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April 13, 2011

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: **GM663 Coralie Matayoshi, BOR, 4/13, 1:15pm**
EDUTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

I write in very strong support of the nomination of Coralie Chun Matayoshi to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I met Ms. Matayoshi in 1985, when I was President-Elect of the Young Lawyers Division of the Hawaii State Bar Association. Ms. Matayoshi was very interested in doing public service work and got involved with the Young Lawyers Division, the public service arm of the bar. She was elected a Director and became President, successfully participating in a variety of public service programs.

I recall talking to her about her successful career as a trial lawyer with the Justice Department and United States Attorney, and as a commercial litigator with a well-respected Honolulu law firm. However, she said preferred to work with people to find solutions rather than to fight as adversaries. She wanted to use her education and legal skills for the public good. She took on the very tough challenge of heading the Hawaii Institute For Continuing Legal Education ("HICLE"). She quickly turned a failing organization into a very successful one. She also led the Hawaii State Bar Association as its Executive Director and was highly respected.

She is extremely hard working and intelligent. She is able to analyze and solve complex problems. She is very mindful of the funds she has available and of raising

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more. Of one her greatest talents is her skill in dealing with people. She has the ability and personality to recruit and retain top-notch volunteers. She did this very effectively with HICLE, getting the best judges and lawyers to donate substantial time pro bono, contributing to practice manuals and continuing legal education seminars. I have always known her to be straight forward and of the highest integrity.

The University of Hawaii would be very fortunate to have her on its board of regents. I strongly support her nomination and urge that the Senate confirm her nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Y. Wong