



**GOV. MSG. NO. 530**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

January 5, 2012

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui, President  
and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Tsutsui and Members of the Senate,

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs**:

POLICY ADVISORY BOARD  
FOR ELDER AFFAIRS

TERM TO EXPIRE

REMARKS

John A.H. Tomoso

6/30/2016

Maui County

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Abercrombie".

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

LORETTA FUDDY, ACSW, MPH  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



STATE OF HAWAII  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING  
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT  
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

WESLEY LUM, PHD, MPH  
DIRECTOR

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### Committee on Human Services

**GM530 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, John Tomoso, for a term to expire June 30, 2016.**

**Testimony of Wes Lum  
Director, Executive Office on Aging  
Attached Agency to Department of Health**

**Tuesday, February 21, 2012; Conference Room 016**

**1:15 p.m.**

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) supports the nomination of Mr. John
- 2 Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).
- 3 **Purpose and Justification:** Mr. John Tomoso is currently the Executive Director of Hui Ke Ola
- 4 Pono in Maui. Mr. Tomoso was the Executive on Aging for eight years for the Maui County
- 5 Office on Aging, and also has a wealth of professional experiences as a social worker,
- 6 administrator, grants specialist, and probation officer, to name a few. He has been appointed to
- 7 numerous boards and committees such as the Maui County Board of Ethics, Maui Board on
- 8 Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaiian Homes Commission, and the Affirmative Action
- 9 Advisory Council for Maui. Mr. Tomoso is affiliated with the Maui Joint Advocacy Committee
- 10 on Senior Affairs and the National Association of Social Workers, among others. For these
- 11 reasons, EOA supports the nomination of Mr. Tomoso. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

ALAN ARAKAWA  
Mayor

JO-ANN T. RIDAO  
Director  
Housing & Human Concerns

JAN SHISHIDO  
Deputy Director  
Housing & Human Concerns



DEBORAH ARENDALE  
Executive on Aging

PHONE (808) 270-7755

FAX (808) 270-7935

E-MAIL: [mcoa.adrc@mauicounty.gov](mailto:mcoa.adrc@mauicounty.gov)

**COUNTY OF MAUI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS**  
**MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING**  
**AN AREA AGENCY ON AGING**

ONE MAIN PLAZA  
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 547  
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

**Senate Committee on Human Services**

**GM 530, Gubernatorial Nominee John A. H. Tomoso**

**Testimony of Deborah Arendale**  
**Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging**

**Tuesday, February 21, 2012; Conference Room 016**  
**1:15 p.m.**

**MCOA's Position:** Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) is in strong support of GM 530, Gubernatorial Nominee John A. H. Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA). Mr. Tomoso served as the Maui County Executive on Aging from 2000-2008. His commitment to kupuna, however, has continued to be very obvious. MCOA recognizes the unique roll of PABEA in helping to shape the future direction of the aging network. Effective neighbor island representation on PABEA is crucial to ensure that the direction of the network encompasses the totality of needs of all islands. John demonstrates a keen awareness of the needs of Maui County kupuna, and exhibits the ability to effectively communicate those needs. This type of informed active participation is crucial for Maui County's aging population. However, not only would John's appointment to PABEA result in a tangible benefit for the kupuna of Maui County, but his knowledge, experience, and passion would serve to improve the lives of kupuna across the state.

It is with wholehearted commitment that Maui County Office on Aging endorses the appointment of John A. H. Tomoso to PABEA.

Thank you for offering the opportunity to provide testimony.

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To promote and protect the well-being of the Older Americans in Maui County.

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**From:** Eudice schick [mazel@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 10:06 AM  
**To:** HMS Testimony  
**Subject:** GM 530

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair  
Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: February 21, 2012 1:15 p.m.  
Place: Conference Rm. 16  
Testimony in Favor of John Tomoso (GM 530)

Dear Senators:

It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Tomoso as a Maui representative to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, "PABEA". I have known Mr. Tomoso for almost 5 years and have followed his work, as a social worker, caring for our Kupuna. PABEA will definitely benefit having Mr. Tomoso as a member of the Board.

Thank you for your consideration of Mr. Tomoso (GM530)

Sincerely,

Eudie Schick, Chair PABEA



**Papa Ola Lokahi**  
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

**Papa Ola Lokahi**

894 Queen Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

**Papa Ola Lokahi**

is a non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and continental United States.

**Board of Directors**

*Member Organizations*

*Hoola Iahui Hawaii*

*Hui No Ke Ola Pono*

*Hui Malama Ola Na OIWI*

*ALUNIKE*

*Ke Ola Mamo*

*Ke Ola Mau*

*University of Hawaii*

*Hawaii State Department of Health*

*Ne Pauwai*

*Office of Hawaiian Affairs*

**Ex-Officio Members**

*Hawaii Primary Care Association*

*Ke Alaula*

**Executive Director**

*Hardy Spoehr*

**TESTIMONY: GM 530: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOHN A.H. TOMOSO, for a term to expire 6-30-2016**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

1:15 pm

Conference Room 016

State Capitol

Hardy Spoehr, Executive Director

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland and Vice Chair Ihara and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services. Papa Ola Lokahi (POL), the Native Hawaiian Health Board, strongly supports the appointment of Mr. Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.

Mr. Tomoso has spent most of his professional carrier caring for and about people. Prior to his current position as executive director of Hui No Ke Ola Pono, the Native Hawaiian Health Care System serving Maui, he distinguished himself as the architect for Maui County's senior citizen and elder programs. His knowledge of elder affairs and the needs and concerns of 'kupuna' and his "hands on" experiences will be of tremendous benefit to the Policy Advisory Board on Elder Affairs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony on behalf of Mr. John Tomoso.



To: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair HMS  
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair HMS  
From: Deborah Zysman, MPH; President  
Re: **Strong Support for the Nomination of John A.H. Tomoso to the Policy  
Advisory Board for Elder Affairs**  
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 1:15pm in room 016

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It is with great pleasure that I write to **strongly support the nomination of John "Hau'oli" Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.**

I have known Hau'oli for several years in his role as a strong and active member of the Board of Directors for both the Hawaii Public Health Association as well as the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii. Both of these organizations are deeply involved in public health and public policy work and feel that aging and long term care issues are critical.

Hau'oli brings a voice of compassion, the spirit of partnership and a witty sense of humor to all that he does. He is a committed community advocate and always brings the voice of his community and clients to the forefront. He is highly dedicated to integrating and bridging the work across the fields of health care, public health and social work.

Hau'oli is a leader. He was recently voted in as "President-Elect" for the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii; a reflection of the confidence of his peers. He leads by example, often the first to volunteer to take on a new project or chair a committee and never avoiding the difficult discussions that Boards sometimes avoid.

Hau'oli would be an asset to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. He is passionate about elder issues and would bring a breadth and depth of knowledge from years of work with elder affairs. I fully support his nomination.

With aloha,

Deborah Zysman, MPH  
Board President – Hawaii Public Health Association and  
Executive Director - Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii



**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
State Senate  
Committee on Human Services

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association  
February 21, 2012

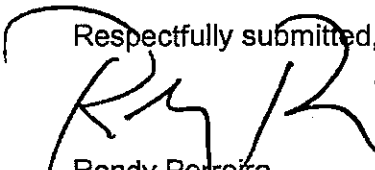
G.M. 530 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION  
AND CONFIRMATION TO THE POLICY  
ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS,  
GOVERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JOHN A.H.  
TOMOSO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2016

The Hawaii Government Employees Association AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the confirmation of Mr. John A.H. Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board For Elder Affairs (PABEA).

Mr. Tomoso has been serving as the Executive Director for Hui No Ke Ola Pono since 2008. Hui No Ke Ola Pono is a private, not for profit community-based health enhancement, disease prevention and health care center and provides programs on nutrition, health management and health care referrals for the community of Maui in a culturally caring manner. Before retiring from the County of Maui in 2008, Mr. Tomoso worked as the Maui County Executive on Aging from 2000 to 2008 and prior to that time, worked in a number of different capacities in the County of Maui, Judiciary, University of Hawaii and the private sector. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Political Science and a Masters Degree in Social Work. He has been an HGEA member since 1977 (currently a retired member) and has volunteered in community activities, served as a volunteer in a number of community organizations in addition to being appointed to various boards and commissions.

We believe Mr. Tomoso has the education and experience background that will allow him to serve the community on the Policy Advisory Board For Elder Affairs with the same commitment he has demonstrated as a volunteer in the past. We thank you for the opportunity to testify on G.M. 530 in support of the confirmation of Mr. Tomoso.

Respectfully submitted,



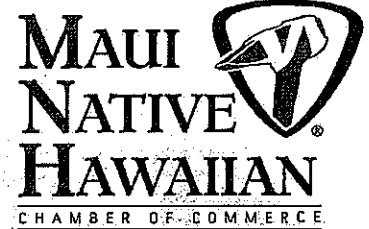
Randy Perreira  
Executive Director



Hui Honolulu

February 17, 2012

VIA EMAIL: HMStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov



P.O. Box 350  
Kahului, Maui, Hawaii 96733  
www.mauihawaiianchamber.org

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui, President  
And Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Senate Committee on Human Services, Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 1:15 pm  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol, Tuesday, February 21, 2012  
GM530 – Considerations and Confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs  
Gubernatorial Nominee John A. H. Tomoso for a term to expire June 30, 2016  
Testimony for Advise and Consent

Aloha President Tsutsui and Members of the Senate,

I would like to take an opportunity to offer personal support and recommendation for John A. H. Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).

Hau'oli has been in professional social work for 35 years, consisting of child and family welfare, child protection, mental health, family court, criminal justice, domestic violence, community development and gerontology. He is licensed as a Social Worker in the State of Hawai'i and he has maintained a private practice in social work since 1985 concentrating in family strengthening, addictions/co-dependency issues, community/organizational development and employee assistance.

His dedication to the community involves, but is not limited to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Maui County Affirmative Action Advisory Council; board service to the Hawaii Primary Care Association, Hawaii Public Health Association, Aloha Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and the National Association of Social Workers-Hawaii Chapter.

His leadership roles included being appointed the Maui County Executive on Aging in 2000; he was recognized by the National Association of Social Workers-Hawaii Chapter as the 2006 Social Worker of the Year and as a Fellow of the California-Hawaii Public Health Leadership Institute.

In June 2008, John was appointed the Executive Director of Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Inc., the Native Hawaiian Health Care System for Maui and he currently serves a Board Member to the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce.

I believe John A. H. Tomoso will represent PABEA with dignity and with outstanding leadership based on these criteria and his personal experience as a Family Care Giver. I hope you will give serious consideration to selecting John A. H. Tomoso for PABEA. If you would like additional information about Hau'oli, please feel free to contact me at (808) 633-6289.

O wau iho iho,

Karl Pelayo  
President, Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce  
Vice President, Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber Foundation  
Director of Operations, Grand Wailea  
Board Member, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.  
Chairman, UH Maui College Hospitality & Tourism Advisory Committee  
2011 Minority Small Business Champion-County of Maui, Small Business Advocate of the Year



TESTIMONY OF SCOTT C. JENSEN  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012  
1:15 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 016, STATE CAPITOL

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 530  
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDERLY AFFAIRS, GUBERNATORIAL  
NOMINEE, JOHN A.H. TOMOSO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2016

Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Committee:

It is my privilege to express my strong support for the nomination of John A.H. Tomoso to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.

I have had the pleasure of serving under Mr. Tomoso's direction as a planner when he served as the Maui County Executive on Aging. I know that his impressive history in public service coupled with his years of specific engagement of our kupuna population over the past several decades makes him uniquely qualified to join the other esteemed members of this body.

Given Mr. Tomoso's extensive knowledge of this segment of our community and his efforts to educate residents Statewide to the preparations that need to be made for the "silver tsunami" of this ongoing demographic shift, it is my hope that his nomination be given every consideration for this appointment.

3 February 2012

RE: Senate Committee on Human Services,  
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2012, 1:15 p.m., Conference  
Room 016, State Capitol, Tuesday, February 21,  
2012

GM530 – Consideration and Confirmation to  
the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs,  
Gubernatorial Nominee John A. H. Tomoso, for  
a term to expire 06-30-16  
Testimony for Advise and Consent

I would like to offer testimony in strong support of Mr. John Tomoso's appointment to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.

My name is Warren Aoki and I am currently serving as the President of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawai'i Chapter. I have come to know Mr. Tomoso through our work together within NASW, where he serves on our legislative committee, as well as via his role on the board of the Hawaii Public Health Association, as we have explored ways to collaborate in the interest of our common missions.

Mr. Tomoso would be an excellent appointee to the PABEA given his extensive professional background in providing culturally grounded social work and healthcare services to the elderly and other economically challenged populations on Maui. Mr. Tomoso is a strong proponent of recognizing the importance of recognizing the needs and voice of our neighbor islands and rural communities when planning and making decisions. He speaks with kindness, wisdom, and truth.

As a professionally trained and experienced social worker, Mr. Tomoso is oriented to see the "person in the environment." That is, the ability and curiosity to understand the unique aspects of diverse individuals, and how their family systems, cultures, communities and social policies are all intertwined. I believe this is the type of orientation that is essential in making good policy.

In conclusion, I hope that you will Mr. Tomoso to the PABEA. I am confident he will be an excellent servant to the elders of our great aloha state.

Mahalo,

Warren K. Aoki, LCSW, QCSW

*Susie Thieman*  
*Kula, Maui HI 96790*

RE: Senate Committee on Human Services,  
Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 1:15 pm  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol,  
GM530 – Consideration and Confirmation  
To the Policy Advisory Board for Elder  
Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee John A.H.  
Tomoso, for a term to expire 06-30-16

February 20, 2012

Testimony for Advise and Consent

To Whom it May Concern:

I have known John Tomoso for more than 10 years. I first met him in his official capacity as Maui County Executive on Aging, presenting workshops and doing presentation to seniors and those who work with seniors. His unique sense of humor and his concern for seniors make a wonderful combination in his presentations. He is forever taking classes and his need to learn more about related subjects never ends.

As the interim Executive Director of Lokahi Pacific and the current President of the Maui Non-Profit Directors Association it is my privilege to work with John on our Board of Directors. John has taken on the responsibility for finding speakers for our meetings these past two years and he has such a vast array of people he knows and can call upon to give presentations, that each and every one is very educational, inspiring, and motivational.

It is my great honor to support John A.H. Tomoso's nomination for this committee and to work with our Governor on this elder affairs.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to send an email to [susie@lokahipacific.org](mailto:susie@lokahipacific.org)

Aloha,

*Susie Thieman*

Susie Thieman

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 2:57 PM  
**To:** HMS Testimony  
**Cc:** michelle@huimalamahawaii.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM530 on 2/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 2/21/2012 1:15:00 PM GM530

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Michelle Hiraishi  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [michelle@huimalamahawaii.com](mailto:michelle@huimalamahawaii.com)  
Submitted on: 1/25/2012

**Comments:**

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. John Tomoso for the past 3 years in addressing the health disparities for Native Hawaiians. I have found Mr. Tomoso to be passionate and committed to improving the lives of people of Hawaii, and support his nomination wholeheartedly.