

# GM 688

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, ERNEST MATSUMURA, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Report Title: Land Use Commission

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: WTL

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		<b>Status Text</b>
3/1/2013	S	Received.
3/1/2013	S	Referred to WTL.
3/20/2013	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 03-28-13 1:15PM in conference room 225.

**J Yoshimoto**  
Chair & Presiding Officer  
Council District 2



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## **HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL**

*Office of the County Clerk  
County of Hawai'i  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720*

**March 27, 2013**

**TESTIMONY OF J YOSHIMOTO, CHAIRMAN  
HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGARDING GM 688  
APPOINTMENT OF ERNEST MATSUMURA TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION  
Committee on Water and Land**

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Water and Land

I submit this testimony IN SUPPORT of the appointment of ERNEST MATSUMURA to the State Land Use Commission ("LUC").

Ernest Matsumura has served on the LUC for the past two years, and has represented our island and state with integrity and honesty. Ernest brings to the table a wealth of knowledge and an excellent skill set that enables him to provide keen insight into the diverse and complex issues that the LUC must address. A lifelong resident of the Island and State of Hawaii, Ernest has travelled extensively, giving him a perspective that will benefit the Commission.

In addition, Ernest has a well-rounded background. He has enjoyed a diverse and far-reaching professional life, encompassing the greater portion of 30-plus years. His experience ranges from teaching math to Job Corp trainees, to owning the former MIKO Meats and serving as CEO of American Trading Co. (since 1971). He has served on numerous boards and commissions, and has served in advisory positions for Hawai'i County and the State of Hawai'i, as well as for private entities. He continues to pioneer efforts to bring science and technology to the county and to the state. The common thread through all of Ernest Matsumura's endeavors is his abiding care, concern and sense of responsibility for the community and the residents therein.

Ernest Matsumura is highly educated, and keeps abreast of current events and issues throughout the county, state, nation and the world. His depth of knowledge and understanding of "the big picture" holds true for world-wide issues as well as issues back here at home. Ernest Matsumura has his own mind, yet he is a team player, and is comfortable either as a leader or as a team member. He is an asset to the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for allowing me to write IN SUPPORT of the appointment of ERNEST MATSUMURA to the State Land Use Commission.

JY:awm

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
March 28, 2013 at 1:15 p.m.

by  
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.  
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

GM688 Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Land Use  
Commission, Ernest Matsumura

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

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I support GM688 confirming Mr. Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission.

Mr. Matsumura's expertise, skills and knowledge in land use decision-making processes and his commitment to ensuring that Hawai'i's lands are preserved, protected and used in ways best suited, makes him well qualified to be Hawai'i County Commissioner to the State Land Use Commission. He is a man of integrity and trust.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM688. Aloha.

March 27, 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,

I fully support and endorse the appointment of Ernest Matsumura, Gubernatorial Nominee, to the Land Use Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2017.

Ernest "Ernie" Matsumura residency in Hilo spans decades of accomplishments servicing the County of Hawai'i and the State of Hawai'i as a successful businessman with over forty years in management, leadership and administration primarily in the food manufacturing industry. As an active community member, Ernie has served on several Boards and Councils that impact the economic health and well-being of our residents.

Over the past several months of working with Ernie as a Board member on the East Hawai'i Community Development Corporation (EHDCDC), a non-governmental, non-profit organization holding a 501C3 status in the United States, he has articulated a goal and put into action his vision of developing economic opportunities for our next generation of leaders, building vibrant communities that enable high quality economic activity, encourage entrepreneurship and support for success and innovation. EHDCDC created Hawai'i TechWorks Design Lab and Small Business Incubator in Hilo providing its users to explore new ways to innovate, prototype, cowork, and create a sustainable, local business.

In order to better prepare students to become successful entrepreneurs and to increase opportunities to expand educational options for our island students, through his efforts, both Dr. Donald Straney, Chancellor at the University of Hawai'i-Hilo and I are Board members of EHDCDC. We fully support the mission of EHDCDC of "working within and for the community, in particular EHDCDC's educational and workforce development initiatives." I am truly honored to be a Board member of EHDCDC.

In closing, Ernie is without a doubt one of the most distinguished businessman in our State. His level of success is rooted in his passion to serve our community with integrity and proves himself to be a role model for entrepreneurship. It is without a doubt that Ernest Matsumura, as a member of the Land Use Commission will serve to "preserving and protecting Hawai'i's lands and encourage those uses to which lands are best suited." Please afford him with the highest consideration to be appointed to the Land Use Commission.

Sincerely,  
Noreen Yamane  
Chancellor, Hawai'i Community College

Conrad Hokama  
1992 Waianuenue Ave.  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

March 26, 2013

Hawaii State Senate Water & Land Committee

Senator Malama Solomon, Chairperson  
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairperson  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz  
Senator Les Ihara Jr.  
Senator Russell Ruderman  
Senator Laura Thielen  
Senator Sam Slom

Re: *GM 688 Governor's nomination of Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission.*

**I am writing in support of Ernest Matsumura's nomination to the Land Use Commission.**

Mr. Matsumura is a humble person who has proven himself to be of good character in serving our greater community. The public's benefit will always be a priority as he considers all the issues that come before the Land Use Commission.

He is a seasoned business person in the private sector and has the skills to work with people of all walks of life and also the experience to call upon that provides a sound perspective when considering the long term impacts that the LUC decisions may have on our community.

He is constantly expanding his knowledge base by reading, traveling and networking with people. He is able to sift through the data and articulate the relevant facts with others. This trait will greatly complement the other members of the LUC and enhance the ability to make decisions for the overall community benefit.

His integrity, diligence and long term perspective will continue to be an asset to the other members of the LUC and will strengthen the overall capacity of the commission as they set the foundation of development for the future generations.

**Your favorable consideration of Ernest Matsumura to the LUC is humbly requested.**

Sincerely,



Conrad Hokama  
Pi'ihonua, Big Island of Hawaii

JIMMY TOYAMA  
98-427 PUAALII STREET  
AIEA, HI 96701

Email: [toyamaj001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:toyamaj001@hawaii.rr.com)

March 28, 2013  
COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Testimony: GM 688

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Aloha. I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation of **Ernest Matsumura**,  
Gubernatorial Nominee to the Land Use Commission.

I have known Mr. Matsumura for many years. We have been involved in and have worked together on a number of community projects. On the projects we worked on, he brought a level of commitment and dedication to getting the job done that's note worthy and impressive. His sincerity and caring are exemplified in the many years of community service he has performed. I have no doubt that he will bring that same sincerity, commitment and dedication to serving on the Land Use Commission, should he be confirmed to serve a new term to expire June 30, 2015.

Mr. Matsumura's long career in business, years of service on government commissions including a term on the Land Use Commission, and service on various boards of directors—like Alu Like, has prepared him to serve competently on the Land Use Commission. He understands the value of land and the importance of making good use of it. Mr. Matsumura is well qualified to serve on the Land Use Commission. I urge you to confirm Ernest Matsumura to the Land Use Commission.

With Aloha,

*Jimmy Toyama*

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Water and Land

Aloha. Thank you for allowing me to provide this testimony **IN SUPPORT** of the nomination and appointment of **ERNEST MATSUMURA** to the state Land Use Commission.

Ernest Matsumura has served in an interim position on the state Land Use Commission for the past two years. During that short time, he has proven that he is a very capable and conscientious member of the Land Use Commission ("LUC"). Ernest listens to all sides of an issue, does his due diligence when appropriate, and when he shares his thoughts, it is after careful consideration. Ernest is well-informed, quiet, but articulate.

I have had the privilege and honor of knowing Ernest Matsumura for many years. Ernest is "old-school", where a man is only as good as his word, and his word is his bond. I know he will represent our island and state with integrity and honesty. He will provide keen insight into the diverse and complex issues that come before the LUC.

Ernest is one of the smartest people I know, both intellectually and street-wise. Yet for all of his intellect, he remains humble, never seeking the limelight. What he does, he does for altruistic reasons, not for his personal gain or glory. He brings this characteristic with him to the LUC. Despite his quiet demeanor, he is focused on the task(s) at hand and can be counted on to see things to fruition. He has an extensive, proven track record. The common thread through all of Ernest Matsumura's endeavors is his abiding care, concern and sense of responsibility for the community and the residents therein.

His past and present life is diverse. He is a lifelong resident of the Island and State of Hawai'i, but has travelled extensively, giving him a perspective that benefits the Commission. He used to be a teacher and a counselor, became owner and CEO of several successful businesses, served on boards and commissions and has done extensive outreach in the community. He continues to pioneer efforts to bring science and technology to our island state to allow us to develop a sustainable economy, thereby reducing our dependence on tourism and other outside forces. He understands land use issues and has a deep appreciation of the need to balance progress with preservation.

Ernest Matsumura is highly educated, and keeps abreast of current events and issues throughout the county, state, nation and the world. He reads multiple books and periodicals at the same time, and can discuss all of them. He sees the big picture, and understands how, where and why we fit in.

Thank you for allowing me to write **IN SUPPORT** of the appointment of **ERNEST MATSUMURA** to the LUC. He will continue to be an asset to the state Land Use Commission.

Amy W. Miwa