

GM669

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund, Gubernatorial Nominee, STEPHEN M. TANNENBAUM, for a term to expire 6-30-2013.

Report Title: Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 8, 2011

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street #230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

To the Honorable Senator Baker:

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to provide my strong recommendation of Mr. Stephen M. Tannenbaum, for your consideration for the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund. As a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association, as well as in my capacity as a State Representative (House Majority Leader) and former Vice Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, I am pleased to offer my strong support for Mr. Tannenbaum.

I am very impressed by Mr. Tannenbaum's qualifications and experience. I believe that this type of experience provides invaluable insight, and his ability to understand complicated financial information will benefit our state in being prepared for any future hurricane disasters.

As a legislator and former Vice-Chair of the Judiciary Committee, I have had an opportunity to see his work with communities and act as a strong advocate. But more importantly, I have been able to witness the effect of his activism and appreciate his willingness to improve our community.

Therefore, I am certain that Mr. Tannenbaum would make a fine addition to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund and wholeheartedly recommend him for your consideration. Thank you for this opportunity to express my support for Mr. Stephen M. Tannenbaum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blake K. Oshiro".

Blake K. Oshiro
State Representative

Representative Blake K. Oshiro, 33rd District
Aiea • Halawa Heights • Pearlridge • Red Hill • Waimalu
State Capitol #439 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

EVERETT KANESHIGE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Wednesday, April 13, 2011
9:15 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 669

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. 669, regarding the appointment of Stephen M. Tannenbaum to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund ("Board"). The Department supports Mr. Tannenbaum'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. Tannenbaum regarding his candidacy for appointment to the Board, and based on my discussion with him, 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. Tannenbaum is an East coast transplant who has resided in Hawaii for the last six years. He is currently employed as an Associate with the law firm of Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing specializing in complex civil litigation and class action suits. He represents an array of clients, ranging from large corporations to individuals, in both federal and State courts in contractual disputes, real estate tax appeals, claims of securities fraud and insider trading, and antitrust and trade regulation. In addition, Mr. Tannenbaum has worked on a number of significant *pro bono* cases including the representation of minor inmates at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, securing the education benefits and services entitled under the federal McKinney-Vento Act for homeless children, promoting immigrants rights and preparing political asylum applications for Tibetan and Chinese dissident refugees, and ensuring the continual use of Kapiolani Park by local artists and artisans.

Mr. Tannenbaum attended the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics, and received his Juris Doctor degree with honors from the New York University School of Law in 1995. He worked as an Associate in the litigation departments of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, and Morrison & Foerster LLP in New York City, specializing in banking and securities law. Furthermore, Mr. Tannenbaum represented large financial institutions and petroleum companies as a litigation attorney with Friedland Laifer LLP and went on to work with the country's largest cable and satellite

programming providers as an Associate with the Lonstein Law Office, both located in New York.

As evidenced by his extensive *pro bono* work, Mr. Tannenbaum is actively involved in various causes and organizations to make Hawaii a better place to live. After serving as a Director and Officer of the Board of Directors, he currently offers his services as a *pro bono* attorney for the Tau Dance Theater in Honolulu. In addition, Mr. Tannenbaum has previously been involved with the Tibetan Refugee Clinic, Immigrants with HIV Asylum Clinic and the Lamba Legal Aid in New York City.

Considering his extensive experience and passionate commitment to community service, I am confident that if given the opportunity, Mr. Tannenbaum will prove to be a valuable 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. Tannenbaum's appointment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair

GM 669 Confirmation of Stephen M. Tannenbaum
Board of Director for the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund

Testimony of
WILLIAM M. KANEKO

April 13, 2011, 9:15 am
State Capitol Room 229

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is William Kaneko. I am a licensed attorney with the Honolulu law firm Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing. I've had the pleasure of working with Steve Tannenbaum over the past several years at Alston Hunt. During that time, I have known Steve to be a highly competent lawyer, conscientious advocate, and skilled problem-solver.

Steve will bring to the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund a variety of legal skills and educational experiences. He is a graduate of the Wharton School of Business, and the NYU School of Law. He has been a litigator for the past 15 years, handling a variety of legal matters ranging from securities, banking, telecommunications, environmental, and commercial litigation. In so doing, he has worked with numerous federal and state government agencies, which will enable him to provide insight and experience on the Hurricane Relief Fund.

Furthermore, since Steve has moved to Hawaii, he has been a wonderful resource for our community. He has provided pro-bono legal services for the Zoo Fence Artists, Tau Dance Theater, and the Hawaii Immigrants Justice Center. With that spirit of community service, I believe he will be a welcome addition to the Board of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

I urge your support of Steve's nomination. Thank you.

BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair

GM 669 Confirmation of Stephen M. Tannenbaum
to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund

Testimony of
ANDREW DOUGHTY
President, Wizard Publications, Inc.

April 13, 2011, 9:00 am
State Capitol Room 229

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

It has come to my attention that Stephen Tannenbaum is being considered for appointment on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund. I wish to add my wholehearted endorsement to such an appointment.

As the president and publisher of Wizard Publications, Inc. (the largest producer of guidebooks for the State of Hawaii) I have worked with Steve for several years and have trusted him to be our legal eyes and ears. Not only does Steve bring a deep reservoir of talent and energy to whatever he tackles, I have found his judgment and keen analysis to be uncommonly sound. Steve has always been one to go the extra mile when it comes to accomplishing the goals at hand.

Additionally, when it comes to working as part of a team, Steve can be counted on to work tirelessly in the trenches to get things done and his common sense approach is refreshing.

The Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund would be lucky to have Stephen Tannenbaum on its board of directors and I strongly affirm his nomination.

To Whom It May Concern:

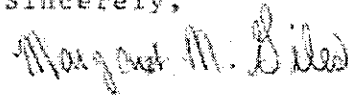
April 6, 2011

Stephen M. Tannenbaum devoted several years of his time to help the Art on the Zoo Fence/ Zoo Fence Artists retain their position in Kapiolani Park that was threatened after more than 50 years of displaying their art.

He helped explain the legal aspects in ways that we could understand. We will always be very grateful for the help that he gave us.

Stephen is very professional and charismatic in whatever he undertakes.

Sincerely,



Margaret M. Giles
1925 Kalakaua Avenue
Apartment 2801

Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Telephone: 808-946-7282

baker2 - Kelli

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 11:18 AM
To: CPN Testimony
Cc: dan_gluck@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for GM669 on 4/13/2011 9:15:00 AM

Testimony for CPN 4/13/2011 9:15:00 AM GM669

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Daniel Gluck
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dan_gluck@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/11/2011

Comments:

In my personal capacity (and not on behalf of any organization), I write in strong support of Steve Tannenbaum for the Board of the Hurricane Relief Fund. Steve is intelligent, thorough, and trustworthy. I have worked directly with Steve, and he is an excellent attorney whose legal training and experience will serve the Hurricane Relief Fund Board well in carrying out its statutory duties. Steve's long-standing commitment to pro bono legal work demonstrates his desire to serve the people of Hawaii, and I strongly support his nomination.

BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair

GM 669 Confirmation of Stephen M. Tannenbaum
to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund

Testimony of
STEPHEN M. TANNENBAUM

April 13, 2011, 9:00 am
State Capitol Room 229

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

I have been a resident of Hawaii for six years. From the start, I have been involved in various causes and with a wide range of organizations to make Hawaii a better place to live and a model of modern civilization, especially championing the rights of the marginalized, disenfranchised, overlooked and underprivileged over a broad spectrum of areas. For example, I have worked with different local public interest legal organizations on various cases (i) to obtain better conditions and treatment for minor wards at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, generally, as well as, to fight specific complaints of institutional abuse and discrimination at HYCF based on sexual and gender orientation; (ii) to obtain educational and education-related benefits and services which Hawaii's homeless, public schoolchildren are entitled to under the federal McKinney Vento Act but were not receiving under State distribution programs; (iii) to obtain equal rights and civil unions for same sex couples; (iv) to promote immigrants rights and prepare political asylum applications for Tibetan and Chinese dissident refugees; and (v) to ensure the continued use of Kapiolani Park by local artists and artisans. I have also been fortunate to sit on the Board of Directors and serve as an officer for the amazing Tau Dance Theater. I see joining the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund Board as an extension/progression of my commitment to contribute to and serve my State and its community, in an entirely new arena and in connection with a highly important purpose. As a side note, I visited Hawaii for the very first time shortly after Hurricane Iniki, and I will never forget what I saw. The HHRF is crucial to preparedness for and relief work after such devastation.

Beyond my diligence, work ethic, intelligence and strong commitment to the State, I believe, as a litigator for over 15 years and – recently – a new mediator in the State's CAAP Mediation Program, I also bring with me the ability to facilitate compromise and smooth disputes among Directors and outside the Board.

To: Chair Baker and Members of the Committee
From: Testimony of Stephen M. Tannenbaum
GM669 Confirmation of Stephen M. Tannenbaum to the Board of Directors
of the Hurricane Relief Fund
Hearing: 4/13/11 @ 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 229

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Also, as a (fairly) recent transplant to the State, I do not bring with me a history of perceived allegiances or predispositions. Not being tied to a specific industry, such as insurance or banking or construction, I feel I can serve well on the Board and counterbalance some of the other members and the interests they represent, openly or not. Finally, when I purchased my home in Kaneohe about 5 years ago, I experienced great difficulty in obtaining hurricane and flood insurance at a reasonable price and could afford coverage only after a new foreign insurance company entered the market. Thus, I have experienced, as a layman consumer, the problems with being obliged to obtain said coverage in order to get a mortgage, but being unable to find it.

In addition to the above, my Wharton Business undergraduate degree in economics will serve me well and enable me to quickly digest and understand complicated financial information and contribute to sophisticated investment making decisions.

I thank you for this prestigious nomination and the opportunity to serve the State and Community.