# **GM 863** Testimony

NEIL ABERCROMBIE Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205 Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

### TESTIMONY OF JAMES NAKATANI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

#### BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:45 pm Conference Room 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 863 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, PATRICK KOBAYASHI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2016

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) is in strong support for the nomination of Patrick Kobayashi to the ADC board of directors. Patrick has a solid background in business and community relations. Patrick is President and CEO for Kobayashi Group. Patrick is responsible for land acquisition, marketing, sales, and management for various residential development projects. Patrick is also a realtor with Kometani Realty Inc. in Honolulu.

Patrick attended Mid-Pacific Institute and received his bachelors' degree in business administration from Georgetown University.

Testimony of James Nakatani Page 2 of 2

Patrick is active in the community serving on the Board of Directors for Hawaii Red Cross, PBS Hawaii and Honolulu Liquor Commission as its Commissioner.

Patrick will bring to the ADC board valuable leadership, and business experience. He is an accomplished professional who will be a great asset to the board.

Thank you.



State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

#### TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

#### BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2012 2:45 P.M.

#### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 863

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 863, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC), Mr. Patrick Kobayashi. I would like to express my strong support for Mr. Kobayashi's nomination.

Mr. Kobayashi has extensive experience in the area of land acquisition, marketing, sales, and management of residential development projects, serving as President and CEO for Kobayashi Group. His business acumen and familiarity with land acquisition will serve as valuable assets when presiding over the various projects that the ADC are faced with, particularly as many projects require effective privatepublic synergies. Land issues, particularly as it pertains to agriculture, are some of the most difficult to address in Hawai'i. Having the experience, resources and knowledge of Mr. Kobayashi will surely help ADC make informed assessments on land acquisition decisions.

Furthermore, Mr. Kobayashi has served on numerous boards and commissions including the Hawaii Red Cross, PBS Hawaii, Mid-Pacific Institute, and the Honolulu



Liquor Commission. His experience on these various boards and commissions will be invaluable as a member of the Board of Directors of the ADC.

I am confident that Mr. Kobayashi will bring a unique and vital perspective to the Board of Directors of the ADC, and I look forward to working with him.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my support.

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

711 KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 600 
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5249 PHONE: (808) 768-7300 or (808) 768-7355 
FAX: (808) 768-7311 E-mail address: liquor@honolulu.gov 
INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov/liq

PETER B. CARLISLE MAYOR



April 11, 2012

MICHAEL S. YAMAGUCHI CHAIRMAN

> IRIS R. OKAWA CO-VICE CHAIR

PATRICK K. KOBAYASHI CO-VICE CHAIR

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> GREG I. NISHIOKA ADMINISTRATOR

ANNA C. HIRAI ASST. ADMINISTRATOR

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair Committee on Agriculture

Hearing: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:45 pm; Room 229

Position: Strong Support for GM863 Pertaining to Patrick Kobayashi

Senators Nishihara and Kahele:

As Administrator of the Liquor Commission of the City and County of Honolulu, it has been both a privilege and a pleasure to serve under Patrick Kobayashi in his capacity as a Commissioner of the five member Liquor Commission. Being thus familiar with Commissioner Kobayashi's leadership ability, intelligence, and evenhanded demeanor, Commission administration and staff do not hesitate to convey our **strong support** for Commissioner Kobayashi's confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. We have every confidence he will make a fine contribution to that body.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Greg **F. Nishio**ka, Administrator Liquor Commission

GIN:ACH



2343 Rose Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 Phone: (808) 848-2074 • Neighbor-Islands: (800) 482-1272 Fax: (808) 848-1921 • Email: <u>info@hfbf.org</u> www.hfbf.org

### April 12, 2012

### HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

#### TESTIMONY ON GM 863

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, PATRICK KOBAYASHI

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kahele, and Committee Members:

I am Dean Okimoto, President for the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFBF is strong support of the confirmation of Patrick Kobayashi to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) Board of Directors.

Mr. Kobayashi's background and experience would provide valuable insight to ADC development as they continue to fulfill their mission to acquire, and manage in partnership with farmers, ranchers, and aquaculture groups, selected high-value lands, water systems, and infrastructure for commercial agricultural use and to direct research into areas that will lead to the development of new crops, markets, and lower production costs.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to support the nomination of Patrick Kobayashi to the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board of Directors.