

April 20, 2011

The Senate

State Capitol

Honolulu, HI 96813

Attn: Senator Jill Tokuda

To the Senate Committee on Education:

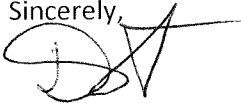
Thank you very much for considering me as a candidate for the Hawaii Commission for National & Community Service. Please see my responses to your questions below:

1. Why do you wish to be a commissioner of HCNCS? I view this as a good opportunity to help strengthen Hawaii's community as a whole, with a particular emphasis on education. I am a product of the Hawaii State Public School System and feel that my skills can be of use in the planning and allocation of resources to benefit our community.
2. The fundamental mission of HCNCS is to recruit residents of all ages and backgrounds to engage in community service in the areas of public safety, education literacy, environment, and basic human needs. How do you perceive your role and responsibilities as a commissioner of HCNCS? I feel that I can provide a "private sector" perspective on resource allocation and prioritization. Having been educated in Hawaii's public school system and a mainland private college, I have a good feel for various educational philosophies. In addition, my current employment in the private sector working with small businesses keeps me "in tune" with the local economy.
3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities as a commissioner of HCNCS, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, experiences, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a commissioner. Highlight the three qualities you feel make you a highly qualified candidate.
 - a. Private sector experience. Having worked in the private sector (and specifically with small businesses for the last 8 ½ years) provides me with the opportunity to observe and counsel small and medium sized businesses in making important decisions with regards to resource allocation and prioritization. This expertise can be directly translated to decision-making situations as a commissioner.
 - b. Education and work experience. My economics and MBA degrees, along with the work experience in the financial services industry (banking, insurance, and investments) has provided me first-hand experience with regards to financial analysis, budgeting, and credit decisions.
 - c. Teamwork, sales, and customer service. My sports background and work experience have given me a solid understanding of the benefits of working together effectively in teams. In addition, sales and customer service experience has helped me view situations from different perspectives, which helps in negotiation and effective communication.

4. What would be your top three priorities for HCNCS?
 - a. 1) Ensure fiscal responsibility and effective resource management.
 - b. 2) Help strengthen Hawaii's communities through the implementation of various programs benefiting education, safety, environmental conservation, and other civic & social service needs.
 - c. 3) Help increase the awareness of the need, benefits, and impact of volunteerism in our community. It doesn't take much but if everyone contributed a little of what they have (money, time, etc.), it can make a huge difference in our communities.
5. What impact do you think the current economic recession will have on volunteerism and what challenges and/or opportunities will the commission face during these times of economic uncertainty? I believe the current recession will have a huge impact on all aspects of our communities. The unemployment and under-employment situation has and will continue to increase the need for social & civic service organizations to enhance the level and volume of services they provide. However, their ability to do so will likely be offset by a loss of resources in terms of both funding and manpower. This will particularly impact organizations that are primarily funded by grants or donations, both of which will be negatively affected by spending cuts in both the public and private sectors. As such, services provided by volunteers will increasingly be relied upon to fill service gaps in all areas. This poses an opportunity for organizations like HCNCS to promote the benefits and significant impact of volunteerism.
6. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the HCNCS? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest? The only conflict I can see is if I am required (as a commissioner) to publicly endorse any political position or candidate as I would not want that to create tension or conflict with any of my clients or colleagues. As such, I will try to remove myself from any situations in which this might occur.

I hope these answers are acceptable to you and I look forward to our hearing. If you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 694-6258 or darin.shigeta@boh.com.

Sincerely,



Darin Shigeta

GM703

Testimony



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Monday, April 25, 2011, 10:00 AM
State Capitol Room 329

Testimony of
Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor, State of Hawaii

To the Senate Education Committee
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

GM703 Confirmation of **Darin Shigeta** to the
Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

I am pleased to support the confirmation of Darin Shigeta to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service. I have appointed Shigeta to serve as a Community Representative on the Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2014.

Shigeta has been involved in Hawaii business since 1997 when he returned to Honolulu after graduating from Claremont McKenna College. For the last nine years, Shigeta has worked at the Bank of Hawaii in business banking. In 2006, he was recognized with an Honorable Mention for Small Business Administration Lending Officer of the Year.

Shigeta is active in the Kalihi community as well as other community initiatives in Hawaii. Shigeta has served as President of the Kalihi Business Foundation and is Past President of the Kalihi Business Association. He held leadership roles in the Sunset at Kalihi event for three years. Shigeta has also been involved with Honolulu International Airport, representing the Bank of Hawaii in Spokes and Chair of Concessionaires. Shigeta has also served for multiple years at the Hawaii Pacific Tennis Foundation, Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce and Hawaii's Walk for Diabetes.

I am excited that Shigeta is willing to serve on the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service. I know that you will find Shigeta qualified for the Commission and encourage you to confirm him.

Chita Stewart
Chair

Ryan Perreira
Vice Chair



Isaac V. Watson
Executive Director

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Hawai'i Commission for National and Community Service

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To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

From: Isaac Watson, Executive Director
Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service

Date: April 25, 2011

Subject: GM 703 - Consideration and Confirmation of Darin Shigeta to the Hawaii
Commission for National and Community Service

Madam Chair, my name is Isaac Watson and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service. I am here today to support the appointment of Mr. Darin Shigeta to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community service for the next three years.

Mr. Shigeta comes to the Hawaii Commission as a representative of the financial institution during a time when we need to tighten our belts and be more fiscally prudent in our spending. Based on Mr. Shigeta's background in the banking world, he could contribute a lot in helping the commission to become more fiscally sound. In addition, his many years of community involvement and volunteer work will assist the Commission in promoting and expanding national service. His resume also indicates his deep passion for volunteering and community participation and his experience will greatly contribute to the Commission's goal.

Madam Chair, I strongly urge your support in appointing Ms. Janice Bond to the Commission in order that she may be able to provide her expertise and insight in helping the Commission to fulfill the more comprehensive role envisioned for the Commission that will foster and expand an ethic of service and volunteerism throughout the state.