



Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. · Kailua, HI 96734 · <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 766

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Civil Rights Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, ARTEMIO C. BAXA, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

April 10, 2013, 10 a.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

To: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuru, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: Sen. Mike Gabbard, Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.; Sen. Sam Slom

From: Charlene Cuaresma, Past President, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

Dear Sen. Clayton Hee, Sen. Maile Shimabukuru, Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Mike Gabbard, and Sen. Sam Slom:

My name is Charlene Cuaresma, past president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. The Coalition supports Governor Neil Abercrombie's nominee, Artemio Baxa, to the Civil Rights Commission.

Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

The Coalition recognizes that Hawai'i is ranked sixth nationally for the highest percentage of immigrants, with an average of 5,000 immigrants arriving yearly. Of these, Filipinos comprise the largest segment, when compared to all the other immigrant groups combined. Because of Mr. Baxa's extensive legal career as a lawyer and retired judge, serving the islands of Maui, Lana'i and Moloka'i, his immigrant roots and personal experiences in navigating through American society, we believe that he will add to the rigor in cases brought to the Civil Rights Commission for deliberation to ensure justice and equity for all.

Thank you for hearing this measure, and for your reconsideration of Mr. Baxa's nomination to the Civil Rights Commission.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma, MPH
Past President
Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 732 Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

April 10, 2013, 10 a.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S. L. Shimabukuru, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: Sen. Mike Gabbard,
Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.; Sen. Sam Slom

From: Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Civil Rights
Commission Gubernatorial Nominee, ARTEMIO C. BAXA, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Dear Sen. Clayton Hee, Sen. Maile Shimabukuru, Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Mike Gabbard, and
Sen. Sam Slom:

My name is Jake Manegdeg. As president of the Filipino American Citizens League, I am very proud to strongly support the confirmation of gubernatorial nominee Artemio C. Baxa for confirmation to the Civil Rights Commission for a term to expire 6-30-2017. The League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

I have known former Judge Baxa for over 45 years through our volunteer work in social justice, civic, and cultural events in the Filipino community. We served as commissioners for the 2006 Filipino Centennial Celebration Commission. Mr. Baxa has the ability to work well and collaborate with others to investigate, conciliate, and adjudicate civil rights in order to enhance the Commission's ability to reduce the backlog of complaints in a timely and fair way. He has sound values and is respectful of differences. As a naturalized citizen of Philippine heritage, his multi-lingual, multi-cultural sensibilities, and lessons learned from personal experiences of discrimination will be assets to draw upon in the Commission's work, while at the same time upholding equality for all.

Thank you for hearing this measure. Your positive consideration of Mr. Artemio Baxa's confirmation is greatly appreciated.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg
President, Filipino American Citizens League



**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 766:
Artemio Baxa for the Civil Rights Commission**

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
April 10, 2013, 10 a.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Sen. Maile S. L. Shimabukuru, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: Sen.
Mike Gabbard, Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.; Sen. Sam Slom

From: Amy Agbayani, Vice Chair, NaFFAA Region 12
3432 B-1 Kalihi St. Honolulu 96819
Amy_agbayani@yahoo.com

The National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) strongly endorses Mr. Artemio Baxa for the Civil Rights Commission. NaFFAA is a national organization and Hawaii is one of the 12 regional chapters. NaFFAA promotes civic participation of Filipino Americans and seeks to increase awareness of Filipino American contributions to social, economic, cultural and political life in the United States. NaFFAA actively support policies that promote equal access and non-discrimination.

I have known Mr. Baxa for over three decades. We have worked collaboratively on many community projects relating to education, culture and the arts, civil rights and non-discrimination. He is a humble man who comes from humble origins as an immigrant from the Philippines. Like many community leaders, he worked at entry level jobs but advanced with hard work and determination to become a Judge. I am very impressed with his integrity, knowledge, broad professional and community service. His extensive experience addressing legal issues, governmental policies and working with non-profit and business groups would benefit the policy-making work of the Civil Rights Commission. He understands the law and will uphold our civil rights non-discrimination laws. I am confident he will continue to be objective and fair to all parties involved in a dispute. He is thoughtful and open minded and capable of making difficult decisions based on the facts and the law.

I respectfully ask you to support his nomination to the Civil Rights Commission. I am taking this opportunity to thank him for his commitment to justice, equal access and community service.

RICHARD K. MINATOYA

TESTIMONY
ON
GM 766 - CONFIRMATION OF ARTEMIO BAXA
CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

April 10, 2013

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

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

My name is Richard Minatoya, and I STRONGLY SUPPORT GM 766, the nomination of ARTEMIO BAXA to the Civil Rights Commission.

I have known Judge Baxa for over a dozen years. Judge Baxa, after retiring from the Circuit Court of the Second Circuit, currently works at the County of Maui Department of the Prosecuting Attorney as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in the Appellate, Asset Forfeiture and Administrative Services Division, where I am his supervisor. I first met Judge Baxa when I appeared before him in court, and I now have the privilege and honor of working side-by-side with him. One key trait that I know about Judge Baxa is that, while he always follows the law, he always applies the law with compassion and common sense. Always a gentleman, scholar and legal technician, I believe that Judge Baxa will be a tremendous asset to the Civil Rights Commission.

I ask that the committee recommends CONFIRMATION to the full Senate.

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

MELINDA C. FLETCHER-SISTAR

April 8, 2013

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

Re: Testimony in Support of GM 766, Confirmation of
Artemio Baxa to the Civil Rights Commission

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

My name is Melinda "Mindy" Fletcher-Sistar and I whole heartedly support the confirmation of Artemio Baxa to the Civil Rights Commission.

I have known retired Judge Baxa, socially, for over ten years, and worked directly with him for the past three years. I first met Judge Baxa when I was a legal assistant at Lowenthal and August. I found him to be gracious, and a true mentor to many attorneys in the Maui community.

I have been the legal assistant in the Appeals and Asset Forfeiture Section, of the Maui Prosecutor's office for approximately four years. Over the past three years, I have had the pleasure of having Judge Baxa as my boss, who is even tempered, and appreciative of the slightest task performed for him. He is completely dedicated to properly interpreting the law, applies his wealth of knowledge and experience to his decision making process, and carefully and logically thinks out his rationale.

I not only speak in favor of Judge Baxa as a close co-worker, but also as a mother of two special needs children. The confirmation of Artemio Baxa is an excellent decision. I appreciate the opportunity to be allowed to speak on his behalf.

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 732
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

April 10, 2013, 10 a.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

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To: Honorable Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
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 Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: Sen.
 Mike Gabbard, Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.; Sen. Sam Slom

From: Jean Jeremiah, Private Citizen
 c/o 860 Halekauwila Street #2506
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Sen. Clayton Hee, Sen. Maile Shimabukuru, Sen. Les Ihara, Sen. Mike Gabbard, and Sen. Sam Slom:

My name is Jean Jeremiah. As a private citizen, I am proud to provide strong support for former Judge Artemio Baxa's confirmation as a gubernatorial nominee to the Civil Rights Commission for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

I know Mr. Baxa through serving with him to support the civic and cultural endeavors of many Filipino organizations for over ten years, including during my current term as president of the Oahu Filipino Community Council. He is a valued community leader, whose resourcefulness and fairness has helped many struggling families and individuals overcome adversities through human service programs he administered and through legal cases he adjudicated to bring justice and safeguard our communities. Because of this, I am confident that he will serve all of Hawai'i's people to the best of his ability.

Thank you for the opportunity to support Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Mr. Artemio Baxa to the Civil Rights Commission.

Sincerely,

Jean Jeremiah
Private Citizen

hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 05, 2013 11:32 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: Lardizabal@local368.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM766 on Apr 10, 2013 10:00AM

GM766

Submitted on: 4/5/2013
Testimony for JDL on Apr 10, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Al Lardizabal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Retired Judge Artemio Baxa will make an excellent member on the Civil Rights Commission. His many years of experience in law will be welcomed. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

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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