

GM 632

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT K. YANABU, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.

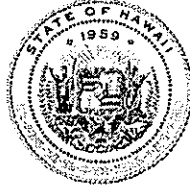
Report Title: Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Tuesday, April 7, 2011
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 632

WRITTEN ONLY

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Keali'i S. Lopez, and I am the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA" or the "Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 602, regarding the appointment of Robert K. Yanabu to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects ("Board"). The Department supports Mr. Yanabu's appointment and respectfully requests the Committee to recommend that the Senate advise and consent to his appointment to the Board.

I have spoken with Mr. Yanabu regarding his candidacy for appointment to the Board, and based on my discussion with Mr. Yanabu, I believe that he possesses the

qualifications, background, and experiences to serve on the Board, and to contribute in a positive and constructive manner on matters that will come before the Board.

Mr. Yanabu has devoted more than 40 years to the engineering profession. He has worked in various capacities as a licensed civil and structural engineer in both Hawaii and California, and has been employed with the Department of Public Works of the County of Hawaii for the last 36 years.

Mr. Yanabu attended Hilo High School and went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He continued with his post-graduate education, receiving a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California. Mr. Yanabu is actively involved with his profession as a member of American Society of Civil Engineers and the Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii. He is passionate about his work and career, and hopes to collaborate with the University of Hawaii's engineering faculty and other organizations to encourage high school students to pursue a rewarding career in the engineering profession.

Considering his extensive experience, I am confident that if given the opportunity, Mr. Yanabu will prove to be an asset to the State through his service on the Board. I respectfully request that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to Mr. Yanabu's appointment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

❖ DANTE K. CARPENTER
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HAWAII STATE SENATE – REGULAR SESSION 2011
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

April 7, 2011
9:00 AM, Conference Room 229

GM No. 632 –Relating to the submission by Governor Abercrombie for the consideration and confirmation of nominee Robert K. Yanabu to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects for a term to expire on June 30, 2014.

Chair Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, V.C. Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members:

Good morning. My name is Dante Carpenter, a concerned citizen of Hawaii whose residence is in the Salt Lake area of Honolulu. I am in strong support of the nomination in GM 632 for Robert K. Yanabu for confirmation by the State Senate as a member of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects in accordance with requirements of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Mr. Yanabu is a retired former Civil Engineer Executive who has served with distinction in the Public Works Department of the County of Hawaii for many years. As a former member of the Big Island Community I am well aware of his capabilities and that he is eminently qualified by his training and myriad experience. His willingness to share his time, expertise and energy for the important work of the licensing of professional engineers, surveyors and architects is a daunting task and is sincerely appreciated.

I strongly recommend approval of GM 632 and confirmation of Robert K. Yanabu by the Senate to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Good morning, Chair Baker and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

As an employee of the Public Works Department on the Big Island for the past 36 years, I am requesting to serve on the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects. Based on over 40 years of employment in various capacities as a civil and structural engineer in both Hawaii and California, I believe that I will be able to render reasonable and fair judgments on issues and concerns that may appear on the Board's agenda. I view the primary purpose of the role of a board member is to discharge the duties and responsibilities as prescribed in Section 464-6 and 7, and Section 436B-7, HRS.

In collaboration with the UH Manoa Engineering faculty and various engineering groups and organizations, I believe in supporting and encouraging high school students to enter the engineering profession. The pool of available P.E.'s in Hawaii, at present and in the foreseeable future, appears bleak because of attrition through retirement and departure from government to the private construction sectors, especially during peak construction periods. Although engineering may be a less glamorous field than others, the message to young people is that it can be rewarding and fulfilling.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify; I would be happy to answer any questions.