

GM 846



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

DWIGHT Y. TAKAMINE
DIRECTOR

AUDREY HIDANO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor

April 11, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Nominee, Dominic Inocelda (GM 846)
As a Member of the Language Access Advisory Council

Wednesday, April 11, 2012
10:00 a.m., Rm 16, State Capitol

Testimony of Dwight Takamine, Director,
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

The department supports the confirmation of Dominic Inocelda to the Language Access Advisory Council. The Language Access Advisory Council serves as an advisory board to the executive director of the Office of Language Access (OLA), which provides centralized coordination and assistance to State agencies and organizations to ensure that people are not denied access to State or State-funded services due to their limited ability to speak, read, write, or understand the English language.

Mr. Inocelda is currently Clinical Administrator for the Bilingual Care Coordination and Support Services Program at the Susannah Wesley Community Center where he has served in various program management and administrative functions since 1982. He has worked with limited and non-English speakers, the elderly, public housing residents, youth and adolescents with emotional disturbances, immigrant families, and persons with serious mental illnesses.

Prior to his employment at Susannah Wesley Center, he worked as a legislative research assistant at the Hawaii State Legislature and as Supervisor at Maui Youth Services, where he worked with at-risk youth. He is also a licensed social worker.

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April 11, 2012
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Current community affiliations include being President of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant and Refugee Services, which was instrumental in the passage of the language access bill; Branch Board member of Leeward YMCA, Current President of the Kalihi-Palama Culture and Arts, Chair of the Foster Grandparent Advisory Committee, Chair of the Language Access Advisory Council, and Board member of the Family Service Center.

Mr. Inocelda holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii.

His extensive experience in working with various segments of the community and his long-standing commitment to public service will continue to guide his continued participation on the Language Access Advisory Council and serve the public interest well if appointed.

I urge you to confirm Dominic Inocelda to the Language Access Advisory Council so that he may continue his service on the Council.

NEIL ABERCROMIE
GOVERNOR



DWIGHT TAKAMINE
DIRECTOR

AUDREY HIDANO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SERAFIN P. COLMENARES JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACCESS

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 322
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TO: Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Serafin “Jun” Colmenares, Executive Director, Office of Language Access

RE: **Testimony in Support of GM846 (DOMINIC INOCELDA)**
Language Access Advisory Council

HEARING: Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 10:00 a.m., Room 016

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. I am Serafin “Jun” Colmenares, Executive Director of the Office of Language Access (OLA). The OLA strongly supports the reappointment of Dominic Inocelda as member of the Language Access Advisory Council.

Dominic Inocelda knows and understands the immigrant and limited English proficient population of Hawaii. With a Master’s degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii, Mr. Inocelda has been working with Hawaii’s immigrant community for more than 30 years. He is employed by the Susannah Wesley Community Center in Kalihi where he has served in various program management and administrative functions since 1982. Mr. Inocelda has worked with limited and non-English speakers, the elderly, public housing residents, and persons with serious mental illnesses. Currently, he is the Program Administrator for the Center.

In addition, Mr. Inocelda is actively involved in the community. He is the President of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant Services, which was instrumental in the passage of

Hawaii's language access law, and which has supported various programs, projects and activities that help Hawaii's immigrant and refugee communities.

Mr. Inocelda is the current chair of the Language Access Advisory Council and has ably guided the Council during the past five years. Given his commitment and contributions to language access, his experience, and his knowledge of the community, OLA urges the members of the committee to confirm his reappointment.

**Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date
Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 10:00am
Conference Room 016, State Capitol**

**Testimony in Support of Gubernatorial Nominee
Mr. Dominic Inocelda
to the Language Access Advisory Council**

Dear Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am submitting this testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Dominic Inocelda, for appointment to the Language Access Advisory Council for the term ending June 30, 2016.

As the chair of the Language Access Advisory Council for the past six (6) years, Mr. Inocelda has provided a solid foundation of leadership to ensure that the spirit and intent of Hawaii's language access law becomes a reality for the residents of Hawaii who are limited English proficient. His unflagging commitment and support for equal access to crucial services and programs for some of Hawaii's most vulnerable populations is inspiring.

I have had the privilege and pleasure of working with Mr. Inocelda when I was employed at the Susannah Wesley Community Center as its Development Officer. I believe his integrity, compassion and dedication to improve the quality of life for the voiceless and disadvantaged persons within our state has had and continues to have a profound impact in helping to make Hawaii truly the "Aloha State."

His vision and leadership for Hawaii is needed more than ever as our state struggles to do what is right during this very difficult economic period in our history. His experience and knowledge of our social service network, his understanding of our local culture and his quite dedication to helping make our state the best it can be will be crucial to the Language Access Advisory Council and the Office for Language Access as both entities strive to make real the vision and mission of Hawaii's language access law.

Thank you for this opportunity to support Mr. Inocelda's nomination to the Language Access Advisory Council. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 586-8735 (work) or 343-4516 (cell).

Sonya Chung-Hirano /s/

Sonya Chung-Hirano
Legal Analyst
Office for Language Access
830 Punchbowl Street #322
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-586-8735 direct

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: steuer@lava.net
Subject: Testimony for GM846 on 4/11/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Thursday, April 05, 2012 10:21:12 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/11/2012 10:00:00 AM GM846

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carolyn A Steuer
Organization: Individual
E-mail: steuer@lava.net
Submitted on: 4/5/2012

Comments:

I have known Dominic Inocelda personally for the past four years, since I began serving on the Board of the Susannah Wesley Community Center as a representative from Untied Methodist Women. I also was able to accompany him on a visit to an immigrant client family in Kahuku. As the Susannah Wesley Community Center clinical director, where he has served for many years, he shows great empathy to others and is very knowledgeable with his skills. I would recommend him to serve on the Language Access Advisory Council.



Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. · Kailua, HI 96734 · <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 846

Senate Committee on Health

April 11, 2012 10:00 a.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Honorable Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members: Sen. Mike Gabbard,
Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Charlene Cuaresma, Past President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Sen. Hee, Chair; Sen. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair; and Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members:

My name is Charlene Cuaresma. As past president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, I strongly support the confirmation of Governor Abercrombie's nominee, Dominic Inocelda, to the Language Access Advisory Council. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aims are to work for social justice issues and to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, social action and service.

I have known Mr. Inocelda since childhood, growing up in Waipahu's pre-statehood sugar plantation community. I can attest that his dedication to empowering vulnerable communities comes from thriving and always reaching for the higher ground, despite the adversities of socio-economic and tumultuous political determinants in our formative childhood years leading up to statehood. I am very proud to see my childhood friend and role model become a leader in social work to create systems changes that will benefit all of Hawai'i. Mr. Inocelda provided key continuity of leadership in immigrant service delivery systems while serving as chairperson of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrants and Refugees. He mobilized key stakeholders in the public and private sectors to support the passage of Hawai'i's Language Access Law, Act 290 as amended by Act 208. The Coalition is confident that Mr. Inocelda's decades of courage and expertise in advocating for immigrant services qualify him to build the capacity to support government agencies to better serve our communities, whose first language is not English. After 112 years since Filipinos first came to Hawai'i, I am proud that Mr. Inocelda is continuing the legacy of our Filipino ancestors as a dedicated steward of social justice to benefit all of Hawai'i's people.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to provide our strong support for Mr. Inocelda's confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma
Past President
Filipino Coalition for Solidarity



CONGRESS OF VISAYAN ORGANIZATIONS

99-1325 Aiea Heights Drive, Aiea, Hawaii 96701

To: Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Jane Clement, President

Date: April 11, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 016

Re: Testimony on GM846 (Dominic Inocelda)

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of GM846 reappointing Dominic Inocelda as member of the Language Access Advisory Council. My name is Jane Clement, president of the Congress of Visayan Organizations, the umbrella of Visayan organizations in Hawaii.

Dominic Inocelda knows and understands the immigrant and limited English proficient population of Hawaii. With a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii, Mr. Inocelda has been working with Hawaii's immigrant community for more than 30 years. He is employed by the Susannah Wesley Community Center in Kalihi where he has served in various program management and administrative functions since 1982. Mr. Inocelda has worked with limited and non-English speakers, the elderly, public housing residents, and persons with serious mental illnesses. Currently, he is the Program Administrator for the Center.

In addition, Mr. Inocelda is the President of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant Services, which was instrumental in the passage of Hawaii's language access law, and which has supported various programs, projects and activities that help Hawaii's immigrant and refugee communities.

Mr. Inocelda, as chair, has ably guided the Language Access Advisory Council during the past five years. Given his commitment and contributions to language access, his experience, and his knowledge of the community, OLA urges the members of the committee to confirm his reappointment.



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 846

Senate Committee on Health

April 11, 2012 10:00 a.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Honorable Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members: Sen. Mike Gabbard,
Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Lynne Gutierrez, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Sen. Hee, Chair; Sen. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair; and Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members:

UFCH submits this testimony to strongly support Governor Neil Abercrombie's nomination of Dominic Inocelda to the Language Access Advisory Council. My name is Lynne Gutierrez. I am the president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH). We are an umbrella organization with member civic groups from six island councils. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members.

Based on more than thirty dedicated years of leading the work in immigrant services through the Inter-Agency Council of Immigrant and Refugee Services, he has convened countless hours of meetings to advocate for immigrants, marginalized groups and vulnerable individuals. He is among the many leaders who have shepherded the passage of the Language Access Law, Act 290. For this, our Filipino community has tremendous confidence and trust in Dominic's ability to guide the work of supporting our government agencies to provide language access to their much-needed services. Mr. Inocelda is highly regarded for his character in words and deeds, his professionalism, thoroughness, persistence, and skilled stewardship of limited resources. UFCH is grateful for his dedication to public service in this position and is proud to support his nomination to the Language Access Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our strong support for Mr. Inocelda and for holding this important confirmation hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Gutierrez, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii



OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 · Honolulu · Hawaii 96817

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 846

Senate Committee on Health

April 11, 2012 10:00 a.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Honorable Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members: Sen. Mike Gabbard,
Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Maria Etrata, President, Oahu Filipino Community Council

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, gubernatorial nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Sen. Hee, Chair; Sen. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair; and Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members:

My name is Maria Etrata. As president of the Oahu Filipino Community Council, I am proud to support Gov. Neil Abercrombie's nominee, Dominic Inocelda to the Language Access Advisory Council. OFCC is an umbrella organization that represents a network of non-profit civic groups with a unified vision to improve the lives of our Filipino communities.

OFCC takes great pride in advocating for the successful passage of Hawai'i's Language Access Law, Act 290. We are very appreciative of this measure to appoint this Council. OFCC wholeheartedly supports the confirmation of Mr. Inocelda. His leadership as chairperson of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrants and Refugees was central to its development and enactment. Because of his leadership role in immigrant and refugee services, many families have been helped to get on their feet as recent arrivals. As a result, today many newcomers are contributing more to Hawai'i's economic recovery than receiving government assistance. Mr. Inocelda's contributions to this Language Access Advisory Council are integral to strengthening not only our government, but our diverse people, to become good stewards for the benefit of all in Hawai'i.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to provide our supportive testimony on his behalf.

Sincerely,

Maria Etrata
President, Oahu Filipino Community Council



Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701
E-mail: bramosrazon@aol.com

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 846
Senate Committee on Health
April 11, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Honorable Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members: Sen. Mike Gabbard,
Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, President, NAMI, Nursing Advocates and Mentors Inc.

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Sen. Hee, Sen. Shimabukuro, and Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members:

My name is Beatrice Ramos-Razon. As the Founder and President of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.), I am proud to submit our strong support for the gubernatorial nomination of Dominic Inocelda to the Language Access Advisory Council.

NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people.

As nurses, we are concerned about education and health disparities, quality and affordable health care for everyone, especially the poor; job security, labor equity, and more. Underlying all of these is language access for English language learners who struggle to navigate our complex and fragmented government offices. We believe that Ms. Inocelda will bring a voice and conscience of reason, as well as many lessons learned, to the Council with his years of problem solving hardship situations for those seeking immigrant services, in order to build the capacity of our government agencies to provide language access.

Thank you for holding this confirmation hearing and for the opportunity to support Gov. Neil Abercrombie's nominee, Ms. Melba Bantay.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 846

Senate Committee on Health

April 11, 2012 10:00 a.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Honorable Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members: Sen. Mike Gabbard,
Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Sam Slom

From: Lynne Gutierrez, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Sen. Hee, Chair; Sen. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair; and Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Members:

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Based on more than thirty dedicated years of leading the work in immigrant services through the Inter-Agency Council of Immigrant and Refugee Services, he has convened countless hours of meetings to advocate for immigrants, marginalized groups and vulnerable individuals. He is among the many leaders who have shepherded the passage of the Language Access Law, Act 290. For this, our Filipino community has tremendous confidence and trust in Dominic's ability to guide the work of supporting our government agencies to provide language access to their much-needed services. Mr. Inocelda is highly regarded for his character in words and deeds, his professionalism, thoroughness, persistence, and skilled stewardship of limited resources. UFCH is grateful for his dedication to public service in this position and is proud to support his nomination to the Language Access Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our strong support for Mr. Inocelda and for holding this important confirmation hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Gutierrez, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

TO: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Jan M. Itagaki, Executive Director
Kalihi-Palama Culture & Arts Society, Inc.

RE: GM 846: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 016

My name is Jan Itagaki and I would like to submit my testimony in support Mr. Dominic Inocelda's consideration as a Gubernatorial Nominee to the Language Access Advisory Council. I am the Executive Director of the Kalihi-Palama Culture & Arts Society, Inc., a private non-profit tax exempt organization. Our agency provides affordable and accessible culture and arts programs for the unprivileged residents of the Kalihi-Palama community. Our major project is the Queen Lili'uokalani Keiki Hula Competition, an annual event enabling children to share their achievements in hula and chant.

Dominic Inocelda is the current president of the Kalihi-Palama Culture & Arts Society, Inc.'s Board of Directors. He has been an active member of the board since 1995. Over the years, he has proven to be a thoughtful and knowledgeable person; willing to listen and provide expert leadership. He understands the multi-ethnic population that KPCA services. As Program Executive of the Susannah Wesley Community Center, Mr. Inocelda is dedicated to helping both immigrants and the less fortunate find solutions for health and social issues.

On behalf of the Kalihi-Palama Culture & Arts Society, Inc., we hope you consider Dominic Inocelda for the Language Access Advisory Council. Mahalo nui loa.