

GM 562

January 30, 2012

LATE TESTIMONY

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

Honorable Clayton Hee:

I strongly support Arun Savara for membership on the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I have taught alongside him at HPU and found him to be honest, caring, considerate, consummately professional, hard working, and fully capable. Arun is the sort of person who is only satisfied with active and productive involvement in the things he believes in. Noticing this quality in him, I recently required a meeting with the Dean of our College of Business and Dr. Savara to discuss how he can become more involved in the efforts to improve our business programs. I am as sure that he will be an asset to our College of Business as I am that he will be an asset to your Council.

Yours truly,
Brian W. Kulik, PhD, MS, M.BA, MS
Assistant Professor
Hawaii Pacific University

TESTIMONY BY DWIGHT TAKAMINE
IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
NOMINEE, ARUN SAVARA
AS A MEMBER OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

LATE TESTIMONY

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

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

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I testify in support of Mr. Savara's confirmation a confirmation to the Workforce Development Council (WDC) for a term to expire on June 30, 2015. Mr. Savara would fill a slot reserved for a private sector member on the Council.

The WDC is an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations 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 Hawai'i 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.

In summary, I urge you to confirm Mr. Savara as a member of the Workforce Development Council where he would be a valuable asset to the Council and hence ultimately to the entire state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.