

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



GLENN M. OKIMOTO  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
JAN S. GOUVEIA  
RANDY GRUNE  
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 28, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 591  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO  
THE COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE  
**JOHN A. ERVIN**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2015

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the nomination of John A. Ervin, to the Commission on Transportation (COT).

Mr. Ervin is a 1969 graduate of St. Louis High School who has returned to Hawaii in 2003 as a retiree. Currently he serves as President of the Association of Apartment Owners of Maunaloa Shores.

Having studied forestry at Lassen's College, Mr. Ervin worked as a Forestry Technician for the U.S. Forest Service until he started Aardvark Pizza Inc. based in Sunnyville, California where he served as its Chief Executive Officer. He later returned to public service and worked as a Supervisor and Equal Opportunity Councilor for the State of California Correctional Center. He is member of the California State Employees Association and International Union of Operating Engineers.

Mr. Ervin extensive experience in Federal, State and Private sectors provides an added dimension to the COT from a financial and organizational infrastructure perspective. Also, having been active in both the private and public sectors, he will be able to provide a balanced perspective on the many issues dealing with transportation.

We believe Mr. Ervin will be a valuable asset to the COT and respectfully request you confirm his nomination.



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.hawaii.gov/labor](http://www.hawaii.gov/labor)  
Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099  
Email: [dliir.director@hawaii.gov](mailto:dliir.director@hawaii.gov)

March, 27, 2011

To: The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

Date: Monday, March 28, 2011  
Time: 1:15 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 224, State Capitol

From: **Dwight Y. Takamine**, Director  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**Re: G.M. No. 592 John A. Ervin Commission on Transportation**

Honorable Chair English and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to **recommend** John Ervin to serve on the Commission on Transportation. I have known John for nearly ten years, as he has been active in the community in East Hawaii where he has exhibited outstanding leadership skills. I believe John has the requisite employment and board experience as well as knowledge of the Big Island to provide excellent service as a member of the Commission on Transportation.

In summary, John Ervin is well qualified and deserving of confirmation for the Commission on Transportation. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**From:** John Ervin [johnaervin@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2011 2:55 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Subject:** GM 592 Testimony

TESTIMONY OF  
JOHN A. ERVIN  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 592, IN SUPPORT OR THE NOMINATION  
OF JOHN A. ERVIN TO THE COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION

&n bsp;

March 28, 2011

Senator English, Chair  
Senator Espero, Vice Chair  
Transportation Committee

My name is John A. Ervin. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before this Committee. Governor Abercrombie's nomination, GM 592, to the Commission on Transportation is one of the greatest honors in my life. The possibility of serving my community, the Island of Hawai'i and the State of Hawai'i, being able to make a difference in the daily lives of our constituency is humbling.

Clearly transportation issues deeply affect everyone who is a resident of Hawai'i. On the neighbor islands our quality of life and the purchasing power of our income is directly related to transportation in all aspects of our lives. It is easy to point out deficiencies and difficult to have the vision to provide solutions. The advice from the members of the Commission on Transportation to the Commissioner of Transportation and International Affairs is crucial to the success of strategies for the flow of traffic, goods and services on which we all depend.

My work experience includes county, state, federal, elected official and entrepreneurial experience. From forest fire fighting, camping and recreation and timber stand improvement, I am a certified Forestry Technician and and certified Log Scaler, to owning and managing a restaurant and catering company. This gives me a unique perspective on government and private sector issues. Perhaps the most difficult experience I have had was being elected as a Member of the Lassen College Governing Board, eventually being elected it's president by my peers on the Board, and guiding the municipality through Chapter Nine Bankruptcy. According to our attorneys Lassen College was only the third municipality in the history of the United States to seek protection of Chapter Nine Bankruptcy. Almost all leadership positions require difficult decisions that take time to prove whether the decision was correct. I can proudly say that Lassen College is open and functioning 25 years after my tenure. I am currently the

President of the Maunaloa Shores Board of Directors. In that capacity I have hired competent personnel and completed deferred maintenance issues, without a special assessment, that have plagued the Association for up to a decade. As with most fiscal issues it is a question of vision and leadership.

Anyone with the powers of observation can see serious transportation issues in the Hawaiian Islands including gridlock on our highways to the costs associated with shipped consumer goods, to the cost of inter-island air fares. My father-in-law, Hiroshi Sasaki a Japanese citizen, was involved in a horrible accident on Highway 130 in Puna. His disabling injuries forced him to return to Japan. The yearly fatalities and virtually daily accidents on Highway 130 make it one of the, if not the, most dangerous Highways in Hawai'i. Hopefully my tenure, if confirmed, will see the settlement of the Hawaiian Ceded Lands issues involving sea ports and airports. However any settlement on the Ceded Lands issue must be decided the Kanaka Maoli and not a single Commissioner.

I am truly humbled by the testimony submitted on my behalf. I have read some of the testimony and wondered if they were testifying about the same John A. Ervin. We never see ourselves the way others perceive us. The testimony of community leaders on short notice, since Thursday March 24, at 3:30 PM, must give this committee an insight into my character, dedication, abilities and experience. The testimony submitted may not have included that I am not prone to long speeches. I believe in being brief and concise in my oral communication. I will endeavor to assist, not hinder, Director Glenn Okimoto in deciding the direction of the Commission on Transportation.

In regards to International Affairs, I have traveled all over the world including the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, South America and Asia. I have family by marriage who live in three different Prefectures in Japan. They survived the recent catastrophe without major incident. I believe that the Aloha taught to me by my Hawaiian friends and hanai family as a youth has served me well in my travels. I have carried that Aloha with me my entire life. Aloha has not only allowed me to accept cultural, religious and ethnic differences, Aloha has taught me to celebrate those differences.

In conclusion, I extend my humblest appreciation and thank all who have submitted testimony on my behalf. I thank the Senate Transportation Committee for their time and consideration on my nomination in this busiest and crucial session of the Senate. Thank you for the opportunity allowing me to testify on my behalf. I will be available for any questions at the phone, address or e-mail below.

Mahalo Nui Loa,  
John A. Ervin,  
1875 Kalaniana'ole Ave.  
Hilo, Hi 96720-4902  
Home Phone 808-934-8668  
Cell Phone 808-640-7023

[johnaervin@yahoo.com](mailto:johnaervin@yahoo.com)

**From:** Louis Hao [louis.hao@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2011 9:24 AM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Cc:** Gil Kahele  
**Subject:** Testimony on GM 592 Appointment of John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation

Aloha,

My name is Louis Hao. I am testifying in favor of GM 592, the appointment of John A. Ervin, Governor Abercrombie's Nominee to the Commission on Transportation. I have known and worked with John A. Ervin for eight years. As a former OHA Trustee and County Administrator for the Island of Molokai, I know John is a man of integrity and dedicated, to serving his community. I urge you to approve GM 592 and confirm the appointment of John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation. Mahalo for your time and consideration of my testimony on this important appointment.

Mahalo Nui Loa,  
Louis Hao  
Keaukaha, Hilo Hawai'i

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Gary Baebler [gbaebler@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 26, 2011 10:19 AM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for John Ervin

March 26.2011

Aloha Senator J. Kalani English, Chair,

I would like to express my personal experience with John Ervin. I have known John for four years. On taking over the Presidency of our condominium association a year ago the atmosphere changed immediately from that of contentious disarray to that of calm, meaningful and inclusive dialog. Through his leadership we have seen our reserves actually increase while at the same time significant maintenance have been made to our building. He researches projects thoroughly and is tireless in every aspect of his position. His demeanor may seem quiet and reserved but be assured that he is listening, considering and calculating.

I highly recommend appointing John A. Irving to this commission as he will pour his heart and soul into this position.

Mahalo,

Gary Baebler  
1875 Kalaniana'ole Ave. #609  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 26, 2011 7:20 AM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Cc:** greenhi3@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM592 on 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for TIA 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM GM592

Conference room: 224  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Phil Barnes  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [greenhi3@yahoo.com](mailto:greenhi3@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/26/2011

Comments:

Please support John Ervin's nomination to the Transportation Commission. As an active Democrat on Hawaii Island he is well aware of our transportation issues here on our island. I think that he will do a good job of helping to meet our future traffic projections.  
Phil Barnes  
Vice Chair for East Hawaii  
Hawaii County Democratic Party



**Testimony on:** **GM 592, Confirmation of John A. Ervin**

**Hearing Date:** **Monday, March 28th, 2011 1:15 PM**  
**Room:** **Conference Room 224**

**To:** **Chairman J. Kalani English, Vice Chair Will Espero  
and all Committee Members**

**From:** **Albert E. Beeman**  
Private Citizen  
908 Kumukoa Street, Hilo, HI 96720

**Subject:** **In Favor of Confirmation (GM 592)**

**Aloha Transportation and International Affairs Committee,**

**I urge you to vote in favor of the confirmation of John A. Ervin to serve on the Commission on Transportation (COT).**

I have known and worked with John A. Ervin on many community issues here on the Big Island. John believes that community involvement is an obligation. I have often seen him go out of his way to help solve problems for people on our island. I know John to be honest, open minded, responsible and dependable.

John has a long standing interest in the transportation issues of Hawaii and has lived both on Oahu and the Big Island. He is a strong believer in public transportation. He also realizes that we are a state made up of islands far from the mainland and heavily dependant on intra-state and long distance air and sea transportation.

Finally, John Evin believes that Government must always make efficient and effective use of the Public's money.

Background:

Currently resides in Hilo

Attended St Louis High School on Oahu

Has lived in Hawaii more than 13 years

Retired member of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE)

Former President of the Governing Board- Lassen Community College District

Current President of the Mauna Loa Shores Condominium AOAO

I cannot think of a better advisor to the Director of Transportation, I urge confirmation.

Mahalo for your time,



**Albert E. Beeman**  
Hilo

March 25, 2011

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2011 7:07 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Cc:** sarawitt12@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM592 on 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for TIA 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM GM592

Conference room: 224  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: sherrian witt  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [sarawitt12@gmail.com](mailto:sarawitt12@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/25/2011

**Comments:**

I support John A. Ervin for the Transportation Commission. John is an honest and upright person and will make good decisions for the public..

**From:** Dwayne Yoshina [mahassamatman27@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2011 5:01 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Subject:** Request Support of Gubernatorial Nominee, MR. JOHN A. ERVIN to the Commission on Transportation and International Affairs

Honorable Senator English, Chairperson, Committee On Transportation and International Affairs, Honorable Will Espero, Vice Chairperson, Committee On Transportation and International Affairs

Honorable Members of the Committee On Transportation and International Affairs

Aloha Senators:

I write to request your support of Mr. JOHN A. ERVIN, agubernatorial nominee to the Commission on Transportation and International Affairs (for a term to expire 30 June 2015).

I have known and worked with Mr. Ervin on numerous community projects over the past three years. I have found him to be a fair, open, active, and conscientious participant in all the activities. I am confident that he will share these same qualities with all he works with while serving the State of Hawaii.

He brings with him a vast knowledge and wisdom of management in government service and as a private business person. He has successfully operated a private business in the past and is presently serving as the president of his condominium association. In this position he has successfully migrated his condominium association to a new management corporation and has undertaken some long delinquent reforms in the maintenance of the physical plant and the operation of the board. In government service, he has served as a firefighter, prison administrator, and as a community liaison for a councilmember in the county.

While living here he has become keenly aware of our needs as well as opportunities related to our ground, sea, and air transportation requirements. Having been raised in a household with a parent who worked with a large oil company, he is well aware of the relationships and impacts between our oil and our transportation needs.

I believe John's life experiences more than adequately fulfill the requirements for an understanding of transportation and international affairs. He has traveled to South America and speaks spanish. He is married to a woman who is from Japan and has traveled to Japan. He lived as a young man in the multi-cultural communities of Kahala, Kaimuki, Palolo Valley, Waikiki, and Honolulu. His experience and successful work with the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural contexts of the California Corrections system show that he has the understanding, sensitivity, and compassion to handle the rigors and demands for an international perspective. Finally, his successful service as the community representative for a county council member and state representative in the multi-cultural community of Puna, will only be assets in his understanding and addressing international issues.

It is for these reasons that I request your support of Mr. JOHN A. Ervin as a commissioner to the Commission On Transportation and International Affairs.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to offer this testimony.



**ROBERT P. MARX**

Attorney at Law, A Law Corporation

688 Kinoole Street, Suite 105  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
Phone: (808) 935-8988  
Fax: (808) 935-8578

March 25, 2011

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Honorable Committee Members

RE: **John A. Ervin- Appointment to Commission on Transportation**  
**Hearing: Monday, March 28, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.**  
**415 S. Beretania Street, Conference Room 224, State Capital**

Dear Committee Members:

John Ervin is an active community member having served as a volunteer in countless hours of community service.

As an attorney here in Hilo, I often see John quietly lobbying for a more sensitive and responsive government.

In Puna which has great needs for better transportation planning and improved highways John has been a consistent voice for relieving traffic and congestion.

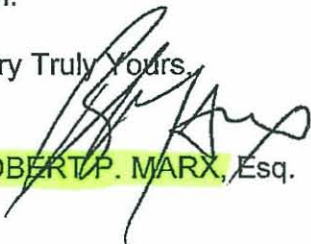
It was my pleasure to work with John on the recent campaign for Governor. If there was anything needing to be done John would always make himself available.

Moreover, John Ervin has been active in the Democratic Party in Hawaii County helping formulate transportation and other policy.

Having known John for over five years, I can say that he is a reliable, active and competent community leader who always puts people before politics. John is issue oriented and always concerned with improving Hawaii.

For those reasons, he has mine and many other Big Islander's support for the Commission on Transportation.

Very Truly Yours,

  
**ROBERT P. MARX, Esq.**

**Senators Morris**

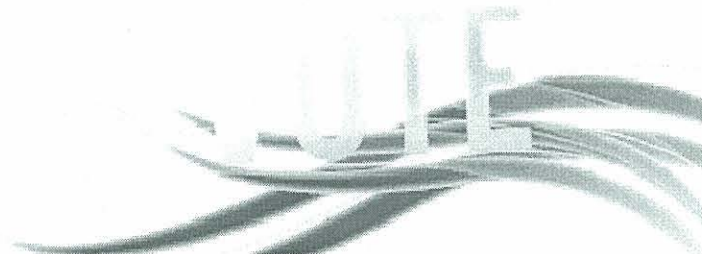
**From:** Phillip Morris [pdmorris1@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2011 6:50 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Subject:** senate confirmation



In regards to the Senate Confirmation Hearings of **GM 592**, on 5-28-2011,,and the Governors appointment of John A Ervin to the Transportation Board, I feel this would be a **win/win** decision for all of Hawaii. I would be proud to have him represent me and our families.

Sincerely,

**DOROTHEA MORRIS**  
15-2786-OPELU ST  
PAHOA,HI 96778



Scott E. Enright  
PO Box 42  
Ookala, HI 96774

March 28, 2011

Committee on Transportation and International Affairs  
Senator Kalani English, Chair  
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

RE:

GM 592

Confirmation to the Commission on Transportation, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOHN ERVIN.

HEARING:

Monday, March 28, 2011

1:15 P.M.

Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania St.

Dear Chairman English and Committee Members:

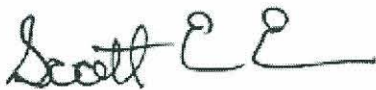
Please allow me to express my strong support for the confirmation of John Ervin for the Commission on Transportation.

I have known John Ervin to be a dedicated and respected leader in his Big Island community. His deep commitment to our island progress through his tireless activity in many community organizations has impressed me.

Mr. Ervin has a positive attitude that motivates those around him. Further, John has always demonstrated that he understands the need to communicate and cooperate with all stakeholders on an issue. In sum, John Ervin's skilled leadership style, and his fair, open minded and collaborative approach will make him an excellent selection for the Commission on Transportation

Thank you for allowing me to express my support for the appointment of John Ervin to the Commission on Transportation.

Sincerely,



Scott E. Enright

[REDACTED]

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2011 12:15 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Cc:** JAFFEHILO@EARTHLINK.NET  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM592 on 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for TIA 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM GM592

Conference room: 224  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: RONALD JAFFE  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: JAFFEHILO@EARTHLINK.NET  
Submitted on: 3/27/2011

Comments:

I have had the good fortune of serving on our condominium board of directors with Mr. Ervin as president. He has efficiently accomplished more in one year than any president I have seen in my 23 years as an owner and association member.  
I ask that you please approve GM592, the appointment of John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation.



**Baron Lum Ho**

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**From:** Beverly jean Withington [beverlyjeanwithington@rocketmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 26, 2011 1:56 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Cc:** johnaervin@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** GM 592 testimony

Committee on Transportation and International Affairs  
Senator J. Kalani English, Chair  
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Hearing

DATE: Monday, March 28, 2011

TIME: 1:15 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Dear Senator J. Kalani English, Will Espero, Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Mike Gabbard, Gilbert Kahele, Sam Slom

My name is Beverly Jean Withington, and I am writing to express my strong support for John Ervin nomination to the Commission on Transportation.

I have known John for several years through his active roll with the Democratic Party and his dedicated work on behalf of Democrats running for office on the Big Island and State wide. He is committed to caring out duties assigner to him. When given a task he completes it and does more. He is dedicated to learning what needs to be done and following up on those findings.

I have become to know John as a friend and am always pleased with his wit and sense of humor, especially in adverse situations. An example of his ability to listen to people, analyze the problem is evident in his role as president of his condo association. When he was elected to this position there was much tension between tenants and numerous problems with the building it self. He soon organized a governing committee, held meeting, held a Hawaiian Blessing for the building and now has a coherent board and happy tenants. There have been meaning improvements done on the property including beautiful land scraping.

He is very committed to Governor Abercrombie's "A New Day in Hawaii" theme and will be a strong voice for outer islands needs and voicing their concerns to the committee. He will also bring a forward thinking attitude to this very important committee.

Beverly Jean Withington, Esq.  
Former Chair Democratic Party of Hawaii

**From:** L Ervin [makapuu@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2011 7:39 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Subject:** Gm 592 March 28, 2011

Committee on Transportation and International Affairs  
re: GM 592 John A Ervin 3/28/11

Esteemed Members

I believe John A Ervin would be a valuable asset to your Committee. In the early days in Honolulu, where he attended Saint Patrick's School and then Saint Louis High School, on to his current residence in Hilo, John has seen the many changes that the State of Hawai'i has gone through. He has positive views as to the Hawai'i's place in the nation and the world. John is able to talk to anyone no matter their position or importance. John is well spoken, well read, a good listener and never forgets.

John has had many varied experiences which he will bring to your committee. John has traveled extensively through Canada, the British Isles, Europe and North Africa. He and his wife Kanami have traveled in Japan and throughout the mainland as well.

In addition he has worked in many positions in the public sector as well as being a businessman. He has worked as a State's Park Employee, a County Fair Employee, a Federal Forest Service Employee, owned his own Restaurant, been the President of a Junior College District and retired from a position in the Corrections Department. While in retirement he has been active in his Home Owners Association where he fought to correct mismanagement and lack of representation. He is also very active in the Hilo community interacting with all the varied groups that make up his home city and the Big Island.

John is also my brother and having been around him for 50 plus years and seeing him today I can truly say he is of the people and for the people.

Aloha  
Tom Ervin

March 27, 2011

Senator English, Chair  
Senator Espero, Vice Chair

Aloha,

My name is Nancy Shah. I am a retired USPS Postmaster from the Island of Hawaii. I am testifying in favor of GM 592, for the appointment of John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation.

I have known John for over five years. I currently serve on the Mauna Loa Shores AOA Board of Directors as Secretary. Mr. Ervin has been elected twice, the second time unanimously as President of the Board. John has earned the respect of all board members, created a team atmosphere, and brought everyone concerned together to complete deferred maintenance issues during these austere times. John has also earned the respect of owners and Association staff. He has demonstrated leadership skills are his strength and guided the Board through many difficult decisions.

In the strongest of terms, I support GM 592, the appointment of John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation. I hope you share that support and appoint him to the Commission on Transportation.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Nancy Shah  
1875 Kalaniana'ole # 310  
Hilo HI 96720

Phone: 808-933-2873  
Email: mele11111@yahoo.com

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2011 5:22 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Cc:** conradh@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM592 on 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for TIA 3/28/2011 1:15:00 PM GM592

Conference room: 224  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Conrad Hokama  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [conradh@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:conradh@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 3/27/2011

Comments:

Chairperson J. Kalani English,  
Vice-Chair Will Espero

Members:

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz  
Senator Mike Gabbard  
Senator Gilbert Kahele  
Senator Ronald Kouchi  
Senator Sam Slom

I am writing in support of John Ervin's nomination to the Commission on Transportation.

Mr. Ervin is a concerned citizen and has the time and energy to devote to representing the diverse views of the people of the Big Island.

I humbly request your favorable consideration of Mr. John Ervin to the Commission on Transportation.

Conrad Hokama

Re: Appointment of John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation

GM 592

Hearing Date and Time: Monday, March 28, 2011 at 1:15, pm

Place: Rm. #224, Hawaii State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St.

To Senator J. Kalani English, Chair of Committee on Transportation and International Affairs,

It is my pleasure to recommend the appointment of Gubernatorial Nominee Mr. John A. Ervin to the Commission on Transportation.

Mr. Ervin is a longtime resident of Hawaii who has been active in the Democratic Party of Hawaii and a loyal supporter of Governor Neal Abercrombie. It is my belief that Mr. Ervin would be an asset to the Commission on Transportation. Mr. Ervin is a hard worker of great intelligence and ability. From February of 2010 to the present, it has been my pleasure to know Mr. Ervin both professionally and personally. Mr. Ervin has shown himself to be a capable ERDistrict Chairman in the Hawaii County Democratic Party and is eager to serve the greater community of the citizens of Hawaii. Mr. Ervin is well qualified to work in an advisory capacity to the Director of Transportation on matters within the jurisdiction of the DOT.

Please give every consideration to approving the appointment of this nominee.

Thank you for your time,

Dan R. Robinson

30 Puuko Street

Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** Eve Maslin [Evie65@Frontiernet.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2011 12:39 PM  
**To:** TIATestimony  
**Subject:** GM 592 testimony in support

Testimony of Arthur Sowaal in support of GM592-March 28,2011

Senator English, Chair Transportation Committee,

To all concerned;

I am not familiar with the particular requirements of the position for which he is being considered. However, I assume that an intelligent mind capable of making unaffected observations and submitting them to thoughtful analysis will be helpful in any situation.

Mr. Ervin may not know everything, but he knows that. He is not fearful of acquiring new information; knows when to ask a question, and can be counted upon to point out the elephant in the room and bring it to the table. If there is anything that "goes without saying" it is likely he will say it.

If it is required to present someone to make a positive impression upon intelligent, informed people, send Mr. Ervin. If he needs further information on a subject, he will seek it. If he needs help, he will ask for it.

I have been associated with John Ervin for over 20 years and have no regrets from it. He is a staunch ally and close friend. I fully endorse his appointment.

Sincerely,

Arthur Sowaal.

March 27, 2011

Written testimony on Hearing for the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair

Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Date: Monday, March 28, 2011

Time: 1:15 PM

Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

GM 592

Submitting testimony for consideration and confirmation to the Commission on Transportation, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOHN A. ERVIN, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Dear Senator J. Kalani English, Chair and Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair and members of the Committee:

My name is **Gerald De Mello** and I am writing with regard to the upcoming confirmation hearing for **JOHN A. ERVIN's** nomination to the Commission on Transportation. I know John to be very conscientious and dedicated to working with the Big Island community on community concerns. He is a valued member of our community and is noted for his sensibility and interest in building healthy communities.

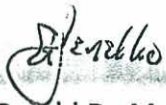
For all of us in Hawaii, transportation issues are very compelling, gridlock on freeways and congestion on highways on Oahu, Maui, Kauai and Hawaii Island. And as someone who lives on a neighbor island, Hawaii Island, I am continually impacted by fluctuating interisland air fares, shipping costs and specific transportation issues such as inadequate highway infrastructure, and, more specifically, transportation gridlock in Puna and West Hawaii. Hawaii and likewise the rest of the nation and globally, we are being challenged with an unprecedented economic stagnation. John is sensitized to these aforementioned challenges and has an overview on Hawaii's economic challenges. I do not have a sense of the entire purview of the Commission on Transportation but I do know that John has the attribute of being a big picture person and

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takes the long view of recognizing and problem solving issues. John will weigh in on transportation issues with sensibility and thoughtfulness and be ever cognizant of our economic quandary. Further, I am confident, that John has the community mindset and personal will, to responsibly commit his energy to work with others to move the state forward on the transportation issues that he finds to be the scope of this Commission. Too, John's style is proactive rather than reactive. And when he develops a full understanding of the challenges of the Commission on Transportation; he will contribute much to the discussion and provide positive community feedback to strengthen transportation challenges that Hawaii faces.

We in Hawaii are at a critical time in our history. We are challenged with many fiscal and community issues. As noted John has a lot of energy and might I add passion. John is an island son and has the willingness to devote the time to work on and help on transportation issues that face our State. He is highly regarded at the grass roots level in our community and has the kind of fortitude and style that the commission will find productive. I am pleased to confidently endorse Mr. John A. Ervin's nomination to the Commission on Transportation. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide support for this appointment. Aloha.

Sincerely,



Gerald De Mello

Director of University Relations, Community and External Affairs

University of Hawaii at Hilo