# **GM769**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Aerospace Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, Steven J. Skladanek, for a term to expire 6-30-2013.



## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of

### RICHARD C. LIM

Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism before the

# SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, April 14, 2011 2:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 224 in consideration of GM 769

### RELATING TO CONFIRMATIONS FOR THE

#### HAWAII AEROSPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee. The department strongly supports the nomination of Steven Skladanek for appointment to the Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee.

Steven Skladanek brings with him unique and outstanding credentials that can support the Aerospace Advisory Committee's mandate to advise and assist the Legislature and State agencies in monitoring, assessing and promoting aerospace development statewide. We are most fortunate to have Steven Skladanek's enthusiastic commitment and support for this endeavor, and would urge your favorable disposition on his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Steven Skladanek's behalf.



Steve Skladanek Director of Marketing Commercial Launch Services

Lockheed Martin Corporation P.O. Box 179, MS 1003, Denver, CO 80201-0179 Telephone 800.328.1665 Facsimile 303.971.5885

April 13, 2011

Senator Will Espero State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Nomination to Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee

Dear Senator Espero,

Yesterday, the world paid tribute to a significant milestone in the history of human spaceflight – the first flight of a human in space 50 years ago by Yuri Gagarin. It was that achievement that gave our nation the laser-sharp focus to commit the resources necessary to develop capabilities and infrastructure that made the United States the unequivocal leaders in the exploration and exploitation of space. Fifty years later, our nation struggles to define a purpose or direction to continue that exploration. We, as a nation, are content to allow our astronauts to be carried into space on Russian launchers. We, as a nation, are content to allow the world's largest satellite operators to relocate from the US to "friendlier" nations. We, as a nation, are content to allow foreign industry dominate commercial satellite manufacturing and launch industries.

Hawaii has the opportunity to help re-focus the United States' purpose and agenda in space. Visionaries within the Hawaiian aerospace community are leading national discussions regarding future destinations, and more importantly, establishing a purpose to go there. Hawaii has unmatched resources to prove concepts and demonstrate capabilities that will enable exploration of other worlds. Hawaii is ideally located, geographically and culturally, to foster the international cooperation that will be required to achieve these goals. The Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee will be foundational in steering these activities, and, as an aerospace professional, I wish to be a part of helping Hawaii, and our nation, create the next great advancement in the exploration of space.

The purpose of my membership in the Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee is to represent the commercial aerospace industry. Lockheed Martin is a proud corporate citizen of Hawaii, and has broad national and international presence that will allow me to bring a diverse and global business perspective to the Committee. I have actively participated in the aerospace industry for 28 years, in fields that include human spaceflight, commercial and government launch services, defense systems, and government relations. I hope that, during my term of service, I may help the Committee develop and implement a strategic plan that will enable the future exploration and utilization of space by employing Hawaii's capabilities and resources. This plan must be grounded in sound business principles in order to achieve broader goals of diverse economic development, well-paying employment, and a desirable and challenging career path for Hawaii's youth.

I humbly request favorable consideration to my nomination to the Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee. Should you have any questions, please fell free to contact me at 303.971.9767, facsimile 303.971.5882, or email steve.j.skladanek@lmco.com.

Sincerely