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PRESIDENT

DONNA MERCADO KIM  
VICE PRESIDENT

SAM SLOM  
MINORITY LEADER

## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 27, 2012

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CHIEF CLERK  
CAROL TANIGUCHI

Ms. Bernice Bowers



Dear Ms. Bowers:

Re: Nomination to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation GM 793

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation. To assist the Senate with its confirmation process, I would like to request that the following information be submitted to my office by **Thursday, April 5, 2012**:

- (1) A resume with a list of references
- (2) A written statement that addresses the following questions:
  - (a) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation?
  - (b) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation?
  - (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the High Technology Innovation Corporation.
  - (d) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?
  - (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation?

- (f) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation?
- (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Your prompt response in providing the above information will ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner. The committee is scheduling your confirmation hearing on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 1:15pm in Conference Room 016. Please contact Doris Lam or EDT Committee Clerk Ashley Advincula at 586-6890 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Senate Economic Development Committee

**GM 793**

**Ms. Bernice Bowers**

Board of Directors of the High Technology  
Innovation Corporation

**EDT**

## GM 793: HIGH TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION CORPORATION BOARD NOMINATION

### BERNICE BOWERS' RESPONSES

Thank you for this opportunity to present my qualifications towards this nomination to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation.(HTIC) Following are my responses to the Hawaii State Senate and the list of questions provided by the Senate Economic Development Committee.

- 1) Resume with references (attached)
- 2) Written statements below
  - a. I wish to be a Board member as a means of further serving Hawaii in its efforts to strengthen its economy. I wish to assist in the expansion of capacity of the High Technology Development Corporation, particularly to allow HTDC greater flexibility to support Hawaii technology companies and to grow this sector. This is based on my commitment to Hawaii to build the base of jobs in this sector.
  - b. My understanding is that the Board members' roles and responsibilities include: oversight of HTIC activities in support of its mission, in line with State of Hawaii and federal laws regarding the operation of a 501.c.3 created to enhance the programmatic and strategic work of the High Technology Development Corporation.
  - c. I believe that my operational experience working for HTDC on the development of technology parks on Oahu and Maui, experience supporting the development of the Center of Excellence in Research in Ocean Science (CEROS), and direct business development support of technology companies for 10 years, combined with my governance experience as the Executive Director of the Oahu Economic Development Board and Director of federal technology grants and programs enable me to fulfill the requirements of a Board member of HTIC. My experience working for the Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (PICHTR) in particular provides me with recent experience in a 501.c.3 designed to promote technology activities and companies in Hawaii, drawing federal funds to the State and private funding of events to market Hawaii internationally. With this combination of operational and governance experience, I believe that I would be able to fully engage in HTIC Board decision-making in an informed and thoughtful manner, understanding the laws and regulations governing non-profit organizations supporting State technology goals.
  - d. I would hope to accomplish the following during my term of service (per the mission of HTIC):
    - i. Support the High Technology Development Corporation in its role to incubate technology job-creators in the State of Hawaii, whether that be in physical incubation sites or through virtual sites

- ii. Support the High Technology Development Corporation in its role managing federal and state programs that directly benefit technology companies in Hawaii
  - iii. Support the High Technology Development Corporation in obtaining funding for its programs from non-State government sources, in order to expand support services provided to Hawaii technology companies
  - iv. Assist the High Technology Development Corporation with its promotion of Hawaii as a location for technology activities to include conferences and meetings as well as sites for technology-industry activities and companies
  - v. Leverage my contacts in industry, government, and academia involved in leading Technology Based Economic Development initiatives to support the State of Hawaii's efforts in this field, via the activities of the High Technology Development Corporation.
- e. The three personal qualities that I feel would benefit HTIC are:
- 1. the ability to draw resources to Hawaii from international and national sources such as my recent work securing the APEC Educational Exchange Program US Secretariat to Hawaii via the Pacific International Center for High Technology Research;
  - 2. the ability to tap a professional network across business, government, and academia internationally and nationally, developed through my work on federal, private-sector, and State of Hawaii projects in technology
  - 3. a personal passion to support the creation of technology jobs in Hawaii to benefit our youth, strengthen our communities economically and socially, and to support our growing technology base of innovation in the State of Hawaii.
- f. A previous experience that most prepares me for this Board role is that of being the Executive Director of the Oahu Economic Development Board, now Enterprise Honolulu. In this capacity, I trained and managed my own Board of Directors from a base of 3 to over 15 members as we grew the organization's human capital base from 8 volunteers to over 200, supporting industry clusters. Through this effort, we supported and secured projects, legislation, and initiatives that created quality jobs on Oahu. This included the attraction of the USS Missouri to Pearl Harbor, the passage of Waikiki Improvement legislation and incentives, the establishment of the Hawaii Technology Association, the UH Bridge Program, the Kamaaina Come Home recruitment network, and active Board development programs so that our Board members could effectively utilize their skills and networks to benefit the State of Hawaii in concert with the Board members of our sister organizations, the Economic Development Boards of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii Island. In this capacity, I helped to design and launch with the other Board leaders the Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii, pooling the resources of our Board members within a highly structured and transparent governance model.
- g. I do not foresee any conflicts of interest between my activities as the Managing Member of Inovi Group LLC and that of the High Technology Innovation Corporation. Should one

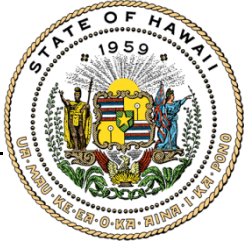
ever develop, I would alert the President of the High Technology Development Corporation, recuse myself from any decision-making activities, and if a systemic conflict of interest becomes apparent, would resign from the Board immediately.

Thank you for this opportunity to respond to these questions, and for your consideration to serve on this Board.

Mahalo,

*Bernice Glenn Bowers*

Bernice Glenn Bowers



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR

**RICHARD C. LIM**  
DIRECTOR

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
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Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**RICHARD C. LIM**  
**Director**

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of

**GM 793 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION  
CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BERNICE BOWERS,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014**

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of Bernice Bowers to the High Technology Innovation Corporation (HTIC) Board of Directors.

I have had the privilege of knowing Ms. Bowers for over 10 years. Her extensive experience in the economic development sector makes her an excellent candidate for the HTIC board. After holding executive level positions at both the Oahu Economic Development Board (OEDB) and the Northeast Asia Forum (NAF), Ms. Bowers became a founding member of a design-thinking-based consulting agency, Inovi Group, where she is currently employed.

Being born and raised in Honolulu and with her professional career flourishing in her home state, Ms. Bowers is in a unique position to understand the political, economic and social climate in Hawaii more acutely than many others. Additionally, she is currently an interim HTIC board member and has made effective and valuable contributions to the board. Should she be confirmed, Ms. Bowers will continue to leverage her networks, professional relationships and experience for the benefit of HTIC.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this confirmation.

Written Statement of  
**YUKA NAGASHIMA**  
**Executive Director & CEO**  
High Technology Development Corporation  
and also as  
**President**  
High Technology Innovation Corporation  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of

**GM 793 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION  
CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BERNICE BOWERS, FOR A TERM  
TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014.**

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to **support the appointment** of Bernice Bowers to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Innovation Corporation.

Ms. Bowers, born and raised in Honolulu, is a third generation resident of Hawaii. After attending Punahou School and obtaining advanced degrees on the mainland at both Harvard and Princeton, Ms. Bowers returned to Hawaii to begin her career. Ever since, she has been an invaluable asset in the island's economic development sector, namely as Executive Director of the Oahu Economic Development Board (OEDB), where she organized collaborations between industry, government, and non-profits that strengthened Economic Development initiatives in the State. Following this post, she became director of the Northeast Asia Forum (NAF), an economic development organization focusing on research, networking, and dialogue relevant to the development of Northeast Asia. After nearly a decade as Director of NAF, Ms. Bowers became a managing member of Inovi Group, a consulting firm based on the principles of Design Thinking. The Design Thinking process was made famous by David Kelley of IDEO at the Stanford Design School, and Ms. Bowers is one of the State's experts on this process, even founding Design Thinking Hawaii with Inovi Group.

Ms. Bowers' impressive career in the Economic Development sector makes her an exemplary appointee for the HTIC Board of Directors. Since Ms. Bowers has been serving as an interim HTIC board member up to this point, she has already shown her intuition, enthusiasm, and critical thinking in the HTIC board meetings that have taken place. Her deep understanding and insight into multiple facets of this community enables her to leverage her current networks and relationships both for the benefit of HTIC, and for the State of Hawaii.

The existing Board and I very much welcome her appointment and encourage your favorable vote on her behalf.



April 10, 2012

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui, President  
The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology  
and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 016  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM #793, Bernice Bowers nomination to serve as a  
Board of Director of the High Technology Innovation Corporation

Aloha President Tsutsui, Chair Fukunaga, Chair Wakai, Members of the Committee and  
Members of the Senate:

I am writing to express my unwavering support of GM #793 for Gubernatorial Nominee,  
Bernice Bowers to serve as a Board of Director of the High Technology Innovation  
Corporation.

I have had the great fortune of working with Bernice on several occasions and she would  
be one of the first people that I would seek personal advice from on High Tech and  
Innovation in Hawai'i.

I trust her knowledge but more so her sensitivity to all who are stakeholders in our  
community. Bernice is one of the most thoughtful and learned leaders in Hawai'i, her  
methods are subtle but her influence is broad.

If you have any considerations or concerns, please call me.

Mahalo nui loa,



Pono Shim  
President & CEO  
Enterprise Honolulu, Oahu Economic Development Board



ENTERPRISE  
HONOLULU

THE BUSINESS CLIMATE OF PARADISE

Burt Lum  
Hawaii Open Data - President  
P.O. Box 152  
Honolulu, HI 96810

April 10, 2012



Subject: Testimony in support of Bernice Bowers, Board Member of High Technology Innovation Corporation

I support Ms. Bowers' appointment to the Board of the High Technology Innovation Corporation and know her leadership will benefit the organization. I've know Bernice for many years and she has always delivered high quality work in the most professional manner. Her background consists of key positions that bring value to the High Technology Innovation Corporation, including:

- Worked for Motorola and Toyota, in strategic planning and workforce development.
- Over the years continued support of Hawai`i technology companies which began in the 1980s with HTDC as a special projects manager to assist with the recruitment and business development support of companies in the Maui Research & Technology Park, and proposals establishing CEROS and MIC support services.
- And recently with PICHTR in support of dual use technology companies, in which her company Inovi Group established programs with APEC and the Asian Development Bank to provide project opportunities, and with Hawai`i schools and universities to build critical thinking and STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Math) into our youth's educational experience to ensure the future talent pool for Hawaii companies.

Hawai`i needs leaders like Bernice to provide the vision and direction for organizations like the High Technology Innovation Corporation. As funding sources for HTDC continue to be a constant challenge, having a non-profit like the High Technology Innovation Corporation offers a degree of flexibility to seek foundation moneys. Bernice can help in that regard.

Thank you for allowing me to express my support of Bernice Bowers as Board member of the High Technology Innovation Corporation.

Aloha,

Burt Lum

## fukunaga2 - Ashley-Jane

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:24 AM  
**To:** EDTTestimony  
**Cc:** ryanozawa@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM793 on 4/11/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDT 4/11/2012 1:15:00 PM GM793

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Ryan Ozawa  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ryanozawa@gmail.com](mailto:ryanozawa@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:  
Aloha!

I am writing support the nomination of Bernice Bowers to the Hawaii Technology Innovation Corporation.

I have had the pleasure of working with Bernice for more than a decade, first as part of the Pacific Basin Economic Council -- an international trade group that maintained its secretariat in Honolulu -- then in subsequent years on a variety of projects. Most of them, fittingly, were focused on technology and innovation.

Of course, Bernice's expertise far predates our collaborations, going back to her time with the HTDC in the 1980s. Most recently, she worked with PICHTR and spearheaded a number of initiatives with her Inovi Group firm focused on design thinking and STEM education, both important movements in restoring Hawaii's global competitiveness.

Bernice is also an incredibly warm and patient person, and a wonderful mother, and someone I'm proud to call a friend.

For these and many other reasons, I believe Bernice would be a valuable part of the High Technology Innovation Corporation team, and that she will bring both wisdom and fresh thinking to Hawaii's tech community. A community that, I believe, could yield great benefits to the state with the right balance of guidance, support, and independence.

Thank you for your consideration.

Malama pono,

Ryan