

**GM 752**

**Testimony**



April 21, 2011

Via Email ([TSMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:TSMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov))

Senator Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair, Committee on Tourism  
Hawaii State Legislature  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Governor's Message No. 752 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee Craig G. Nakamura  
Hearing Date: April 25, 2011; Hearing Time: 3:00 p.m.

Dear Senator Kim and Committee Members:

My name is Christof Luedi and I am the Regional Vice President for Fairmont Hotels and Resorts, Hawai'i, overseeing our two properties on the islands Maui (The Fairmont Kea Lani) and Hawai'i (The Fairmont Orchid). I have held this position since January 2001.

I am writing this note in support of Gubernatorial Nominee Craig G. Nakamura whom I have known on a personal and professional level since my arrival to the State of Hawai'i in 2001. Mr. Nakamura has advised and continues to advise our company on many issues over the years and has proven himself to be an extremely efficient and effective contributor with a deep understanding of Hawai'i's business world and visitors industry.

I would like, therefore, to highly recommend Mr. Nakamura for a board seat on the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Sincerely,

Christof Luedi  
General Manager & Regional Vice President, Hawaii

The Fairmont Orchid  
One North Kaniku Drive  
Kohala Coast, Hawaii  
United States 96743  
TEL 808 887 7338  
FAX 808 885 1125  
[chris.luedi@fairmont.com](mailto:chris.luedi@fairmont.com)  
[www.fairmont.com](http://www.fairmont.com)

cc: Senator Ronald D. Kouchi ([senkouchi@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkouchi@capitol.hawaii.gov))  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria ([sengaluteria@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengaluteria@capitol.hawaii.gov))  
Senator Gilbert Kahele ([senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov))  
Senator Sam Slom ([senslom@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senslom@capitol.hawaii.gov))





# HYUNDAI

## Tournament of Champions

April 21, 2011

Via email: ([TSMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:TSMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov))

Senator Donna Mercado Kim,  
Chair, Committee on Tourism  
Hawaii State Legislature  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

*Re: Governor's Message No. 752 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee Craig G. Nakamura; Hearing Date: April 25, 2011; Hearing Time: 3:00pm*

Dear Senator Kim and Committee Members,

It is with great pleasure that I enthusiastically and wholeheartedly support the nomination of Craig G. Nakamura to the Hawaii Tourism Authority board. In my 28 years of experience in developing and operating events on Maui including wine and food festivals, health and wellness events, whale conservation educational forums, LPGA and PGA TOUR golf tournaments, I've worked with and met many people.

While working as the Tournament Director for the Mercedes-Benz Championship, I reported to Kapalua Maui Charities, the host organization of which Craig was a board member. I found him to be committed to benefiting Maui and the state of Hawaii in his support of the event, which had such a significant economic and charitable impact to the islands. He always conducted himself with the highest ethical standards and with his legal expertise guided us so that we could achieve our goals. I am confident that his expertise, fairness and sound judgment would be a considerable benefit to the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Aloha,



Nancy Cross  
Tournament Director  
Hyundai Tournament of Champions



HYUNDAI TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS  
1000 Kapalua Drive • Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761  
Toll Free 1-888-665-9160 • (808) 665-9160 • Fax: (808) 669-2063  
[kapalua.com](http://kapalua.com)





## Maui Hotel & Lodging

ASSOCIATION

Testimony of

**Carol Reimann**

Executive Director

Maui Hotel & Lodging Association

on

**GM752**

### **APPOINTMENT OF MR CRAIG NAKAMURA TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

**Monday, April 25, 2011, 3:00pm**

**Conference room 423**

My name is Carol Reimann, Executive Director of the Maui Hotel & Lodging Association and it is my pleasure and honor to provide written testimony in support of the appointment of Mr. Craig Nakamura to the Board of Directors, Hawaii Tourism Authority.

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association is a non-profit organization that represents and advocates for the visitor industry. Our membership includes two classifications: properties and allied businesses. Mr. Nakamura's law firm has been an allied member in good standing for many years. He has continually taken an active role in our organization and has always expressed a high level of interest to the issues that affect the visitor industry. He is a highly respected member of our organization; and consistently maintains the highest level of professionalism and business ethics in all that he does.

Mr. Nakamura also takes his civic responsibility and concern for Maui's citizens seriously. This is evident in his past work with organizations and non-profit entities that enhance the Maui community such as the Wailuku Heights Community Association, Kapalua Maui Charities and the Baldwin Football and Basketball Backers. There is no doubt that he is widely respected for his community and civic involvement.

Mr. Nakamura and his law firm have represented numerous companies in Kapalua, Kaanapali and Wailea – businesses in the hospitality industry. These experiences have afforded him a keen understanding and thorough appreciation of the importance of the industry to our local community, economy and way of life.

Mr. Nakamura is highly qualified and will provide the Hawaii Tourism Authority with an astute business mind, legal expertise and keen community perspective to its activities.

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association recommends favorable consideration of Mr. Nakamura's appointment to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

April 14, 2011

Re: Letter of Recommendation  
for Craig Nakamura

To whom it may Concern,

It is with great pleasure, honor and admiration that I am given the opportunity to briefly express my views of support to consider Craig Nakamura for the acquisition of position of serving on the board as Tourism Senate.


I have known Craig for fifteen years both personally and as my business attorney. Throughout these years he has never failed me as a sincere and great friend. His honesty as an advisor has appealed me to have tremendous respect for him. His integrity and high moral standards are traits that he shows compassionately both as a friend and attorney.

Craig has always had the best interest for what is right and fair whether representing me during my business affairs or just being there for support as a great friend. His display for focusing on the best interest of the individuals concerned is a merit which has been a positive influence in my judgment to turn to him for advise.

I have also known him to be immensely involved with the community and has embraced such demands with his compassion and knowledge to better the community as a whole.

He is a very respectable and professional individual. In my opinion, he will be a great asset to the board.

Respectfully,

  
Rose Royce  
Owner & President  
Rainbow Mall

# Wailea Old Blue

— GOLF CLUB —

120 Kaukahi Street, Wailea, Maui, Hawaii 96753  
Tel 808.879.2530 Fax 808.875.5162

April 22, 2011

Senator Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair, Committee on Tourism  
Hawaii State Legislature  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Governor's Message No. 752 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee Craig G. Nakamura; Hearing Date: April 25, 2011; Hearing Time: 3:00 p.m.

Dear Senator Kim and Committee Members:

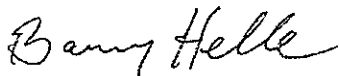
I am writing in support of the nomination of Craig Nakamura to the Hawaii Tourism Authority. I have known Craig Nakamura for many years and feel that he is an outstanding choice to be a member of this important body.

Through Craig's work as a business attorney, he has developed a keen understanding of our visitor industry since many of his clients are involved in tourism. In my dealings with Craig, it is quite apparent that he has made the effort to fully understand how his client's business works so that he can help make them successful. I firmly believe that he will take this same approach to the Hawaii Tourism Authority in providing direction to our number one industry.

The one trait of Craig's that has impressed me the most, and which I believe will be the most valuable to the HTA, is Craig's diversity. From basic business operations, to human resources to marketing concepts, I have found Craig to be quite knowledgeable. I have successfully used this knowledge to assist us here at the Wailea Old Blue Golf Course.

I would like to encourage the committee to support this nomination. If you have any questions regarding my support, please contact me at 808-875-5140.

Sincerely,



Barry Helle  
General Manager