

GM617

Felicia Villalobos

Hawaii Teacher Standards
Board



GOV. MSG. NO. 617

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

January 25, 2013

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Senate President,
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senate President Kim and Members of the Senate,

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board**:

HAWAI'I TEACHER
STANDARDS BOARD

TERM TO EXPIRE

Felicia Villalobos

6/30/2016

Sincerely,

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

JAN 29 2013

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
SENATE
RECEIVED

To Whom It May Concern:

Being apart of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board this past year has been one of the greatest leadership highlights of my career thus far. To be apart of such a professional and goal-oriented group of people has been a great honor. I truly appreciate all the hard work and dedication that the board members and the staff at the HTSB put in. There is no doubt in my mind that this group of people is dedicated to maintaining the highest quality of standards for teachers.

My reason for serving another term on this board is two-fold. As I mentioned above, being a member of this board and striving for excellence with the HTSB ohana has been an honor that I would like to continue to be apart of. My second reason is the communication link that I was able to develop on my island. When I first became a board member last year, one of my biggest goals was to be that bridge between the Teacher Standards Board and my fellow colleagues. Not only I was able to strengthen that connection with monthly reports and answer questions from the field, but I was also able to gather a lot of valuable feedback and information that I have taken back to meetings to share with other board members. This open-line of communication has really allowed me to make informed decisions and strive to make my profession better.

I've been teaching in the Hawaii Public Schools for eight years. In my eight years, I have taught a variety of grade levels and taught at different schools. These experiences have given me an array of perspectives that have helped me in my teaching career and also as a board member. I am able to use what I have learned these past eight years to make informed decisions, as well as give valuable input to help enhance my profession for the future. My teaching experience and practices have really molded me to become a highly qualified candidate for this board. To be an effective teacher, I feel that you must have a passion for what you do, strive for excellence, not only for yourself, but for your students, and lastly, be a person who is capable of working with a team and step-up to be a leader when needed. These are the same qualities that make for a good board member. I believe that these are the same qualities that have been apart of my teaching practice since I began my teaching career.

These past couple of years I decided that I was ready to give back to my profession as a mentor teacher. This has been a great learning experience for me and has kept me in touch with the quality of teachers that are entering into the profession. As a board member, I perceive our role and responsibilities is to make sure that these upcoming teachers are in the best teaching programs as well as getting the support they need throughout their professional career. I continue to recognize that the role and responsibilities of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is to continuously maintain the highest standards and accountability for all teachers in the State of Hawaii. This includes licensing and relicensing of teachers statewide. These standards directly result in the assurance that every child is taught by highly qualified teacher in their field of expertise. With highly qualified teachers in the classroom, we ensure that all students in the State of Hawaii will have the opportunity to have a quality education and the chance to work towards greater student achievement in and outside the classroom.

Since my year term on the board, I have seen great progress and motivation towards making the Teacher Standards Board a credible and viable board. We continue to focus on the future and look for ways in which we can work with the DOE to make a stronger and more unified teaching profession. This is a very important time for education, with education reform all around us, I look forward to and I am excited to be apart of this board again.

I don't foresee any conflicts of interest. However, if one does arise, I will give each situation the upmost respect and attention needed to solve the conflict. I am very open-minded and will make decisions in an educated and informed manner.

Thank you for your attention.

Felicia Villalobos

GM617

Testimony



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Monday, February 25, 2013, 1:15 PM
State Capitol Room 414

Testimony of
NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaii

To the Senate Education Committee
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

GM 617
Consideration and Confirmation of Felicia Villalobos
to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

I am pleased to appoint Felicia Villalobos to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB). Villalobos will represent Oahu secondary school teachers. This appointment will continue her service on the HTSB. Her term will end on 6/30/2016.

Villalobos has 11 years of teaching experience, nine of which were served with the Hawaii Department of Education. She is currently a first grade teacher at Wilcox Elementary School where she also served since 2008. The Rotary Club of Kalepa Sunrise named Villalobos Teacher of the Year in 2006.

Villalobos is committed to ensuring that there is a quality teacher in every classroom in the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully request that you confirm Felicia Villalobos to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.



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Wil Okabe
President

Joan Kamila Lewis
Vice President

Colleen Pasco
Secretary-Treasurer

Alvin Nagasako
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013

RE: G.M. 617 – FELICIA E. VILLALOBOS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, HAWAII
TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD, TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2016

Person Testifying: WIL OKABE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

To The Honorable Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) **strongly supports G.M. 617** which submits for consideration the appointment of Felicia E. Villalobos to the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board (HTSB).

Felicia has over nine years of teaching experience in the Department of Education. She is currently a 1st grade teacher at Wilcox Elementary School on Kauai. Felicia is also a mentor teacher for the University of Hawaii at Manoa Student Teacher Program. She demonstrates the skills of an exemplary teacher. Felicia is very knowledgeable about curriculum and always utilizes best teaching practices.

Felicia has represented the Hawaii State Teachers Association in many leadership roles such as Kauai Chapter Vice President and at Wilcox Elementary school as a school level leader. She takes pride in being the best at what she does and is conscientious about investing the time it takes to know most about what she represents. With her perspective and experiences she has the ability to provide feedback on a myriad of teacher issues.

Felicia has always been committed to helping her colleagues in the classroom and the student teachers she mentors. She helps them understand the expectations and requirements to achieve the goal of being an effective teacher. Her love for the students she teaches shows in their achievement. Felicia is committed to support and maintain the highest standards and accountability for all teachers in the State of Hawaii. With this appointment she will be able to help facilitate and educate others about the teacher licensing process. We urge you to approve her recommendation.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and show our support for Felicia E. Villalobos.

Testimony on GM615, GM616 and GM617, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEES
LOUISE CAYETANO, JUSTIN MEW AND FELICIA VILLALOBOS

Monday, February 25, 2013
1:15 pm, State Capitol Room 414

By Terry Holck, Chairperson, Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board

February 25, 2013

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am writing in strong support of Louise Cayetano, Justin Mew, and Felicia Villalobos for continuing terms as members of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board.

Louise Cayetano is an elementary school teacher who brings with her over 20 years of experience. She is extremely involved in her community and has served in many leadership roles, including being an HSTA teacher lobbyist. Her broad experiences allow her to consider issues from various perspectives, and it is evident during board meetings that she is always thinking about what is in the best interest of the students and teachers in Hawai'i.

Justin Mew is an extremely well respected principal, leader, and community member. He believes that all students deserve a high quality education, and therefore, he holds a high bar for himself and all educators. His broad perspective and leadership experiences have been a wonderful asset to the board.

Felicia Villalobos is an elementary school teacher from Kaua'i. Being from a neighbor island, Felicia helps to create a bridge between the board and the teachers on Kaua'i. She has been an active participant on the board, and she is never afraid to ask the hard questions.

Having a broad range of board members who represent various constituents makes the HTSB better able to have rich discussions and look at issues from a wider range of perspectives. The board can only be as strong as those who serve on it. These three individuals come prepared to the meetings, actively participate, and are highly collaborative, which contributes to a very strong and productive board.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the board with these three people, and I ask that you confirm their reappointment to the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board so they can continue the great work they have been doing.

Mahalo for your time and the opportunity to testify.

Testimony on GM615, GM616 and GM617, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEES LOUISE CAYETANO, JUSTIN MEW AND FELICIA VILLALOBOS

Monday, February 25, 2013
1:15 pm, State Capitol Room 414

By LYNN HAMMONDS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

February 21, 2013

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Committee on
Education:

I am writing in strong support of LOUISE CAYETANO, JUSTIN MEW AND FELICIA
VILLALOBOS for continuing terms as members of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board
with terms to expire on June 30, 2016.

LOUISE CAYETANO brings a wealth of experience as an elementary school teacher and
former lobbyist for the Hawaii State Teachers Association. Her consideration and focus
on student achievement supports strong preparation and licensing standards and
policies.

JUSTIN MEW brings knowledge and perspective from the principal's viewpoint. His
input has been invaluable in considering impact of policies on school and faculty.

FELICIA VILLALOBOS represents teachers from the Island of Kauai. She actively brings
concerns and perspective of Neighbor Island teachers and is well acquainted with
teacher preparation, having served as a mentor for University of Hawaii-Manoa student
teachers.

Members Cayetano, Mew and Villalobos represent a cross section of constituents across
our state and contribute to the strength of the Board in considering well rounded policy
that meets the needs of educators in the field, preparation programs and most
importantly, the students and families in Hawaii which we serve. All three serve on both
the Board's Teacher Standards Committee and the Legislative and By-Laws Committee.
Their background and understanding of policies adopted during their terms will provide
continuity and a continued move toward rigorous licensing and renewal standards and
support of streamlined and user friendly operations. I thank you for your consideration
and ask you to confirm these three members for continuing terms on the Hawaii
Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Testimony on GM615, GM616 and GM617, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEES LOUISE CAYETANO, JUSTIN MEW AND FELICIA VILLALOBOS

Monday, February 25, 2013

1:15 pm, State Capitol Room 414

By EDWARD G. PATRICK, MEMBER, HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

February 21, 2013

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am writing in strong support of LOUISE CAYETANO, JUSTIN MEW and FELICIA VILLALOBOS for continuing terms as members of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) with terms to expire on June 30, 2016.

LOUISE CAYETANO's wealth of experience as an elementary school teacher and former lobbyist for the Hawaii State Teachers Association is a valued resource to the HTSB. Her focus on student achievement clearly promotes strong teacher preparation and licensing standards and policies.

JUSTIN MEW brings knowledge and perspective from the principal's viewpoint. I am impressed with his diligent and thoughtful approach to critical issues brought before the Board.

FELICIA VILLALOBOS represents teachers from the Island of Kauai. As an NCLB Highly Qualified Teacher and mentor, her background and experience is ideally suited for her to represent Kauai County and to work the critical issues facing the Board in the future.

Members Cayetano, Mew and Villalobos represent constituents across our state in an outstanding manner and contribute greatly to the strength of the Board. All three serve on both the Board's Teacher Standards Committee and the Legislative and By-Laws Committee. Their experience and understanding of policies adopted during their terms will provide continuity and continued strengthening of rigorous licensing and renewal standards. I regret that I am not able to attend the hearing and testify in-person on these outstanding citizens in-person but I trust your committee will find them worthy of confirmation for continuing terms on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: justin_mew@notes.k12.hi.us
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM617 on Feb 25, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Thursday, February 21, 2013 2:20:27 PM

GM617

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for EDU on Feb 25, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Mew	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I am a member of the HTSB with nominee Felicia Villalobos. She brings the perspective of Neighbor Island teachers; in particular, Kaua`i. I enjoy working with her on the HSTB. Felicia participates in discourse openly, considers all sides, and asks for clarification so that she understands clearly issues before the HSTB. I am in support of Felicia Villalobos to be reappointed to the HTSB.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: jkissida@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM617 on Feb 25, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Friday, February 22, 2013 10:46:01 AM

GM617

Submitted on: 2/22/2013

Testimony for EDU on Feb 25, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Kissida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Felicia spent the 2012-13 year on the board. Her insight and hard work is greatly appreciated.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: [Wray Jose](#)
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony on behalf of Felicia Villalobos
Date: Sunday, February 24, 2013 11:38:17 PM

Aloha! Thank you for this opportunity to share testimony in support of the confirmation of Felicia Villalobos as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I have worked with Felicia during the past year on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. She distinguishes herself by her knowledge of issues in teacher licensure, and by her passionate dedication to public education. She takes an active part in Board discussions and asks searching questions of those who appear before the Board to provide information and advocate courses of action. She exhibits a strong commitment to what is in the best interest of the public school children of the state of Hawaii, and is eminently qualified to continue to serve as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I urge that her re-appointment be confirmed by the Senate Committee on Education.

Best Regards,
Wray Jose
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