



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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April 10, 2013

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

Nominee, Constance Mitchell (GM 634)
Hawaii Workforce Development Council

Wednesday, April 10, 2013
10:00 a.m. Rm 016, State Capitol

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

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I testify in support of Ms. Constance Mitchell's confirmation to the Workforce Development Council (WDC) for a term to expire on June 30, 2017. Ms. Mitchell would fill a slot representing the private sector.

The WDC is an administratively attached agency in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations that is responsible for advising the Governor and the Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities in Hawaii.

The WDC consists of individuals who represent both private and public agencies in the field of employment and training in Hawaii. The majority of the members must represent businesses in the State who have optimum policymaking or hiring authority, and with employment opportunities that reflect the opportunities available in the State. Appointments are made by the Governor, and private sector members serve for a period of four years.

Membership requirements are cited in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Hawaii Revised Statutes to provide maximum representation of

parties interested in and benefitting from a strong and stable workforce in the State. Current private sector members represent the health industries, human resource management, community based organizations, and chairs of each county's local Workforce Investment Boards. Public agencies include representatives from the State Departments of Labor, Education, Business and Economic Development, and the University of Hawaii.

Ms. Mitchell is currently the Executive Director of the Institute of Human Services, a comprehensive social services agency dedicated to preventing and ending homelessness in Hawaii. Ms. Mitchell has held the position since 2006 and continues to lead the agency in developing proactive strategies to address the complex needs of the homeless and assist them to integrate in the community.

Ms. Mitchell's rich experience, and wealth of knowledge in serving the community will be valuable assets to the Council, and I look forward to a favorable action from your Committee.

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