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**STATE OF HAWAII  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

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January 25, 2012

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Monday, January 30, 2012  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
Place: State Capitol, Conference Room 016

From: Marian Tsuji, Chairperson  
Workforce Development Council

**RE: GM 562 – Arun Savara  
Workforce Development Council**

The Workforce Development Council (“WDC”) supports the appointment of Mr. Arun Savara as a member of the WDC for a term to expire on 6/30/2015. Mr. Savara would fill a slot reserved for private sector members on the WDC.

The WDC is an attached agency to the DLIR and is responsible for advising the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for all. The WDC is also the State Workforce Investment Board for purposes of the federal Workforce Investment Act (“WIA”) of 1998. The WDC assists the Governor in developing and updating comprehensive five-year strategic workforce investment plans and oversees workforce (public) investment activities in the state.

Mr. Savara brings extensive experience to the WDC from time spent as an executive in medium to large corporate settings, as well as that of a small business owner. While serving as an interim appointee, Mr. Savara has been an active member of the WDC assisting in overseeing the state’s annual performance report to the federal government. Mr. Savara has been proactive in getting a better understanding of the myriad of federal requirements that the board deals with and offering guidance. As noted in the material submitted by the Governor and the appointee, his myriad of experience makes him a vital asset to the WDC. In this critical year, the WDC will be preparing the 5-year state plan on the use of federal Workforce Investment Activities (WIA) monies. This WIA plan is a requirement in order for Hawaii to receive the bulk of federal funding for the State’s primary job training and placement activities. Mr. Savara’s extensive experience will be vital to those efforts. The WDC is in strong support of Mr. Savara’s appointment and urges this committee to approve his nomination.

Thank you for this time to provide testimony for Mr. Arun Savara



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January 24, 2012

Senator Clayton Hee  
Chairman, Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Mr. Arun Savara's Nomination to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council

Honorable Clayton Hee:

I have known Arun Savara for 12 years in both a business and a social capacity. At all times I have found Mr. Savara to be an honest, intelligent, reliable, and hard-working individual.

I highly recommend Mr. Savara's appointment to the Board of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council. His strong work ethics, ability to work well with others, and problem solving skills make him an ideal candidate.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 523-6812.

Yours truly,



Rick Wall  
Chairman & CEO

**hee4 - Walden**

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**From:** Dharm Bhawuk [bhawuk@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:08 AM  
**To:** JDL Testimony  
**Subject:** Arun Savara's nomination to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

January 23, 2012

Senator Clayton Hee

Chairman, Judiciary and Labor Committee

Hawaii State Capital, Room 407

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Mr. Arun Savara's nomination to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council (HWDC)

Honorable Clayton Hee:

Aloha!

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Arun Savara's nomination to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council. I have known Arun for more than 15 years professionally and socially, and it gives me joy to write a letter to support his nomination.

Arun did his engineering degree from one of the best engineering schools in India, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), and was one of the best students of his batch. He got a fellowship to study at Cornell University, and following his master's degree, he returned home to India because of his mother's health. He worked in Singapore as an engineer for many years before returning to Purdue University to do Ph.D. in operations management. Arun has received the best education possible in Indian and the USA, and with his technical education, he is one of the most suitable person for the HWDC since we need to prepare our workforce for the technology inspired world of today.

Arun is a leader in the community, and has served as the President of Lotus, the social organization of Indians in Honolulu. He runs his own business, and is a successful entrepreneur with experience in many service businesses. He will be able to guide the HWDC with his successful entrepreneurial and business experience.

Arun has also taught at Hawaii Pacific University, and he was a source of inspiration for his students. His experience in academia has further prepared him for the position on the HWDC.

Arun is an amicable and delightful person, and he will be a perfect team member on the HWDC.

I strongly support Arun's nomination.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question.

Yours truly,

Bhawuk

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