

April 13, 2013

TESTIMONY ON GM 912

CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FOR THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
VICTOR KIMURA

PRESENTATION TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi and Committee Members:

I am writing in **strong support** of Governors Message 912, the nomination of Mr. Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

For many years, Mr. Kimura has demonstrated an impressive and skilled understanding of Hawaii's tourism industry. As the Vice President of Kyo-Ya Management Company, Mr. Kimura has been an advocate of "core values" such as *E Komo Mai* and *Aloha* that he believes our tourism industry must embody for growth and direction.

His collaborative approach to solving problems and overcoming obstacles was witnessed first hand by City Councilmembers and staffers who were planning last years Counties of Hawaii Sister-City Summit. Mr. Kimura's strong belief in collaboration, openness and transparency makes him the perfect choice for a position on HTA's Board.

Hawaii's tourism future needs to be mapped out today to ensure a prosperous tomorrow. I strongly feel that Victor Kimura is the right person for the Authority and can help facilitate the discussion and actions that will lead us into a bright future, as well as dealing with the issues of today.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

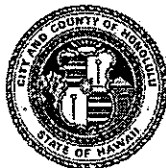


Tulsi Gabbard
Honolulu City Council

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

636 South Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: www.honolulu.gov/hfd

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



KENNETH G. SILVA
FIRE CHIEF

EMMIT A. KANE
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

April 13, 2012

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Committee on Tourism
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Kim:

Subject: GM 912 Gubernatorial Nominee to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA)

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD), and I support the appointment of Mr. Victor Kimura to the HTA's Board of Directors.

I believe Mr. Kimura would be an excellent contributor to the HTA board, as he is a person of integrity and a committed leader in the tourism industry. He utilizes Hawaii's unique cultural values to bring innovative visions for the future. In an industry that is globally competitive and subject to changing economic conditions, he sees these challenges as opportunities to bring people together for Hawaii's present and future economic benefit while preserving our natural and cultural heritage and beauty.

In 2008, Mr. Kimura assisted in forming the Honolulu Firefighters Foundation (HFF), a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for youth, families, and the community to engage in activities that strengthen their relationship with the HFD; supports programs which enhance the HFD's historic preservation; provides recognition and charitable assistance to individuals who have dedicated their lives to the HFD; and funds programs that support the HFD in its efforts to serve and protect the community. Mr. Kimura is the HFF's President.

I strongly urge your committee's consideration and confirmation of Victor Kimura to the HTA's Board of Directors.

Should you have questions, please contact me at ksilva@honolulu.gov or 723-7101.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth G. Silva".

KENNETH G. SILVA
Fire Chief

KGS/LR:cn



April 14, 2012

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
The Honorable Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Tourism

Re: GM9t2: Support of the Nomination of Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc. (Goodwill) submits this testimony in support of Mr. Victor Kimura for service on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Mr. Kimura possesses exceptional professional and industry related experience that will enable him to be a successful Director. Mr. Kimura's highly distinguished background clearly demonstrates his ongoing dedication and commitment to work on behalf of Hawaii's citizens.

I have had the honor of serving on a task-force which was led by Mr. Kimura. The scope of the task force was to address some of the homeless issues faced within the Waikiki Business area, Mr. Kimura worked closely with City Government and private agencies to bring all interested parties to the table to work together on in better coordinating our efforts. This work resulted in a written report, where various recommendations for improving coordination of the service delivery system were made.

Mr. Kimura has also been instrumental in helping to create linkages for Goodwill Industries in our work with veterans with disabilities as well as helping us to create employment opportunities for people with barriers to employment. On one such contract, Streetscape Maintenance for Waikiki, we have been able to train, place and employ dozens of people who have benefit from the work experience a work services contract like this provides.

Mr. Kimura's in-depth knowledge of tourism issues that affect our visitor industry is sure to provide thoughtful and innovative deliberations and solutions necessary to help our State.

Goodwill strongly urges you to confirm the appointment of an extremely experienced and highly qualified candidate such as Victor Kimura to fill the vacancy that exists.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura R. Smith".

Laura Robertson Smith
President/CEO

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

Senate Committee on Tourism
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

GM 912 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the
Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Victor Kimura

Monday, April 16, 2012
2:00 PM
Conference Room 245

Aloha Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, formerly the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP supports Gubernatorial Nominee, Victor Kimura, to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Mr. Kimura is almost a forty-year veteran of the hotel industry. He began as a mail clerk in the Sheraton Waikiki and earned his way to Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Sheraton Orient Hotel Management Company Limited. He is currently vice president at Kyo-ya Management Company, Ltd.

Mr. Kimura is a former ITT Sheraton Vice President for the Asia Pacific, as well as Divisional Director of Sales for the Asia Pacific where he jointly worked with the governments of Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, India and Vietnam in the

early stages of developing basic infrastructure for their tourism models including cultural, heritage, and adventure planning, developing master plans encompassing hotels, multi-mix developments, and other related partners to bring foreign investments to assist with approved plans from these governments. Mr. Kimura has forged relationships between foreign capital interests with local country needs.

Mr. Kimura has served on numerous boards such as the American Chamber of Commerce for the People's Republic of China, Board of Governor for the American Chamber of Commerce for Malaysia, Board of Governor for the International School of Beijing providing community/embassy involvements with the governments of the United States, Canada, Britain, Australia and New Zealand. He has also served and continues to serve on local non-profit organizations in Hawaii to serve and understand our community.

PRP strongly supports Mr. Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority as he clearly has a passion for the current and future well-being of our State. His extensive background and vast range of experiences make him highly qualified for this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for Victor Kimura.



APR 10 2012

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

April 9, 2012

Donna Mercado Kim
Chair, Senate Committee on Tourism
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Dear Chair Mercado Kim:

It is with great enthusiasm, and the strongest support, that I write on behalf of Victor T. Kimura's nomination to the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA). Mr. Kimura's significant position as Director of Operations Support with Kyo-ya Management Company Ltd. is well known. For the past 13 years, Vic has made critical contributions to promoting tourism in Hawaii. Indeed, Vic has devoted almost his entire just under 40 year career to the tourism field. His knowledge and experience in the industry is indisputable.

But I write to speak more to Mr. Kimura's heart, to his compassion, and to his deep caring for Hawaii, and especially the most marginalized of our State. Two specific examples come to mind. The first is Project Think, an initiative Vic leads which takes low income, disadvantaged kids and teaches them about basic finance, economics and, just as important, about resilience and character. The second initiative is the Kalihi YMCA Annual Golf Tournament which for many years now, Vic has co-chaired. The proceeds of the golf tournament are used to help the Y positively change the lives of those kids who have the least.

Each year, through Project Think and the Kalihi Golf Tournament, Victor Kimura evidences a strong commitment to community. It is that compassion for all Hawaii residents, particularly the youth who are suffering, that impresses me the most about Vic.

As an HTA member, I am confident Vic will bring the substantive experience and skills, as well as the personal attributes, needed to strike the delicate balance between the sometimes competing interests of economic development, cultural sensitivity, and preserving the environment.

Donna Mercado Kim
Chair, Senate Committee on Tourism
April 9, 2012
Page Two

If I can answer any questions about Mr. Kimura, please feel free to contact me directly at (808) 541-5471.

Mr. Kimura has my unequivocal support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Broderick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Broderick
President & CEO

starwood

Hotels and
Resorts

2155 kalakaua avenue, suite 300
honolulu, hi 96815

Committee on Tourism

**RE: CONFIRMATION OF VICTOR KIMURA – GM 912
Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority
Hearing on Monday, April 16, 2012 at 2:00pm
Conference Room 224**

Dear Senator Kim and Senator Kouchi:

My name is Keith Vieira, Senior Vice President, Hawaii and French Polynesia, Starwood Hotels and Resorts. I am writing in support of the confirmation of Victor Kimura for the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

I have known and worked with Victor Kimura for over 30 years. He brings with him many years of experience and knowledge in the hotel and visitor industry both from working here in Hawaii and Asia.

He is innovative, energetic and committed to growing tourism in Hawaii. I believe that he will benefit and contribute greatly to the work of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my view.

Sincerely,



Keith Vieira



CHINATOWN BUSINESS & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

華埠商家與社區協會

1181 Wanaka Street Honolulu Hawaii 96818

Tel: 808-391-4350 Fax: 808 422-7803 www.cbca-hi.com email: clskwock@aol.com

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Erin Nakamoto

Patti Nakamoto

Tori Kinney

Sandy Ng

Lena Le

April 12, 2012

Letter in support of Mr. Victor Kimura's nomination (GM 912) as a Board member of Hawaii Tourist Authority (HTA)

Chair Senator Donna Kim and Committee Members:

I have known Mr. Kimura for about 15 years and throughout these years he has been actively engaged in various community service programs such as the Kalihi YMCA youth/after school programs, KickStart, Project tHink, etc. besides Junior Diabetes and many others while holding an important job at Kyo-yo company as VP of Operations.

I know him as a wise and honest person with a golden heart always giving time and attention to affairs of our State. He is one of the very best to sit on this important HTA Board with his keen vision and understanding of the world at large and he knows how to steer Hawaii into the right direction so we can survive in the finicky tourism business now and for years to come.

He is an excellent human being, a true unsung hero and a real doer – he walks the talk and I trust him to fulfill everything he sets out to do knowing he takes his responsibilities and fiduciary duties so very seriously.

He is a son every parent is proud of – not only for his academic and career achievements, but that inner giving core in his being which breeds goodness and influences others to jump in and do good as well. I am one of his many converts and wish I have the wisdom, energy and foresight that he has.

Please confirm this important man who will give more than his weight in gold in return to our State.

God Bless!

Respectfully,

Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock

President, CBCA



**2012
Leadership Committee**

Honorary Chair

Lt. Gov. Brian Schatz

Vice Chairs

- Reginald Castanares
- T. Michael Hogan, Jr.
- Peter Kashiwa
- Victor Kimura
- Ernest Martin
- Ed "Doc" Miyawaki
- Kelly Sanders
- Oswald Stendor
- Mark Teruya
- Arnold Wong
- Dwight Yoshimura

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- Michael Tam
- Eric Hannum
- Emalia Pietsch
- Steven Doi
- Lori McCarney
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- Jeanne Datz-Rice
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- T. Michael Hogan, Jr.
- William S. Hunt
- Ed Kageyama
- River Kim
- Victor Kimura
- David Kowalski
- Matt Longfellow
- Chris Mausolf
- Debra Nishiyama
- Roberta Rinker-Ludloff
- Scott Sutton
- Michael Yasui

Medical Advisory Group

- Richard F. Arakaki
- David Fitz Patrick

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
Chair
Committee on Tourism
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the
Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA)

Dear Senator Kim: ** Support*

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit a letter of recommendation on behalf of Victor Kimura's nomination to the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Board of Directors (Governor's Message No. 912).

Vic's participation with JDRF began when his daughter, Michelle, was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes approximately 4 years ago. Today our organization is privileged that the entire Kimura family has joined in our programs and activities. Since I joined the organization in August 2011, I've had the opportunity to work closely with Vic. He has been a strong leader in our efforts to develop and expand our relationships with leaders throughout our community, and a visionary in helping us to design our outreach efforts throughout all the Islands.

We are honored that Vic has asked us to write this letter because we have learned so much from his collaboration with us, and we know that our organization will be stronger in the days ahead because he is a member of our team! We're confident that he will bring all of his experiences and leadership to the HTA organization and will continue to be a passionate advocate on behalf of Hawaii's leading industry!

Most sincerely,

Gail
Gail Anna Chew
Executive Director



RALPH S. INOUE CO LTD
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

2831 Awaawaloa Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

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F: 808.833.5971

License No. ABC-457
Founded in 1962

April 13, 2012

TO: THE HONORABLE SENATORS DONNA MERCADO KIM, CHAIR,
RONALD D. KOUCHI, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

SUBJECT: GM 912 Submitting for Consideration and confirmation to the Board
Of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial
Nominee, VICTOR KIMURA, for a term to expire 06-30-2014.

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, April 16, 2012
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 224

Dear Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lance Inouye and I am President of Ralph S. Inouye Co., Ltd. (RSI), General Contractor and a member of the General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA). RSI and I personally, **strongly support** the confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (Authority), Gubernatorial Nominee, **Victor Kimura**, for a term to expire 06-13-2014.

Mr Kimura's background is nothing short of phenomenal in the tourism industry. As a worldwide leader of ITT Sheraton, he brings a global perspective that only a very few can bring to the Authority. What is most impressive of his background is his involvement directly in the foreign communities proven by his service on community boards wherever he matriculates in the world. He not only knows tourism, from soup to nuts, he knows people all over the world and takes the time and effort to know what makes them tick. This is evident already in his vision for Hawai'i.

With his stature and his credentials worldwide in the hospitality industry, he still possesses a most unassuming personality and is truly a joy to be around. It is quite evident he cares for people, from all walks of life. Without knowing me for too long, he took me under his wings and helped me and continues to help me to be a better person and businessman in the Hawaiian community. Despite his busy schedule and the many things that pull on him, he has cordially opened up lines of communication and invites me to contact him if he can be of any help in any way.

It is truly a privilege and honor to have gotten to know **Mr. Kimura**. He will be a great asset to the Authority. Accordingly, RSI and I personally, **strongly support** his confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority. Ha wai'i will be the winner in garnering his services. We should be thanking him for volunteering.

kim3 - Nancy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 3:29 PM
To: TSM Testimony
Cc: bill@martroffice.com
Subject: Testimony for GM912 on 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: 12Apr2012 Testimony in Support of Victor Kimura.pdf

Testimony for TSM 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM GM912 *Victor Kimura*

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: Bill Paty

Organization: Mark Robinson Trusts

E-mail: bill@martroffice.com

Submitted on: 4/12/2012

** Testimony attached*

Comments:

The Mark A. Robinson Trusts

1132 BISHOP STREET SUITE 1930 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 PHONE (808) 440-2734 FAX (808) 440-2710

William W. Paty

Trustee

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Tourism

RE: Governor's Message No. 912 – Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, VICTOR KIMURA, for a term to expire 6-30-2014

Monday April 16, 2012 2:00PM in Conference RM 224

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee,

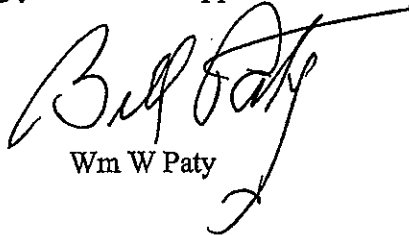
My name is Bill Paty. I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Victor Kimura to the Board of Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA).

As a trustee of the Mark A Robinson Trusts, which has land interests in both the Sheraton and Halekulani hotels, I have had occasion to observe the work of the HTA and their responsibility to keep our tourism industry vibrant and viable.

In this connection I have had the opportunity to work with Vic Kimura on issues and projects of common interest to help maintain a leadership role in the industry. These include buying local produce, beach replenishment, politics, and capital improvements. I have always found his ideas thoughtful and based on core values of "Aloha".

He has a wide range of personal contacts across the Pacific, as well as here in the state and he remains in close touch with issues of concern to Hawai'i tourism. With his extended experience in the visitor industry and currently as Vice President for Asia Pacific for Sheraton here in Hawai'i, he would bring a well balanced view point to the Tourism Authority.

I was impressed with his vision statement paper for Hawai'i tourism. He sees Hawai'i as a team leader in the global industry of tourism. Vic Kimura is friendly energetic and is known as a good team player. It is my belief that he would make a solid contribution as a member of the board. I strongly recommend approval.



Wm W Paty

kim3 - Nancy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 7:10 AM
To: TSM Testimony
Cc: stab625@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for GM912 on 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: kimura_HTA.doc

Testimony for TSM 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM GM912

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Arnold Wong
Organization: Ironworkers Stabilization Fund
E-mail: stab625@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/16/2012

Victor Kimura

Comments:

IRONWORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

April 16, 2012

Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Committee on Tourism
Senate
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Honorable Chair Kim and Members of the Committee on Tourism:

Re: Support for Victor Kimura – GM912 Hawaii Tourism Authority

We would like to state we are in strong support of Mr. Victor Kimura to sit on the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

We know Mr. Kimura both professionally and personally and we can say that he is truly a man of honor, integrity and compassion. Professionally, Vic has been at the forefront of major events including the recent APEC convention in Hawaii. He ensured that the visitors were provided the utmost service and care during their stay. He additionally, relayed the meaning of Hawaii to them to allow them to testify to others about having their functions or vacation in our State.

Vic has always been part of the community. His dedication to our children can be seen through his leadership in various organizations from Kalihi Y, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and a host of others. He truly believes that we must assist and mentor our children for our future.

We strongly support Vic Kimura to sit on the Board of Directors for Hawaii Tourism Authority. Thank you for your time and consideration.



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

LOCAL UNION NO. 1186 • Affiliated with AFL-CIO

1935 HAU STREET, ROOM 401 • HONOLULU, HI 96819-5003
TELEPHONE (808) 847-5341 • FAX (808) 847-2224

April 10, 2012

TO: **SENATOR DONNA KIM, CHAIR**
Hawaii State Senate Committee on Tourism
For Hearing on Monday, April 16, 2012, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 224

RE: **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 912**

**NOMINATION OF MR. VICTOR KIMURA TO THE
HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY**

Honorable Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the State Senate Committee on Tourism,

The **International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186** represents over 3,200 members working in electrical construction, telecommunications, and with Oceanic Cable. Our members include civil service employees at Pearl Harbor, Kaneohe, Hickam, and at every military installation in Hawaii. IBEW Local 1186 also represents over 110 signatory electrical contracting companies that perform most of the electrical work in the state.

It is our pleasure to humbly offer our strong support for the Governor's appointment of Mr. Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority. Mr. Kimura possesses the experience, knowledge, skills, temperament, integrity, and commitment required for this important position. He is known to quickly grasp complex issues and work with different parties to reach fair decisions. We are fortunate that Mr. Kimura has expressed his willingness to serve in this capacity. He will help promote and preserve Hawaii's unique culture and values, so that we may share them with our honored visitors into the future.

Mr. Kimura's vision for Hawaii is enhanced by his vast experience working with a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including Hawaiian groups, government officials, labor, and management. Mr. Kimura's ability to bridge differences and find innovative solutions will be a tremendous asset to the Governor, the State Legislature, the **Hawaii Tourism Authority**, and the people of Hawaii.

We urge you to support GM 912 and Mr. Victor Kimura's confirmation, and we thank you for this opportunity to offer our testimony in strong support.

Aloha and mahalo,

Damien Kim
Business Manager – Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers Local Union 1186



HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1463, AFL-CIO
2305 S. BERETANIA ST., RM. 202, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826-1493
TELEPHONE (808) 949-1566 FAX: (808) 952-6003
WEBSITE: www.hawaii firefighters.org

The Senate
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
Committee on Tourism
April 16, 2012

Governor's Message No. 912 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Victor Kimura

My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. HFFA represents the 2,800 active and retired professional fire fighters throughout the State. HFFA strongly supports Governor's Message No. 912, confirming Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Mr. Kimura fully understands the hospitality industry and is a leader in his profession. As the Vice President, Director of Operations Support at Kyoya Management Co. Ltd, Mr. Kimura has assisted HFFA in the planning and hosting a number of outstanding fire fighter events.

In addition, Mr. Kimura's commitment to public services is amply evident with his active participation in numerous community groups. He currently serves as President of the Honolulu Firefighter Foundation Board, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote, educate and support public safety, a member of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Hawaii Board and Chair of the Kalihi Palama YMCA Golf Tournament.

HFFA is pleased to support the nomination and confirmation of Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2012 AT 2:00 P.M.

GM 912- SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, VICTOR KIMURA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014

CHAIR KIM AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Victor Kimura to serve on the Board of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Tourism is the engine that drives our economy in Hawaii and the Authority deserves to have Board members that have the knowledge and breath of experience that will help keep Hawaii a premier destination for visitors. Certainly, Mr. Kimura has decades of valuable work responsibilities through his assignments with the Sheraton chain globally. We also know firsthand Mr. Kimura's advocacy of local produce. He has been a strong proponent of using local fruits and vegetables throughout the Sheraton chain and has brought attention to Sheraton's extensive use and support of local farmers. He has also been a very vocal and staunch supporter of having Hawaii farms be food safety certified. Hawaii farms lag in this regard and his outspoken advocacy has brought this issue to the forefront as he recognizes the "black eye" that Hawaii would get in the event of a recall or incident where visitors became ill due to an outbreak involving local produce.

I am confident that Mr. Kimura would be a valuable asset to the Tourism Board and we ask for your support of his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Teruya", is written over a white background.

Mark Teruya
Chairman and CEO

April 11, 2012

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Tourism
Hearing on Monday April 16th - Conference Room 224
Hawai'i State Capitol,
415 South Beretania Street,
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

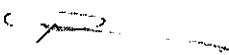
Aloha Chair Kim and Vice Chair Kouchi,

I strongly support GM 912 to appoint and approve Victor T. Kimura to serve as a Board of Director for the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Two years ago I was introduced to Victor Kimura and it has been a joy for me to participate in initiatives that he leads to better many young lives in some of our lowest income communities. At the same time, he is fulfilling his responsibilities as an executive in our visitor industry.

In my work as the CEO of Enterprise Honolulu, I have a greater responsibility than my job requirements. It is the responsibility to work and lead knowing that the decisions I make affect our home. Same with Victor. He is a great voice to add to our HTA Board.

Mahalo for your consideration,



Pono Shim,
President and CEO Enterprise Honolulu, O'ahu Economic Development Board



ENTERPRISE
HONOLULU
THE BUSINESS CLIMATE OF PARADISE

HELPS LLC

HENRY ENG, FAICP
237 KAALAWAI PLACE
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816
HELPSLLC@gmail.com

April 16, 2012
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair and Members
Senate Committee on Tourism
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 912 Appointment of Victor Kimura to the Hawaii Tourism Authority

Dear Senator Kim and Committee Members,

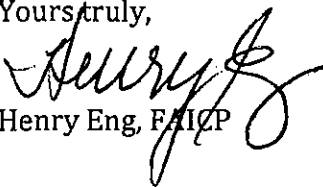
I am a retired Director of Planning and Permitting at the City and County of Honolulu and have over 40 years of public and private sector experience.

I am writing in strong support for the confirmation of Victor Kimura to the Hawaii Tourism Authority. I have known Victor for almost 10 years. His extensive background and experience in the visitor industry will prove to be an enormous asset to the Authority as it pursues its business. He has done visitor industry work in Asia and has a particularly acute perspective on how to do business in that area. He is well regarded and respected by visitor industry colleagues.

His special skills would be a definite asset to the Authority in its work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Henry Eng, FAICP

ANDREW V. BEAMAN
ANDREW R. BUNN
ANDREW W. CHAR
LEROY E. COLOMBE
RAY K. KAMIKAWA
DANTON S. WONG
ADRIENNE S. YOSHIHARA

BETHANY C.K. ACE
ANNE E. LOPEZ
CHASE T. TAJIMA
CHRISTINA N. WAKAYAMA
THOMAS M. WILLIAMS

CHUN, KERR, DODD, BEAMAN & WONG
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP
FORT STREET TOWER, TOPA FINANCIAL CENTER
745 FORT STREET, 9TH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3815
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SENIOR COUNSEL:
EDWARD Y. C. CHUN
WILLIAM H. DODD
GEORGE L. T. KERR
1933-1998
GREGORY P. CONLAN
1945-1991

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rkamikawa@chunkerr.com

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

Chair Kim, Vice-Chair Kouchi, Members of the Committee

Hearing April 16, 2012, 2:00 pm
Testimony on GM 912
(Relating to Confirmation of Victor Kimura)

I strongly support the nomination of Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and urge his confirmation.

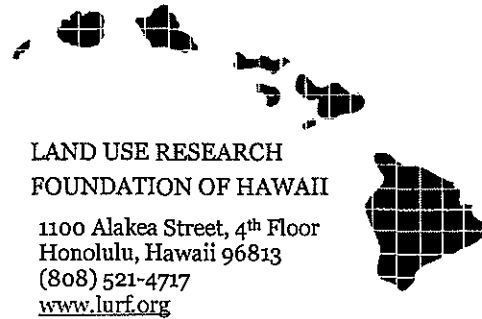
I have known Victor since high school, and recently reacquainted myself with him. Victor has had experience in the hospitality industry throughout the world, and will bring a fresh perspective and wealth of experience to the Authority. If confirmed, I believe that Victor will make a significant contribution to the Authority and to the State of Hawaii.

Very truly yours,

CHUN, KERR, DODD, BEAMAN & WONG,
a Limited Liability Law Partnership



Ray Kamikawa



LAND USE RESEARCH
FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

1100 Alakea Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 521-4717
www.lurf.org

April 15, 2012

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Tourism

**Re: Governor's Message No. 912 - Consideration and Confirmation of
Victor T. Kimura, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaii Tourism Authority**

Tuesday, April 16 2012, 2:00 p.m., in Conference Room 224

Dear Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Senate Tourism Committee,

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii ("LURF"), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF is an advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

I am writing to strongly support the nomination of Mr. Victor T. Kimura to the Board of directors ("Board") of the Hawaii Tourism Authority ("HTA").

The HTA Board develops policy recommendations on tourism matters for the HTA, which is the lead state agency for tourism and is responsible for the development, management and coordination of various plans to help ensure a sustainable tourism economy and achieve the state's vision for tourism. Among its responsibilities, the HTA is charged with: Setting tourism policy and direction with the goal of contributing to the ongoing, sustainable growth of Hawaii's economy; developing and implementing the State's tourism marketing plan and efforts; managing programs and activities to sustain a healthy visitor industry; developing and implementing the Hawaii Tourism Strategic Plan; and coordinating tourism-related research, planning, promotional and outreach activities with the public and private sectors.

Mr. Kimura is well qualified to serve on the HTA Board based on his broad and extensive knowledge, expertise and decades of experience in the areas of visitor industry management, marketing, promotion, transportation, retail, entertainment, and visitor attractions in Hawaii as well as in Asia and the South Pacific.

During his years working for ITT Sheraton in the front office, as General Manager, and eventually as Vice President for Asia Pacific, Mr. Kimura's background encompasses operations; accounting; sales and reservations; marketing; area and regional operations; and development.

Kimura has also gained valuable experience serving in prestigious and important voluntary positions, including, but not limited to the President of the American Chamber of Commerce for the People's Republic of China, on the Board of Governors for the American Chamber of Commerce for Malaysia, on the Board of Governors for the International School of Beijing, as Chair of the Environmental Council for the State of Hawaii, and on the Oahu Civil Defense Advisory Committee.

While Mr. Kimura has established a reputation of being task-oriented and achieving results, he does so by bringing parties together in a collaborative "team" effort to achieve what is best for the community and the future generations.

Based on the above, I wholeheartedly recommend, and respectfully urge your favorable consideration of the nomination of Mr. Victor T. Kimura as a member of the HTA Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this nomination.

GOODSILL ANDERSON QUINN & STIFEL

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

PETER T. KASHIWA

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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(808) 547-5657

INTERNET:
pkashiwa@goodsill.com

April 13, 2012

Via Email: TSMtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senate Committee on Tourism
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 912 - Consideration of Gubernatorial Nominee
Victor T. Kimura to the Board of Directors of the
Hawaii Tourism Authority for a Term to Expire on June 30, 2014

Dear Senator Kim and Members of the Committee on Tourism:

I express my strong personal support of your consideration and confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Victor T. Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority for a term to expire on June 30, 2014.

I have enjoyed and continue to enjoy a close professional and personal relationship with Mr. Kimura for the past twelve (12) years. On the personal side, Mr. Kimura selflessly supports or serves on the boards of a number of community organizations which serve disadvantaged or at-risk youth, which award scholarships to college-bound students or to adults for continuing education, which provide equipment to the Honolulu Police Department and which address the homeless situation. Those community organizations include, by way of example, the Kalihi YMCA, Ha'awi Mai Ka Pu'uwai, Inc., Project Think, JDRF Hawaii, the Honolulu Police Community Foundation, CrimeStoppers Honolulu, Inc., Kick Start Karate, and the Homeless Task Force. Mr. Kimura possesses a staunch commitment to improve our community and, as demonstrated above, is doing everything he can to realize it.

On the professional side, Mr. Kimura's career-long experience in and practical knowledge of the visitor and hospitality industry makes him the "perfect fit" for this position. Mr. Kimura was employed by ITT-Sheraton Corporation of America (the "management" side) and is now employed Kyo-ya Management Company, Ltd. (the "ownership" side). Mr. Kimura is personally very familiar with the visitor markets in and the governments of • New Zealand, • Singapore, • Hong Kong, • Japan, • China, • Thailand, • Malaysia, • Australia, • India, • Vietnam, and • Hawaii. Mr. Kimura has broad hotel and resort experience in and working with

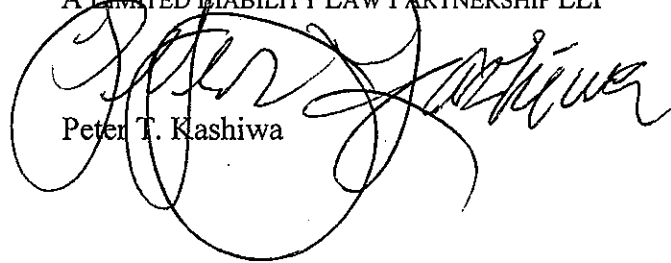
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
April 13, 2012
Page 2

the local people and cultures in areas such as operations, accounting, sales and marketing, and development.

Our visitor and hospitality industry is one of the most significant vehicles which drive our economy. Mr. Kimura possesses more than the requisite experience and knowledge of that industry. I know that Mr. Kimura will perform the responsibilities of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority with the same level of commitment, dedication and concern that he demonstrates everyday throughout our community. I urge you to confirm our Governor's nomination of Mr. Kimura.

Yours very truly,

GOODSILL ANDERSON QUINN & STIFEL
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP



Peter T. Kashiwa

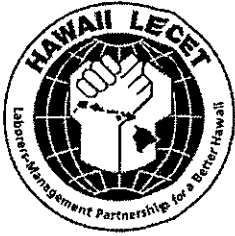
kim3 - Nancy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 9:56 AM
To: TSM Testimony
Cc: mmoritalecet@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for GM912 on 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: 12 04 16 MM VIC KIMURA NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY.docx

Testimony for TSM 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM GM912

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Maurice Morita
Organization: Hawaii LECET
E-mail: mmoritalecet@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/13/2012

Comments:



Testimony of Maurice Morita
Assistant Director
Hawaii LECET
1617 Palama Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM
Monday, April 16, 2012
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 24

GM 912 – GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, VICTOR KIMURA, TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Maurice Morita and I am the assistant director of Hawaii LECET (Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust). Hawaii LECET is a partnership between the Hawaii Laborers' Union, Local 368 and our union contractors.

The Hawaii LECET is in **“strong support”** of GM 912, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, VICTOR KUMURA, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.

Hawaii LECET believes Vic Kimura will be an asset to the Hawaii Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority. Vic Kimura is an outstanding citizen, and would serve the tourism community with his knowledge and experience.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



April 12, 2012

Senate Committee on Tourism

Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Ronald Kouchi and Committee Members
Public Hearing, April 16, 2012, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 224, State Capitol

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM F. ANONSEN
IN SUPPORT OF G.M. NO. 912
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE VICTOR KIMURA TO THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS - HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY

My name is William F. Anonsen, the Managing Partner/Principal of The Maritime Group. I would like to express my personal unequivocally support for consideration and confirmation of Gubernatorial nominee, Victor Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawai`i Tourism Authority for a term to expire June 30, 2014.

Through my professional and personal association with Mr. Kimura serving together on the Honolulu Police Community Foundation, I have found him to be a dedicated individual who consistently performs his professional and civic responsibilities with a sense of commitment, pride and duty. He has the professional visitor industry credentials, years of experience and personal attributes necessary that make him an outstanding nominee which he has consistently demonstrated by his years of dedicated service to our visitor industry and our community.

Mr. Kimura is a leader in our community and a team player who works well with all people and is an excellent facilitator. He has demonstrated on several occasions his strong analytical skills, and his ability to remain committed to his principals, always with the highest degree of ethics and diplomacy in times of heated conflicting opposition. I have always found him to carefully consider difficult issues, and through a structured investigative process and mindset, he develops calculated decisions that address and work to resolve an issue. Most important, Vic stands by his beliefs and principals, strongly defending them skillfully and with respectful tact.

Mr. Kimura is well versed in a myriad of visitor industry issues and I feel he is individual of unquestionable integrity and fairness, and has my personal vote of confidence serving on this board. The success of the mandated mission of the Hawai`i Tourism Authority is too important to Hawai`i and deserves strong leadership and commitment to purpose.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this distinguished gubernatorial nominee

Sincerely,

William F. Anonsen
Managing Partner/Principal

1240 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 321, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96814
Tel: (808) 589-1223 www.The-Maritime-Group.com

Hawai'i State Legislature
Senate Committee on Tourism
Monday, April 16, 2012
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 224
State Capitol

Re: GM 912 Victor Kimura for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Tourism Authority Board of Directors

Aloha Honorable Vice President and Chair Donna Mercado Kim and members of the Tourism Committee:

I write in strong support of the favorable consideration and confirmation of gubernatorial nominee, Mr. Victor Kimura, to the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Board of Directors.

As cultural consultant to Kyo-ya Co. Ltd., I have had the privilege of working closely with Mr. Kimura for many years. He has impressively led Kyo-ya's cultural stewardship efforts in caring for the cultural resources and iwi kūpuna on their properties together with the cultural descendants of Waikīkī in the way of a true kahu 'aina. Largely through Mr. Kimura's efforts, cultural protocol that honors the land and its resources, is now a part of all of the significant events on their properties engendering a true sense of respect and aloha.


Despite his busy schedule as Director of Operations Support for Kyo-ya's properties, and as a devoted husband and father, Mr. Kimura gives generously of his time and leadership skills by serving on many boards and commissions. Over the years, he has been involved with many large scale events and has given hundreds of hours of his time volunteering for important community service organizations and fundraisers that help to make life better for underprivileged and less fortunate youth in Hawai'i. Mr. Kimura has a heart for our keiki and his involvement as an HTA Board member will insure that the shaping of tourism for the future is done in a way that is focused on improving opportunities for our youth and our future generations.

I can think of no better person to serve on the board of the HTA than Mr. Kimura. His background, expertise and long experience in the tourism industry will be very helpful to the deliberations and decisions of the HTA. Most importantly, his values of honoring Hawaii's diverse peoples and especially the native Hawaiian culture along with his leadership in supporting sustainability efforts to enhance our quality of life are totally aligned with the mission of this agency. I strongly urge your favorable consideration of his nomination. Mahalo nui loa a me a hui hou.

Lani Ma'a Lapilio
Principal/Owner, Aukahi

Testimony
Senate Committee on Tourism
April 16, 2012
2:00 p.m.

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
and Committee Members

FROM: Patricia Mau-Shimizu 

RE: Governor's Message 912
VICTOR KIMURA
Nominee to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority

Chair Kim and Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism, I am submitting these comments IN SUPPORT of the nominee, VICTOR KIMURA, in my personal capacity.

I had the pleasure of meeting and working with Mr. Kimura in 2010 as the Staff Coordinator for the 2010 CSG-WEST Annual Meeting, while I was the Clerk for the State House of Representatives. While the Legislature had hosted a handful of other conferences, we faced a daunting task in the planning and execution of this particular conference as the economy here locally and nationwide was facing significant downturn challenges.

While CSG-WEST was responsible for fundraising, as the Host State, Hawaii was expected to provide a robust substantive program and an exciting social program showcasing Polynesia and local ethnic cuisine within a very limited budget. Luckily the Sheraton Waikiki was selected as the site of the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Mr. Kimura went well beyond his duties in his official capacity as a Kyo-ya executive to guide us. He helped the Coordinating Committee: create a budget, plan economical menus showcasing local produce whenever possible, explained food security guidelines, stage and produce Polynesian and ethnic entertainment,

and even guided us in the purchase and design of conference amenities such gift bags.

He not only offered suggestions, he patiently explained the rationale behind his suggestions. He wanted us to understand the Sheraton Waikiki operations and the local visitor industry. No question was left unanswered and phone calls and emails were responded to immediately—night and day. During the conference we met with Mr. Kimura every day, sometimes several times a day. In short, he gave us guidance that only a lifelong expert in the visitor industry could offer.

To Mr. Kimura's credit, the staff of the Sheraton Waikiki reflected his goal of service excellence. We befriended a couple of key hotel personnel assigned to our event, and many commented on Vic's leadership and dedication. It was evident to me that the staff felt comfortable with Mr. Kimura as a Kyo-ya principle, but more important, they respected Vic as a leader who understood their needs as employees, and the challenges they faced on a daily basis.

As a member of the HTA Board, Mr. Kimura will not only work for the best interests of Hawaii and the local visitor industry, he will also represent the hotel worker--whose daily job is to provide service to put Hawaii's visitor industry at the forefront of major resort destinations. He will work tirelessly on immediate needs, and he will always be at the forefront striving for long term programs and policies that will ensure the enduring health of Hawaii as a visitor destination.

For Hawaii legislators who did have an opportunity to stop by the Sheraton Waikiki during the 2010 CSG-WEST Annual meeting, the end-product offerings you participated in were in large part, due to the guidance and generosity of the nominee.

It is for these reasons and others, that I support, without hesitation, the nomination of VICTOR KIMURA, my friend and mentor, to the Board of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

TO : Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Committee on Tourism, Chair
: Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Committee on Tourism, Vice Chair

FROM : Shad Kane

SUBJECT : Testimony in Support of Victor Kimura to Hawaii Tourism Authority GM 912

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kouchi, committee members my name is Shad Kane. I am currently serving as the 'Ewa Representative on the O'ahu Island Burial Council. I am also the Cultural Representative on the Clean Water Natural Lands Commission that makes recommendations to the Honolulu City Council on watershed issues and the preservation of natural lands. I am also a former commission member of the State Office of Environmental Quality Control and former Chair of the Makakilo/ Kapolei/ Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board. I belong to many Hawaiian cultural organizations to include the Kapolei Hawaiian Civic Club and the Royal Order of Kamehameha I. I am a member of the Makakilo Kapolei Lions Club and other civic organizations. I am also a board member of the private non-profit Kalaeloa Heritage and Legacy Foundation. I am a retired Police Lieutenant of the Honolulu Police Department with 34 years of service.

I have known Mr. Victor Kimura since we both served on the State of Hawaii Office of Environmental Quality Control many years ago. He was a very vocal contributor to discussions on all environmental issues that came before the commission.

He came before the O'ahu Island Burial Council on matters pertaining to the inadvertent discovery of Iwi Kupuna on property of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. He was very supportive of working with Waikiki Claimants and finding mitigating solutions to very sensitive issues. As a result of his testimony before the O'ahu Island Burial Council I saw how he had the respect of the Waikiki Claimants and many others in the visitor industry. He would be an asset to your efforts in the promotion of tourism not only in Waikiki but to the entire State of Hawaii.

I have known Mr. Kimura to be hard working and very dedicated to his work. I strongly urge you to support the appointment of Mr. Victor Kimura to the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Mahalo,
Shad Kane
Shad Kane

kim3 - Nancy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 1:14 PM
To: TSM Testimony
Cc: meheula@pacificlaw.com
Subject: Testimony for GM912 on 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM

Testimony for TSM 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM GM912

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bill Meheula
Organization: Individual
E-mail: meheula@pacificlaw.com
Submitted on: 4/14/2012

Comments:

I only know Vic Kimura from my representation of union interest in the current Zoning Board of Appeals matter concerning Kyo-ya's proposed Diamond Head Tower development. In that matter, I represent the interests of unionized construction workers in Hawaii, including Pacific Resource Partnership, the Hawaii Ironworkers Stabilization Fund, the Sheet Metal Workers, Local 293, District Council 50, Local 221, Local 1, Local 630, Local 1186, Local 675, Masons and Plasterers Fraternal Association and the Hawaii Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust, collectively referred to as 20,000 Friends of Labor.

20,000 Friends of Labor intervened in that ZBA proceeding to defend the proposed DHT project. During my representation of 20,000 Friends of Labor in the ZBA matter, I met with Mr. Kimura and many persons who have dealt with Mr. Kimura. I learned that because of Mr. Kimura's leadership position at Kyo-ya, unionized construction workers obtained a collective bargaining agreement that guaranteed retention of unionized labor for the \$300 million DHT project and the companion \$400 million redevelopment of the Princess Kailulani Hotel. I also learned that principally because of Mr. Kimura's leadership, the DHT project properly insures the economic viability of the project and at the same time insures open space, beach access, ocean views from Kalakaua Avenue and sea level rising concerns.

I submit that Mr. Kimura is an excellent candidate for an HTA director position because he has extensive knowledge and experience in the tourism industry, and also understands and embraces the local, Native Hawaiian and environmental values that are necessary to move the tourism industry forward in this important transition phase.

Please understand that I do not and have not represented Kyo-ya.

kim3 - Nancy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 4:12 PM
To: TSM Testimony
Cc: pkaleikini@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for GM912 on 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM

Testimony for TSM 4/16/2012 2:00:00 PM GM912

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paulette Ka'anohi Kaleikini
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pkaleikini@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/13/2012

Comments:
Senate Committee on Tourism
Donna Mercado Kim - Chair
Ronald D. Kouchi - Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

Testimony on Gubernatorial Nomination of Victor T. Kimura to Board of Directors of the Hawai`i Tourism Authority

Monday April 16, 2012; 2:00 p.m.; Room 224

Aloha,

It is with great pleasure that I submit my support for confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Victor T. Kimura to the Board of Directors of the Hawai`i Tourism Authority.

Victor brings to the table years of early stages of experience and development of placing Hawai`i at the center of the Asian Pacific tourism industry. The wave of benefits of his professionalism in communicating with community and governments of these Asian Pacific countries has already arrived on Hawai`i's shores that will result with an increasing surge. His past and present accomplishments will provide invaluable insight towards the needs, culture and vision for the tourism industry of Hawai`i.

Victor has served and still serves in various capacities as a leader and negotiator in the community. Growing up in Kalihi, Victor exhibits his exuberance of this past through his passion to understand, serve and create a sense of place for the people of Hawai`i and most particularly, the future generations of Hawai`i nei. I know Victor to focus on the best interest for the whole of Hawai`i and not one facet of the community. He has taken active roles in native Hawaiian cultural initiatives and many talk-story sessions with Victor has brought me to this understanding and fondness of his ability to seek consensus and reasonableness that would benefit all.

With your confirmation, Victor will become an important part in the support of the community that will further boost Hawai`i's growing global tourism industry.

I ask for your favorable consideration for confirmation of Victor T. Kimura to serve as a Board of Director of the Hawai`i Tourism Authority.

Me ka ha`a ha`a,
Paulette Ka'anohiokalani Kaleikini