

CONFIDENTIAL

GOV. MSG. NO. 724

# **Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board**

Effective Date: Reappointment

Expiration Date: 6/30/2017

Representing: Public

Department: DCCA

Term Limit: N/A

## **Umbhau, Werner**

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2013

Wednesday, April 10, 2013  
9:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 724.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Christine Rutkowski and I am the Executive Officer for the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 724, regarding the **reappointment** of Werner Umbhau to the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Mr. Umbhau's reappointment to the Board.

Mr. Umbhau is being reappointed to the Board as a public member. He has served on the Board since 2007, during which time he has attended 36 meetings out of the 36 meetings that the Board has held.

Since 2009 and annually thereafter, Mr. Umbhau's fellow Board members have unanimously voted to have him lead as their Chairperson. Mr. Umbhau's readiness for the agenda matters that the Board must address during its meetings is undeniable. Combined with his transformational leadership style through which he inspires the best from the members, the Board is decidedly productive as the members are highly engaged.

Indeed, Mr. Umbhau's desire to continue to serve on the Board and contribute to the community will undoubtedly enhance the Board's effectiveness.

The Department supports the confirmation of Mr. Umbhau to the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



# Hawaii Automobile Dealers' Association

Mike Nielhammer, President  
Dave Rolf, Executive Director

## HADA TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 724 Relating to the Governor's Message nominating WERNER UMBHAU

to serve as a member of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board  
Presented to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
At the public hearing 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 10, 2013  
in Conference Room 229

Chair Baker and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association is pleased to offer strong support for the re-nomination of Werner Umbhau to continue to serve as a member of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board (MVILB).

Mr. Umbhau is eminently qualified having served as chair of the MVILB board for several years and having been actively involved in the retail auto industry in Hawaii for many years through his position at the Bank of Hawaii's auto financing division.

Mr. Umbhau, now retired from his longtime role at the Bank of Hawaii, has provided this voluntary service to the state, the auto industry, and the auto-buying public for years as a member, and now as chair, of the MVILB.

It is a privilege to support the re-nomination of Mr. Werner Umbhau to the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board.

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Rolf

For the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association

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## **STATEMENT OF WERNER UMBHAU**

- 1) I have enjoyed serving on the Motor Industry Licensing Board since April 26, 2007, currently as Chair. I devoted my banking career to this industry and its consumer clients and the interaction with both continues to interest me.
- 2) I perceive my role and responsibilities as following the rule of law without bias, yet having an open mind to listen and making fair decisions based on evidence presented.
- 3) In my career as a banker specializing in auto financing I've experienced the extremes of abuses which led to self policing, the Lemon Law, Truth-in-lending, truth-in-advertising and other consumer protection laws. This background serves me well in understanding and deciding on issues that come before the Board.
- 4) I see the dual responsibility of helping to promote commerce and protecting the consumer as a worthy continuing challenge which I'm prepared to undertake.
- 5) I prepare for Board meetings by reviewing all agenda items and material in advance, I listen with an open mind and make recommendations/decisions based on rules/regulations without prejudice.
- 6) I spent 35 years as a consumer banker servicing the financial needs of auto dealers and their consumer clients.
- 7) I don't foresee any conflicts of interest as I'm not active in the industry and can perform my duties as a Board member without favoring dealers or their customers. If I perceived a conflict, I'd recuse myself from voting.