

GM590

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL GOLOJUCH, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY

Submitting for consideration and confirmation
To the Advisory Board on Veterans Services,
Governatorial Nominee,
MICHAEL GOLOJUCH for a term to expire
6-30-2015

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

April 19, 2011

BY

OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

Good afternoon, Chair Will Espero, Chair, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and members of the Committee.

I am Gregory Jackson, Jr., Director, for the Office Veteran's Services (OVS). The OVS supports confirmation of Michael Golojuch to be appointed to the Advisory Board on Veterans Services.

Lieutenant Colonel Golojuch, US Air Force retired and served during the Gulf War as the Deputy Director of Missile Operation at Ramstein Air Base, Germany and was also the Assistant Director of Operations of the 487th Tactical Missile Wing at Comiso Air Station, Sicily, Italy. In these positions he had operational management of 110 technical personnel and responsible for an annual budget of \$300,000.

His awards and medals include the Meritorious Service Medal with four (4) stars, Air Force Commendation Medal with three (3) stars, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Command Missile Operations Badge.

After twenty-three years of military service he returned to school and completed a Master's degree at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He used his skills and abilities while working with the City and County of Honolulu and with several State Departments.

As a veteran and retiree, Lieutenant Colonel Golojuch is a member of various community groups and organizations to include the Neighborhood Board (#34), the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committed, Director Employees Association for the City and county of Honolulu, Graduate of Honolulu Police Department Citizen Police Academy and Business Police Academy.

He exemplifies the philosophy of continuing to serve his Nation, State, and Community.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of Michael Golojuch's confirmation and consideration.

Steve Glanstein
P. O. Box 29213
Honolulu, HI 96820-1613

April 18, 2011

Chair: Senator Will Espero, Chair
Vice-Chair: Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 312
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM590; Testimony in SUPPORT; Hearing Date: 4/19/2011 1:15 p.m.;
Digitally Signed; Sent via web.

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the appointment of Mr. Michael Golojuch to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

The Advisory Board on Veterans Services advises the Director on veterans' issues, legislative proposals, and program operations. Therefore, it is important that the Board members have expertise in veterans' issues as well as the legislative process and ultimately, government operations.

Mr. Golojuch is a veteran of long and outstanding military service to our country. Not content with the status quo, he expanded his service to the public sector, obtaining both Masters Degrees in Public Administration and Business Administration. He has served as an employee in several capacities for the State of Hawaii and the City & County of Honolulu.

Mr. Golojuch's service with multiple departments in both the state and local government emphasizes his qualification for this position on the Advisory Board.

I support his nomination and urge the committee to recommend Mr. Golojuch's approval.

I may be contacted via phone: 423-6766 or by e-mail: steveghi@gmail.com. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.

Sincerely,

Steve Glanstein

Digitally signed by Steve Glanstein
DN: cn=Steve Glanstein
Date: 2011.04.18 08:53:25 -10'00'

Steve Glanstein
SG:tbs

From: Barbara Polk [BarbaraPolk@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2011 10:36 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: Support Apptmt of Michael Golojuch

Appointments to Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

Hearing: April 19, 1:15, Conference Room 312

April 15, 2011

TO: Sen. William Espero, Chair; Sen. Michelle
Kidani, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government
Operations and Military Affairs

FROM: Barbara Polk

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL GOLOJUCH
to the ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS' SERVICES

I am happy to support the appointment of Michael Golojuch to the advisory Board on Veteran's Services. Mr. Golojuch has a distinguished military career as well as a notable post-retirement dedication to community service here in Hawaii. For these reasons, he has an ideal background to service on this Board.

I know Mr. Golojuch through working with him on the Board of American for Democratic Action/Hawaii, where he was a thoughtful contributor to our deliberations and a person who conscientiously followed through on his commitments.

I strongly support Mr. Golojuch's appointment and urge you to confirm it.

Sally Waitt
68-1720 Halona Place
Waikoloa, HI 96738
naniwait@aol.com

March 31, 2011

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Espero and Vice Chair Kidani:

RE: Governor Message #590, Appointment of Michael Golojuch to the
Veterans Services Advisory Board

I am writing in full support of having Michael (Mike) Golojuch being appointed the
Veterans Services Advisory Board.

Mike Golojuch is a hard working individual who has demonstrated his ability to
handle a variety of tasks both in the community and his dedicated service to his
country. After serving 23 years in the U.S. Air Force, he is well aware of issues
facing veterans.

His past and present experience of serving on the Neighborhood Board, Citizens
Advisory Committee for the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization, Employee
Association of the City and County of Honolulu, Board of Directors for Excluded
Managerial and Confidential Employees, Palehua Community Association Board
of Directors, Palehua Townhouse Association Board of Directors, Dignity
Honolulu Board, PFLAG-Oahu Board, and Pride Alliance Board, attest to his
ability to functions on advisory boards.

Please quickly confirm his appointment to the Advisory Board on Veterans
Services.

Sincerely,

Sally Waitt

Jessica A. Faige, Esq.
431 Nahua Street #507
Honolulu, HI 96815
jfaige8@yahoo.com

April 16, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Michelle Kidani
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military
Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Support for Advisory Board on Veterans' Services Nominee Michael Golojuch

Dear Chair Espero and Vice Chair Kidani:

I write in strong support of Michael Golojuch's nomination for the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services. I have known the nominee for several years due to mutual involvement in community organizations and find him to be a dedicated civic-minded individual. Mr. Golojuch speaks highly of his twenty-three years of service in the United States Air Force, during which he received numerous commendations. Since retiring from the Air Force, he has continued to serve in various management positions for the City and County of Honolulu, as a member of his Neighborhood Board, and through various organizations such as PFLAG-Oahu that benefit the greater community.

Mr. Golojuch would be an asset to the Advisory Board and I respectfully request that the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs confirm his appointment. Should you have any questions, please contact me at jfaige8@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

Jessica A. Faige, Esq.

From: Polly Grace [pgrace_granny@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 12:47 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: GM590 MICHAEL GOLOJUCH PGM

ALOHA, SENATORS WILL ESPERO, MICHELLE KIDANI AND OTHERS SENATORS OF THE COMMITTEE. . TO ELECT THE ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS SERVICES. .

PLEASE CONSIDER MICHAEL GOLOJUCH. . HE IS A VETERAN AND A VERY ACTIVE MEMBER OF HIS COMMUNITY. . WHO SERVES ON THE MAKAKILO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD AND OTHER BOARDS. .

IN HIS MANY YEARS OF ACTIVE MILITARY AS A SOLDIER. . AND NOW RETIRED VETERAN. . HE KNOWS WHAT A VETERAN NEEDS AND THE DIRECTION TO GETTING BACK TO MAIN STREAM. . MAHALO. .

ALOHA KE AKUA AME

MALAMA PONO 

Polly "Granny" Grace
Phone: (808) 478-8521
Address: PO Box 299 Waianae, HI 96792

LESLIE SEGUNDO
P.O. Box 23570
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96823
TELEPHONE (808) 728-8886

April 18, 2011

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
The Senate
26th Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011
415 S. Beretania Street
State Capitol, Room 312.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Honorable Senators Espero, Kidani and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs:

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 590, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION OF MICHAEL GOLOJUCH TO THE ADVISORY BOARD OF VETERANS' SERVICES

I am Leslie Segundo, a simple laborer in the environmental field as well as a humble musician, but more importantly, a 20-year friend of Michael Golojuch. I have known Michael Golojuch since his days as the Human Resource Officer for the Department of Health. I have had the pleasure of knowing Michael especially in our involvement with ministry to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered unchurched Catholics through Dignity Honolulu. Although I myself am not a member of Dignity Honolulu, I and many others do volunteer time to provide support for their weekly services; Michael as their prayer leader and homilist, and myself as their organist, cantor and occasional homilist. Michael and his wonderful wife Carolyn have both been a source of inspiration to me for their low-key kindness and generosity to all persons, irrespective of race, color, creed, or sexual orientation – all without regard to recognition or recompense. Michael's compassion and love for the socially marginalized, the unchurched and the poor over these twenty years has been silent, but powerful testimony to me of his upright character and moral formation. As a sinful person struggling on a daily basis to live in accord with my beliefs, I know that it is this compassion and love for others that has sustained Michael – despite our political affiliations.

Compassion and love know no boundaries, yet these are rare charisms in a society that values the accumulation and transmission of wealth, sadly, over providing for the basic needs of those members of the human family that are socially vulnerable. It is my conviction that Michael will bring his many wonderful charisms to bear in his role as a member of the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services, advocating for the veterans, as he has quietly done with others. In closing, honorable senators, I would like to recapitulate my support for Michael in the following passage from the Hebrew scriptures (Sirach 6: 14 – 15):

*“A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure.
A faithful friend is beyond price, no sum can balance his worth.”*

Michael is my faithful friend and colleague, and I respectfully urge that your Committee advise the Senate to consent to his gubernatorial nomination to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Michael (Mike) Golojuch
92-954 Makakilo Drive #71
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707-1340

April 15, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
State of Hawaii
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2477

Dear Senator Espero:

In response to your questions concerning my desire to serve on the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services, the following is provided.

1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Advisory Board on Veterans' Service?

As a veteran I know the importance of getting the information out to the public on the multiple veteran services and benefits available to those who served their country. I believe my military background and community involvement will assist me in the advisory functions on veterans' issues, legislative proposals and program operations. I want to make sure that every veteran is given the opportunity to use the benefits they earned.

2. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services?

We advise the Office of Veterans' Services within the State Department of Defense. As external eyes and ears, board members provide an independent source of information and opinions to insure that the Office of Veterans' Services operates under the best practices in advocating for veterans applying for and receiving benefits and services.

3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services, 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 Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

I am a retired Air Force officer with 23 years of military experience. I have applied for and used various veteran benefits. I know first hand what you must go through in applying for and using veteran benefits and services. I

Senator Espero
April 15, 2011
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want to make the process to obtain benefits and services as seamless as possible for all veterans. This includes, but not limited to, staff or service organizations visiting the homeless to identify veterans to having user friendly information available online for veterans and their families. I have been directly involved with human resources in both my military career and State and County civil service. This will assist me in reviewing the laws, regulations and manuals governing veteran benefits and services. I have reviewed bills and provided testimony. As a Neighborhood Board member, President of a Townhouse Association and Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee and other organizations, I am well aware of the responsibilities to listen, ask questions and carry out actions that are in the best interest of those you serve. In this case it is insuring that all veterans are afforded their benefits and services.

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

Continue to make the Office of Veterans' Service a user friendly organization so the veterans know that we will do the best we can to provide them the service they deserve for their devotion of duty to their country.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Golojuch