

GM 564

TESTIMONY BY DWIGHT TAKAMINE  
IN STRONG SUPPORT OF

LATE TESTIMONY

NOMINEE, VICKI GAYNOR  
AS A MEMBER OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

**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 Ms. Gaynor's confirmation to the Workforce Development Council (WDC) for a term to expire on June 30, 2015. Ms. Gaynor 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.

While serving as an interim appointee, Ms. Gaynor has been an active member of the WDC. As noted in the material submitted by the Governor and the appointee, her prior work in both public and private education, coupled with her executive level private sector experience, makes her 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. Ms. Gaynor's extensive experience will be vital to those efforts.

In summary, I urge you to confirm Ms. Gaynor as a member of the Workforce Development Council where she would continue to 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.