

GM 709

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

Report Title: Land Use Commission

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: WTL

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by</u> <u>Date</u>		Status Text
3/18/2013	S	Received.
3/18/2013	S	Referred to WTL.
4/4/2013	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 04-16-13 1:15PM in conference room 225.

March 27, 2013

Senator Malama Solomon

Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land

State of Hawaii

RECEIVED MAR 28 2013

Re: Dennis M. Esaki

Land Use Commission Nominee

G.M. 709

Dear Senator Solomon,

Thank you for allowing me to present this statement with regards to being a member of the State of Hawaii Land Use Commission. I am honored to have been nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to this very important position. With my history, education, experience and feeling of respect for the land, I hope to show that I am qualified to be in this role.

I was born and raised in Hawaii having worked on the family farm since elementary school in Anahola, Kauai. As I grew up, I recall my father being involved in the Farm Bureau and in Soil and Water Conservation. We learned to take care of the land and the land will take care of you.

I have a degree in Geology from the University of Hawaii and have done post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. I have worked throughout the state in Land Surveying on Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai and the island of Hawaii. My job also took me to the Pacific islands, including Guam, Palau and remote atolls of the Marshall Islands which has opened my eyes to cultures and land management. I have seen entire mountains being burnt on purpose and have walked on pristine reefs that have not seen humans before, wondering what will become of it in the future.

I have worked on the island of Ebeye where the residents of Kwajalein, were relocated to, in cracker box houses and polluting the waters. My boat was swamped while working at Kili, where the residents from Bikini Atoll were relocated to. Their access by boat was via a channel blasted by dynamite to get to shore through the reefs. All the time, I wondered about the future of these lands.

Being a Licensed Land Surveyor means having knowledge about the old Hawaiian Land Tenure System. I have studied it and even taught it briefly at the community college.

The reason for wanting to serve on the Land Use Commission is to express my aloha and respect to the land in the best interest of the people of Hawaii. The roles and responsibilities as spelled out in the rules are to decide on Rural, Urban, Agriculture and Conservation Districts and their use. I have been trained

in Board Roles and Responsibilities by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association where I serve as a national director from Hawaii. I am also a former chair of the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, after purchasing the Kauai Electric Company on behalf of the people of Kauai. The goal is to decide in the best interest of all people, not one individual or group.

As the KIUC board chair, I brought together different factions for the common goal. I believe that I can work together to balance growth and respect for the land if we keep the goal in mind. I have also been on the board of the State Housing Finance and Development Corporation, which developed planned communities such as Kapolei and Kealahou.

My mission will be accomplished if I can contribute to making the right decisions with regards to land use in Hawaii for the right reasons, resulting in preserving the land for future generations. My affinity and respect for the land, my history of public service as evidenced by serving on the boards of community organizations, Kokee Advisory Council, East Kauai being the voluntary governor's representative and governor's advisory council member, a private school, etc. and my knowledge of Hawaiian Land history as working with land on a daily basis would benefit the Land Use Commission. I will draw on my life experiences as relayed earlier, education in Geology and Urban Planning and present work in Land Surveying/Planning to make the right decisions on the Land Use Commission. Of course, the benefit will be for our "children" and the land itself.

In addition to my aforementioned history, and a culmination of my public service work, an event that stands out was the declaration by Governor Neil Abercrombie and Mayor Bernard Carvalho as Dennis Esaki Day. Although it is hard to say that there is one thing that makes me stand out, I have been the Governor's representative on the Island of Kaua'i for one and a half years, assisting in Constituent Services and interfacing with various departments to assist our fellow residents and companies with issues. Since there were no funds to run the office, I did this at no cost to the state. This shows my dedication to public service and "giving back" to the community, although that phrase has become a cliché.

Being that my career as a land surveyor involves involvement with various landowners, there could be a time where a client or a potential client files a petition before the Land Use Commission. To prevent any appearance of a conflict, I would do the right thing and recuse myself from any discussion and decision on the topic. Also I would not work on any job that would otherwise indicate any conflict with my serving on the commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this and I am available to answer any questions you may have.

Mahalo,



Dennis M. Esaki

United States Senate

April 5, 2013

Chair Malama Solomon,
Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RECEIVED APR 15 2013

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I am writing in ardent support of Mr. Dennis M. Esaki's nomination to the Land Use Commission. Mr. Esaki's background in land surveying, coupled with his leadership abilities and close connection to Hawaii's land issues, makes him a strong candidate, and if confirmed, Mr. Esaki will be a vital asset to the Commission.

Mr. Esaki has a long, successful history with issues related to land use. He began surveying land in 1974, and founded Esaki Surveying and Mapping in 1979. He is a licensed professional land surveyor and a licensed land court surveyor. He also has experience as a commercial plane and helicopter pilot. If appointed, his professional experience provides a strong foundation for success on the Land Use Commission.

Mr. Esaki's experience goes well beyond land use, and he is a proven leader in his professional life. Mr. Esaki has shown his prudence in his position as the Hawaii State Director of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, a national service organization for more than nine hundred not-for-profit rural electric cooperatives and public power districts. He was also the Founding Director of the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, and continues to hold the position of Chairman Emeritus.

Mr. Esaki is a strong member of the community on Kauai and in the State. He was raised on a farm in Anahola, Kauai, and worked there upon graduating from the University of Hawaii with a Bachelor of Science in Geology. He continues to be an active member of the community. He sits on the Board of Directors for the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, serves as a trustee for the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation, and is a member of the East Kauai Development Plan Citizens Advisory Committee.

Mr. Esaki's experience with land use issues, his leadership, and his role in the community are strong evidence of the contributions he would make on the Land Use Commission. I have no doubt that he will be a strong asset to the Land Use Commission, and I highly recommend him.

Regards,



Brian Schatz
United States Senator

TULSI GABBARD
2ND DISTRICT, HAWAII

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER AND MARITIME
SECURITY
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1102

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HONOLULU, HI 96850
(808) 541-1986
502 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4906
<http://www.gabbard.house.gov>

April 12, 2013

The Honorable Malama Solomon
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land
Conference Room 225
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard
GM, 709 Letter of Support for Dennis M. Esaki
Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Dear Chairwoman Solomon and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am honored to address your Committee and submit this letter in strong support of Dennis M. Esaki for confirmation to the Land Use Commission (LUC). I have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Esaki over the past year and believe he would bring a unique perspective to the LUC.

As a lifelong resident of Hawaii, primarily on the island of Kauai, he has a depth of perspective on our Neighbor Island land use issues. Additionally, his engineering background will provide a professional point of reference during LUC deliberations. We have discussed many subjects for which we have similar values and encourage each other to fight for what is right.

Based on Mr. Esaki's background, knowledge, love of the land, community service and integrity, I believe that Dennis will faithfully serve the people of Hawaii on the Land Use Commission.

Sincerely,



TULSI GABBARD
Member of Congress
2nd District, Hawaii



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
April 15, 2013

Testimony in SUPPORT of Gubernatorial Nominees:

Dennis Esaki-GM 709

Land Use Commission

Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee on Water, Land, and Housing:

It is with great pride that I submit my support for confirmation of Dennis Esaki to serve as a member of the State of Hawaii Land Use Commission.

As a former board member of the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, I had the privilege of working with Mr. Esaki where he served as Chair for six years. He currently still serves as the Hawaii Director on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Board providing leadership on alternative fuels and power sources and has also served on the University of Hawaii Foundation Board of Trustees and the Kokee State Park Advisory Council.

For over thirty years Mr. Esaki has provided the island of Kauai his services through his business Esaki Mapping and Surveying. His extensive experience and knowledge in this field will certainly benefit the State of Hawaii as a Land Use Commissioner.

I ask for your favorable consideration for confirmation of Dennis Esaki to serve on the Land Use Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek S.K. Kawakami".

Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, 14th District
East and North Kauai

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor

SHAN TSUTSUI
Lieutenant Governor

RICHARD LIM
Interim Director



LAND USE COMMISSION
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
State of Hawai'i

DANIEL ORODENKER
Executive Officer

BERT K. SARUWATARI
Planner

SCOTT A.K. DERRICKSON
Planner

RILEY K. HAKODA
Chief Clerk

FRED A. TALON
Drafting Technician

March 8, 2013

Statement of
Daniel Orodenker,
Executive Officer, State Land Use Commission
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Friday, April 16, 2013
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225
in consideration of

GM
CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION
OF DENNIS E. ESAKI

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and the Honorable Malama Soloman, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing.

My name is Daniel Orodenker, and I am the Executive Officer of the Land Use Commission ("LUC"). I am here to respectfully request that this Committee favorably consider the nomination of Mr. Dennis Esaki to serve as Kauai County Commissioner for a four-year term ending on June 30, 2017.

Mr. Esaki's resume illustrates his "aloha" for and valuable contributions to the Kauai community. His extensive background in land surveying and mapping are vital tools used in Land Use Commission boundary interpretation work and it is clear that Mr. Esaki could have an immediate positive impact on the Land Use Commission as a technical resource to contribute and share his knowledge during our decision-making processes.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Mr. Esaki's nomination to serve as Commissioner on the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before this Committee.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KAUAI DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICE
3040 UNAI STREET
LIHUE, HAWAII 96766

DILEEP G. BAL, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.
DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER

March 27, 2013

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Water and Land (WTL) Committee
Room 210
Hawaii Senate

Dear Senator Solomon,

This is in strong support of Mr. Dennis Esaki, who has been nominated by Governor Abercrombie for a four-year term on the Land Use Commission Board.

As the District Health Officer for Kauai for the last eight years, I have developed an admiration for all that Mr. Esaki has done and is doing for our island. His role as President of Esaki Surveying and Mapping is by no means all that Dennis does for this county, where he was born and raised. He is an active member and generous contributor to a whole range of community groups and charities and is a leader in many of these efforts.

Mr. Esaki was a founding member and Chair of our KIUC (Kauai Island Utility Cooperative) as it was getting off the ground. After selflessly seeing it through its initial growing pains, he shifted his focus to alternative green energy resources. He is also a leader in the energy/utility field at the national level where he is both active and prominent.

After the election of Governor Abercrombie, he was appointed as the Governor's Representative on Kauai, for the initial year and more till he helped find a replacement. During this year long period Dennis refused to take a salary and served as the Governors Representative without salary in a volunteer capacity.

Mr. Esaki comes from distinguished pedigree and his family members are longtime residents of the eastside for multiple generations. All his siblings are all also prominent members of Kauai society.

Dennis Esaki is uniquely qualified to serve on the Land Use Commission by virtue of both his professional training and personal leadership characteristics. To that end I am proud to unequivocally recommend Dennis Esaki to you for a four-year term on the Land Use Commission. I have no doubt that he will serve in that capacity with distinction.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dileep G. Bal".

Dileep G. Bal, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.
Kauai District Health Officer

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Gary K. Heu
Managing Director

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 235, Lihue, Hawai'i 96766
TEL (808) 241-4900 FAX (808) 241-6877

April 4, 2013

The Honorable Malama Solomon, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Water & Land
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Solomon and Members:

RE: GM 709 Relating to Nomination of Dennis Esaki, State Land Use Commission

I am submitting testimony in support of the gubernatorial nomination of Dennis Esaki to the State Land Use Commission.

Mr. Esaki was born and raised on a farm in Anahola, Kaua'i. He is knowledgeable and experienced in land use and zoning laws and since 1974 he has worked in land surveying. He is the owner of Esaki Surveying and is well respected by his peers.

Mr. Esaki is an outstanding choice as Kaua'i's representative on the State Land Use Commission. He has served on various leadership positions on boards and non-profit organizations in the past such as being the Chair and founding director of Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC), President and founding director of Kaua'i Developers Council and board member of the Kauai Contractor's Association to mention a few.

Mr. Esaki possesses the ability to review and analyze the merits of any land proposal that may come before the Commission for consideration.

I support the appointment of Dennis Esaki as Kaua'i's representative to the State Land Use Commission and humbly ask that you favorably consider his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Testimony Before the Senate Committee on
Water and Land

By: David J. Bissell
President & CEO
Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
4463 Pahee Street, Suite 1, Lihue, Hawaii, 96766-2000

Tuesday, April 16, 2013, 1:15pm
Conference Room # 225

**Governor's Message 709 – Gubernatorial Nominee, DENNIS ESAKI, to Land Use
Commission**

To the Honorable Malama Solomon, Chair; Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair and members
of the Committee:

On behalf of Kauai Island Utility Cooperative ("KIUC"), I am pleased to submit testimony
supporting the confirmation of Dennis M. Esaki to the Land Use Commission.

A native of Anahola, Kauai, Mr. Esaki is a tireless leader in the Kauai community who was
instrumental in the establishment of the State's first member-owned utility cooperative in 2002.

As a founding Board member of KIUC and past Chairman of the cooperative's Board of
Directors, Mr. Esaki was a thoughtful advocate for the interests of the utility's owners, who are
the people of Kauai.

Mr. Esaki is a member of the National Board of the National Rural Electric Cooperative
Association and is an energetic spokesperson for Kauai and the entire State of Hawaii in his
interactions with State and National representatives and political leaders.

In my opinion, Mr. Esaki's professional experience in surveying and his commitment to
community engagement in the public roles in which he has served make him an ideal candidate
for the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

TRADEWIND
CAPITAL ■ GROUP

April 2, 2013

The Honorable Malama Solomon, Chair
Senate Committee on Water & Land
State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Solomon:

GM #709 Dennis M. Esaki Confirmation

I am writing to express my **strong support** for Dennis M. Esaki's nomination to the Land Use Commission.

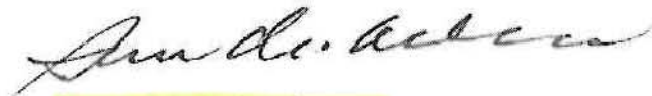
As Managing Director for Tradewind Capital Group, Inc., I have known Dennis Esaki throughout the course of our business activity on the Island of Kauai.

The State of Hawaii is extremely fortunate to have a respected community member who is willing to dedicate his talents, practical thinking and resourcefulness to public service. He is a "can do" guy, not a talker. He is steeped in the historic agricultural background and his technical surveying and engineering skills will serve the Land Use Commission well.

Dennis has also served many non-profit organizations, demonstrating his commitment to the community. I strongly urge his confirmation as member of the LUC.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions. Mahalo.

Sincerely,



Bruce M. Nakaoka
Managing Director

Bruce Nakaoka
Managing Director
Tradewind Capital Group, Inc
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 2450
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 564-8192
Fax: (808) 275-8192
email: bnakaoka@tradewindcap.com

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.....

Hu'ehu'e Ventures, LLC.

73-1515 Apela Place Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740 (808) 3254005 (808) 3252511 facsimile
cacarlson1@me.com

April 12, 2013

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Subject: Governnor's Message 775
Nomination of Milton D. Pavao, P.E to serve as a Commissioner
on the Commission on Water Resource Management

Dear Senator Solomon and Members of the Committee:

This letter is written in support of the application of Milton D. Pavao. I have known Milton for over 30 years in his professional career in the County of Hawaii Department of Water Supply and have worked with him during his tenure as Manager of the Department. During that time, I found that Milton was a decision maker willing to make tough decisions while at the same time being fair. Our meetings always included his Deputy and senior staff. In that way, he exhibited the leadership qualities that one would expect out of the Department's Manager. It was always clear to me that Milton had the respect of his team and that they worked well together.

From an independent businessman's perspective, I was impressed with the manner that he embraced the County's participation the Waimea Water Roundtable and then subsequently co-founded the Kona Water Roundtable, which I served as facilitator for. Both Roundtables were established to provide an ad hoc forum for discussions and presentations of scientific findings primarily relating to ground water. These forums were intended to allow open discussions on issues between neighbors, land owners, government officials and community members in a manner that all could learn from. The success of the Kona Water Roundtable can be recognized by the regular attendance of representatives of State, County and Federal jurisdictions as well as by scientists, developers, landowners and community members. CWRM was always well represented at the Kona Water Roundtable.

Milton Pavao letter of recommendation
April 12, 2013
Page 2

Milton's professional career and the respect he earned during that time is a matter of record. His foresight and leadership at the Hawaii Department of Water Supply as well as in the Hawaii State Waterworks Association show that Milton has the desired qualifications, demeanor and capabilities to serve as a Commissioner of CWRM.

It is with a great deal of respect for the responsibilities of the Commission, that I would strongly urge the Senate Committee on Water and Land to favorably consider and to confirm Milton D. Pavao to serve as a Commissioner on the Commission on Water Resource Management. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl A. Carlson, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Carl A. Carlson, Jr.

CLS HAWAII



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Kalaheo, Kauai, Hawaii 96741
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www.clshawaii.com
surveyor1@clshawaii.com

April 14, 2013

Senator Malama Solomon, Chairperson
Committee On Water & Land
Hawaii State Capital
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Senator Solomon and Committee Members:

I am honored to submit this on-line testimony in support of Mr. Dennis Esaki. He has been nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to serve on the Land Use Commission and is now in the confirmation process. Dennis is a close personal friend and business associate whom I have known for over 45-years. He is a man of compassion, high integrity and a person of moral character.

Mr. Esaki is locally-educated, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from the University of Hawaii. He is a Licensed Professional Land Surveyor, Licensed Land Court Surveyor, Commercial Airplane Pilot, and former Civil Air Patrol Mission Pilot.

Mr. Esaki's outstanding service in various leadership roles has allowed him to form strong relationships with key decision-makers and residents. He is well-respected not only for his leadership, but also for serving as a volunteer in the many organizations that serve our community.

Because of his dedication to service and selfless concern for the community in which we reside, I strongly support Mr. Dennis Esaki's nomination to the Land Use Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

//s// 04.14.13

ROGER M. CAIRES

President, R & S Inc.
dba CLS Land Surveying and Mapping

JIMMY TOYAMA
98-427 PUAALII STREET
AIEA, HI 96701

Email: toyamaj001@hawaii.rr.com

April 16, 2013
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Testimony: GM 709

Madame Chair and Committee Members:

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

I have known Mr. Esaki for a few years. We have been involved in and have worked together on a few 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 for a term to expire June 30, 2017.

Mr. Esaki's long career in business, years of service on government commissions and service on various boards of directors—like the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, National Rural Electric Association, and the University Of Hawaii Foundation has prepared him to serve competently on the Land Use Commission. Having lived and worked on a farm and being involved in land surveying since 1974, he understands the value of land and the importance of making good use of it. Mr. Esaki is well qualified to serve on the Land Use Commission. I urge you to confirm Dennis Esaki to the Land Use Commission.

With Aloha,

Jimmy Toyama

Piikea Tomczyk

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2013 3:17 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: amby@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM709 on Apr 16, 2013 13:15PM

GM709

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for WTL on Apr 16, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allan A. Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senators, I have known Mr. Dennis M. Esaki for almost forty years. He started his surveying and engineering company in the 1970's and I and the Companies I represented have been clients and friends of his all these years. The Esaki family have been on Kauai for generations and their members have established themselves as industrious contributors to the well-being of our community. Dennis was farm-raised in Anahola and his hard-work ethic was developed there on the "ground". Dennis has proven that he is smart and multi-talented and has earned the respect of the community. He can fly airplanes, start and run sustainable and successful businesses, do a lot of volunteer work, raise accomplished and educated children, and is a "good guy" in every sense of the word. In his professional career he has gained "hands-on" working knowledge of Hawaii's natural wonders and resources. His involvement in many successful land and ocean based projects puts him head and shoulders above others. All these attributes along with Dennis' great passion for this Island and its people make for Mr. Esaki to be an excellent Land Use Commissioner. Aloha, Allan A. Smith, Board Chairman, Kauai Island Utilities Cooperative.

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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Piikea Tomczyk

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2013 3:20 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: jtakahashi95@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM709 on Apr 16, 2013 13:15PM

GM709

Submitted on: 4/12/2013
Testimony for WTL on Apr 16, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janice Takahashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony supporting the nomination of Dennis Esaki to the Land Use Commission. I have known Dennis for over 20 years and he has shown me to be a person who truly cares about Hawaii. He possesses outstanding leadership qualities and is really smart (although he's also very modest). Dennis will bring strength to the Commission, and in this regard, help to advance the State's goals and objectives with respect to land use.

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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Piikea Tomczyk

From: Roth Puahala on behalf of Sen. Malama Solomon
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2013 10:48 AM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: Piikea Tomczyk; Ethann Oki
Subject: FW: Dennis Esaki - nominee to LUC

Roth K. Puahala, Office Manager
Office of Senator Malama Solomon, Ph.D.
4th Senatorial District
Hilo, Hamakua, Waimea, Kohala, Waikoloa, Kona
State Capitol, Room 210
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
808.586.7335
974-4000 Ext. 67335 Toll-Free Hawai'i Island
808.586.7339 Fax
email: r.puahala@capitol.hawaii.gov
www.capitol.hawaii.gov

From: Teofilo P Tacbian [<mailto:ttacbian@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2013 10:39 AM
To: Sen. Malama Solomon; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro; Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz; Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.; Sen. Russell Ruderman; Sen. Laura Thielen; Sen. Sam Slom
Cc: Sen. Ronald D. Kouchi
Subject: Dennis Esaki - nominee to LUC

Chairman Malama Solomon and Members of the Senate Water and Land Committee

I am writing to you on behalf of Dennis Esaki, nominee to the State Land Use Commission. I've known Dennis for many years and know of his community and public service activities. As a former member and Chairman of the Land Use Commission, I am aware of what a good member of the commission should possess. Dennis Esaki has what it takes to be a good commissioner. He has the knowledge and training in Land Use issues and also has the interest of the community at heart. We served together on the Board of Directors at Kauai Island Utility Cooperative. He chaired the Board for a number of years and when he left the Board I succeeded him as the Chairman. During his tenure we started the move to renewable energy which is going on in a big way today.

I humbly request that Dennis be given your **approval** to serve on the Land Use Commission as the representative from Kauai. He will work for the benefit of the people of Kauai and the State of Hawaii.

Teofilo Phil Tacbian
5673 Ohelo Road
Kapaa HI 96746
808-651-3683

Piikea Tomczyk

From: Bernie Sakoda [sakoda@hawaiiink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 3:15 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: Testimony for Dennis M. Esaki, ref GM907

April 10, 2013

Senator Malama Solomon

Chairwoman, Water and Land Committee

Hawaii State Capital

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro

Vice-Chair

Hawaii State Capital

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators:

RE: DENNIS ESAKI, nominee to Land Use Commission

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of Mr. Dennis M. Esaki's nomination to serve on the Land Use Commission. Dennis is a personal friend and business associate.

In addition to his professional career, Mr. Esaki is very much involved in his Church, community and school activities. He has undertaken many leadership roles in all these areas. He is well respected in our community.

His professional background in Land Surveying/Engineering will be beneficial to this particular Commission. I trust in his wealth of knowledge of the Aina that he will contribute to making sound decisions and recommendations for the overall benefit of our State.

I believe that his appointment will make us the beneficiaries of his contribution as a member of the LUC.

Sincerely,

Bernadette H. Sakoda

Executive V.P.

Kaua`i Island Finance Inc.

Bernadette H. Sakoda

Executive V.P.

Kauai Island Finance Inc

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Piikea Tomczyk

From: Paul Kyno [paul@sleepinggiant.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 12:23 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: All Senators; Roth Puahala
Subject: Testimony for Dennis Esaki nominated to LUC

To: Senate Committee of Water and Land
From: Paul Kyno, State Board Member HHFDC

Aloha Senators,

My name is Paul Kyno, and I am currently a State Board member for Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corp. (HHFDC).

I am writing this letter in support of Mr Dennis Esaki, who is nominated for a board seat on the Hawaii State Land Use Commission. (LUC). I have known Dennis for close to 30 years on Kauai and he is one of the most talent individuals I know. He takes an active role in the community and always seems to be doing something to benefit our island and the State as a whole.

Dennis is a civil engineer and has owned his own company for as long as I can remember. He knows just about every inch of land on Kauai, as well as almost every person on the island and I could not even attempt to think about anyone being more qualified for the position than him.

He has been on many other boards throughout the years including other State boards.

The State should consider itself very lucky to have a man like Dennis Esaki to serve in this capacity. If you have any questions please feel free to call me on my cell 808-651-3287 or email at your earliest convenience paul@sleepinggiant.com

Thank you

Paul Kyno, Realtor (S)

ECOBROKER CERTIFIED

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Piikea Tomczyk

From: Roth Puahala on behalf of Sen. Malama Solomon
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2013 12:16 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: Piikea Tomczyk; Ethann Oki
Subject: FW: GM 709 -Dennis Esaki

Roth K. Puahala, Office Manager
Office of Senator Malama Solomon, Ph.D.
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From: Allan A. Smith [<mailto:amby@hawaii.rr.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2013 3:28 PM
To: Sen. Malama Solomon; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro; Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz; Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.; Sen. Russell Ruderman; Sen. Laura Thielen; Sen. Sam Slom
Cc: dmesaki@aol.com
Subject: GM 709 -Dennis Esaki

Dear Senators,

I have known Mr. Dennis Esaki for almost forty years. He started his surveying and engineering company in the 1970's and I and the companies I represented have been clients and friends of his all these years.

The Esaki family have been on Kauai for generations and their members have established themselves as accomplished contributors to the well-being of our community. Dennis was farm-raised in Anahola. His

hard-work ethic was developed there. Dennis has proven that he is smart and multi-talented and has earned the respect of the community. He can fly airplanes, run sustainable and successful businesses, do a

lot of volunteer work, raise accomplished and educated children, and is a "good guy" in every sense of the word.

In his professional career he has gained "hands-on" working knowledge of Hawaii's natural wonders and resources. His involvement in many successful land and ocean based projects puts him head and

shoulders above others. All these attributes along with Dennis' great passion for these Islands and its people make Mr. Esaki an excellent Land Use Commissioner.

Aloha,

Allan A. Smith

Board Chairman - Kauai Island Utilities Cooperative

Piikea Tomczyk

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 4:39 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: Shigemototh@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM709 on Apr 16, 2013 13:15PM

GM709

Submitted on: 4/4/2013
Testimony for WTL on Apr 16, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senator Solomon and members of the Senate Water and Land Committee: I am writing in strong support of Mr. Dennis Esaki who has been nominated by Governor Abercrombie to the State Land Use Commission. I have known Mr. Esaki professionally for more nearly 40 years. The position of State Land Use Commissioner is an extremely important, very high-profiled, and prestigious appointment. The potential candidate, in my opinion, must be cognizant of the many factors and influences that impact our daily lives and the effects these decisions have on our environment, our visitors and our businesses. Needless to say, it isn't an easy assignment. The candidate must also possess an indeterminate amount of psychological and physiological fortitude to be able to endure the complex and often controversial land use issues that challenges the Commission. He or she must understand the function of government and be able to balance the need for economic development with that of preserving our natural resources. This person must also be able to meet the rigors of time that the position demands with the voluminous packets of materials incumbent with each application and the countless hours of hearings that each docket entails. Are there such qualified people? Mr. Esaki is definitely one that meets most if not all of the qualities outlined above. With regard to understanding land use and the policies that govern district boundary amendments and the interrelationship with County ordinances and regulations he is unmatched. His experience as a licensed professional surveyor provides an edge for him to evaluate physical conditions and nuances of the land involved in petitions and the collateral issues incumbent with such properties. Dennis grew up on a farm to contribute to their family business. He thus has a greater appreciation for preserving valuable farm land to support viable agricultural pursuits for our long term sustenance. He is also a businessman and understands the need to balance our environmental needs with our economic goals to enhance the lives of the younger generation. Dennis has served on numerous State and community boards and organizations. He recently termed out from the U.H. Foundation Board after two terms. He also served as a Kauai Island Utility Cooperative board leader as well as the first president of the Kauai Developer's Council. Dennis is currently on the Japanese Cultural Center Board and is active with the Kauai Contractor's Association. Known for his generosity, Dennis has often provided his surveying services gratis for non-profit and needy organizations. As a personal friend and as a business client, I can attest to this man's honesty and integrity. I am privileged to know this honorable candidate and for being able to testify on his behalf. He will bring a wealth of business, community and planning expertise to the floor and I believe, will infuse some basic principles of fairness and prudence for the Commission. Thank you for your consideration for this extremely conscientious and dedicated person. He has proven his commitment to his community

he resides in and I believe he will be an invaluable asset to the Commission. Sincerely, Tom H. Shigemoto

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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Piikea Tomczyk

From: Roth Puahala on behalf of Sen. Malama Solomon
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:12 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: FW: Letter of Support for State Senate Confirmation of Dennis M. Esaki to the Land Use Commission (GM 709)

Importance: High

Roth K. Puahala, Office Manager
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-----Original Message-----

From: dobashim@hawaii.rr.com [<mailto:dobashim@hawaii.rr.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 9:06 PM
To: Sen. Malama Solomon; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro
Subject: Letter of Support for State Senate Confirmation of Dennis M. Esaki to the Land Use Commission (GM 709)
Importance: High

Aloha Senator Solomon, Chair, and Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair,

As a long-time resident of Kaua'i, I strongly recommend Dennis M. Esaki for confirmation to serve on the Land Use Commission. Dennis was born to parents who were farmers in Anahola, Kaua'i and grew up working on the family's farm. He definitely has first-hand experience with the land and he continues his current occupation involving work with the land as a licensed Engineer and Surveyor for nearly 40 years. The Esaki family continues farming and operates Esaki Produce selling locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables to stores and restaurants.

Dennis has voluntarily served and continues to serve on a variety of local organizations to improve quality of life on Kaua'i for its residents. He is often called upon to assist with local efforts to build support for initiatives and ideas to preserve the beauty of the Garden Island. His rapport with key community leaders on Kaua'i is without fanfare but sincere and effective as it relates to the future of our limited and precious lands. His knowledge and experiences will very much enhance the critical role of the Land Use Commission.

Mahalo nui loa.

Very respectfully,

/s/ Myron N. Dobashi

4th Generation Resident of Kaua`i (Maternal side) Vietnam War Veteran (USAF / July 1967 - July 1968) Brig Gen, USAF (Ret)
Commander, HI Air National Guard (May 1999 - August 2003)