

# GM716

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, RALPH MESICK, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

April 8, 2013

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Senate President, *and*  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair  
*and* Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development,  
Government Operations and Housing

Re: G.M. 716 on the confirmation of Ralph Mesick to the board of HHFDC

My name is Paul Brewbaker and I am currently the principal of TZ Economics, a Hawaii economics consultancy. I would like to extend my enthusiastic support for the nomination of Ralph Mesick as the Oahu representative to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) Board of Directors.

Among the many, fine professionals in the areas of housing finance and urban economics in Hawaii with whom it has been my distinct pleasure to work during my long career in Hawaii as a professional economist, there are none for whom I have higher regard than for Ralph Mesick. Ralph was a dynamic and innovative commercial real estate credit executive and asset manager during my years as his banking colleague, from which experience I witnessed firsthand his ability to put together housing-related deals that benefitted Hawaii's people and, literally, grew Hawaii's economy from the ground up. As a leader in organizations such as the Urban Land Institute, through which I also have shared many productive collaborations, Ralph has been unparalleled. I believe you can find no individual more suited for the task that faces Hawaii housing policy implementation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Ralph's current professional pursuits alone testify to his qualifications. I am certain his role as a participant in Hawaii housing finance and development through public service will advance the interest of Hawaii's people. By all means, please, confirm his nomination.

Mahalo,



Paul H. Brewbaker, Ph.D.  
606 Ululani St.  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734-4430

April 5, 2013

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations & Housing  
State Senate  
415 S. Beretania Street, Rm. 202  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Dela Cruz:

I am writing in support of Ralph Mesick's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) for a second term. I have had the honor of being a direct report to Ralph in the Special Assets Department of Bank of Hawaii from 2009-2010, during which I have witnessed his high integrity, passion, and talent for working with commercial real estate finance, lending, and risk management. During the time that I reported to Ralph, he was Manager of the Special Assets Department, provided approvals for certain (Classified and Special Mention credits) transactions in the Commercial Real Estate Lending Division area of the bank, and was Chair of the Hawaii chapter of the Urban Land Institute (ULI), a global organization.

Ralph has extensive experience and expertise in working in various commercial real estate related areas, which would benefit the HHFDC and help to further its mission of overseeing and developing affordable housing in Hawaii. Ralph truly enjoys working in real estate, which fuels his passion to pursue real estate in a responsible way that balances market demand with financial concerns and risk management.

Under his Chairmanship for ULI Hawaii, during which time I was a member, Ralph's contributions to the organization really made a difference and enabled it to expand educational offerings to its members as well as expand the UrbanPlan program, in which ULI members went in to certain high schools to begin dialogue with the next generation of our communities regarding land use and the issues surrounding it. Given the tremendous need for affordable housing in Hawaii, I believe that Ralph's contributions to the HHFDC can have the same impact that it did for ULI in a meaningful and effective way.

Once again, I strongly support Ralph's nomination to the Board of Directors of the HHFDC and appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on his behalf.

Aloha,

Handwritten signature of Lysa Lai in black ink, consisting of a stylized first name and a last name.

Lysa Lai  
808-382-0449

**Dane Wicker**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 08, 2013 12:21 PM  
**To:** EGHTestimony  
**Cc:** quentinm@gentryhawaii.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM716 on Apr 8, 2013 14:45PM

**GM716**

Submitted on: 4/8/2013

Testimony for EGH on Apr 8, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Quentin machida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have known Ralph Mesick for over 15 years. His experience and integrity would serve the board well.

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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