.

Amy W. Miwa