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Hawaii Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 10, 2013, 10:00 am
Conference Room 016

RE: **Support for GM 683 - JUDY KERN** for Commission on the Status of Women

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee,

It is my honor to fully support the nomination of Judy Kern to the Commission on the Status of Women.

I first met Judy nearly ten years ago when she was working at Hawaii Meals on Wheels. As colleagues in meals on wheels programs, we collaborated on a number of different initiatives. A few years later, Judy came to work for Lanakila Pacific's Meals on Wheels program as its Deputy Director. She was responsible for the programs' operations which included the Home Delivery and Congregate Dining Programs. She has since moved on to other positions within the State Department for Health, but we have stayed in touch and have maintained both a professional and personal relationship over the years.

Judy is passionate about improving our communities. And she doesn't just talk about it: she does something. She participates on a number of boards, raises funds, and works on an organic farm... she walks her talk. She is smart and thoughtful, yet humble and gracious. She is responsible and makes good on all of her commitments. And she doesn't shy away from speaking honestly about difficult subjects.

The Commission on the Status of Women will be fortunate to have a woman like Judy Kern serve as one of its commissioners. Thank you for considering my support.

Marian E. Tsuji
President and CEO

LATE TESTIMONY

April 9, 2013

To: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Mark Hamamoto, Executive Director
Mohala Farms

Re: **GM683** Consideration and confirmation to the Commission on the Status of Women, Gubernatorial Nominee, Judy Kern, for a term to expire **6-30-2017**

Position: **SUPPORT**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the appointment of Judy Kern to the Commission on the Status of Women.

I have known Judy for the past 20 years and have every confidence that she would be an extremely capable and valued appointee to the Commission on the Status of Women. She is a fierce and selfless champion for issues of justice and equality. Throughout her adult life she has given fully of herself in service to these fundamental ideals -- as a socially and politically active member of a progressive church in the Bay Area (California) and here in Honolulu at Church of the Crossroads, through her devoted community volunteer work at the American Friends Service Committee, Planned Parenthood, Hawaii People's Fund and Mohala Farms, and in her professional career working at Kamiloiki Elementary School, at Hawaii Meals on Wheels and Lanakila Meals on Wheels, and in the various positions she has had at the Hawaii State Department of Health. In all that she does, Judy brings a remarkable combination of compassion, hard work, dedication, independence, loyalty and integrity. As a board member at Mohala Farms for the past eight years, Judy has played a key role guiding our organization through it's growth and development, bringing a wealth of practical experience to the table and never losing sight of the goals and values that have inspired us.

I have no doubt that Judy will be an incredible asset to the Commission on the Status of Women and wholeheartedly recommend her for your approval.

Sincerely,
Mark Hamamoto

Mohala Farms
P.O. Box 204
Waialua, HI. 96791
(808) 478-8469

Testimony of Judy K. Kern
to the
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

April 10, 2013

GM683

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission on the Status of Women,
Gubernatorial Nominee, JUDY KERN, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Chairperson Hee and members of the Committee, thank you very much for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am truly honored to be considered for appointment to the Commission on the Status of Women. I consider it a privilege, and am thankful to Governor Neil Abercrombie for his nomination.

I would also like to thank those who have submitted testimony in support of my nomination. I am deeply grateful for their trust and aloha, and will do my utmost to live up to the confidence they have expressed in my ability to serve on the Commission.

Since being nominated, I have given much thought as to why I would like to serve on the Commission, and what I would have to offer. Out of the number of things that come to mind, what comes to the forefront is that I am passionate about serving the community and making a positive difference. The Commission on the Status of Women provides just such an opportunity.

I believe that the diverse work and volunteer experiences I have had over the years in the public schools, faith-based communities, and non-profit organizations have helped equip me with knowledge and skills that would contribute to the work of the Commission. I have been fortunate to work for issues of justice, health, and well-being for all people, from keiki to kupuna, with organizations such as Hawaii People's Fund, Planned Parenthood of Hawaii, Meals on Wheels, and Mohala Farms. I have also worked in the Department of Education as a Parent Community Network Coordinator, and currently work in the Department of Health as the Education and Training Coordinator in the Public Health Preparedness program. The positive relationships established and experiences gained in working with these varied community-based organizations and agencies will be beneficial to the Commission as it serves the wider community.

hee7 - Ikaika

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 10:54 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: akelminski@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM683 on Apr 10, 2013 10:00AM
Attachments: Judy.pages.zip

GM683

Submitted on: 4/9/2013

Testimony for JDL on Apr 10, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Kelminski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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April 7, 2013

To: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Sylvia Maite Bonis

Re: **GM683** Consideration and confirmation to the Commission on the Status of Women,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Judy Kern, for a term to expire 6-30-2017

Position: SUPPORT

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the appointment of Judy Kern to the Commission on the Status of Women. I have known Judy for more than 10 years. Throughout these years, there has never been a time in which she has not been involved in some sort of activity with the ultimate goal of improving the community, particularly women. Whether it be in the educational sector, political sector, environmental or sustainability arena, or in the defense of human rights, Ms. Kern is constantly working and striving to enhance the quality of life for the members of our community. This is especially the case when it comes to improving the lives of women and girls in the State of Hawaii. She is intelligent, passionate about her work, a tireless advocate for those she represents, compassionate, responsible and highly dependable.

As a mother, an educator, a scientist and a responsible member of the Hawaii community, I cannot think of anybody else that would be a better choice to be part of the Commission on the Status of Women.

I thank you for taking the time to consider this testimonial.

S. Maite Bonis