# GM 557

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEIGH-ANN MIYASATO, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.



## Written Statement of **ROBBIE MELTON Executive Director & CEO** High Technology Development Corporation before the **SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING**

Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 16 In consideration of

## GM 557 IN CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LEIGH-ANN MIYASATO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to support the appointment of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

Ms. Miyasato has a unique set of skills and professional experiences that will greatly benefit HTDC. Ms. Miyasato began her career as an attorney working in the area of justice and civil rights. Her career pivoted and for the past 20 years she has worked in the area of early stage technology companies in Hawaii. She has held positions as corporate council at Vantage Council, executive director of HiBEAM that mentors early stage companies in Hawaii, and DragonBridge Capital as Vice President dealing in private equity. For the past ten years, Ms. Miyasato has led the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii which she founded and serves as Executive Director. This organization is unique in that it provides programs that encourage the entrepreneurial companies to get involved in community service. Ms. Miyasato has worked in every aspect of the entrepreneurial ecosystem, from startup mode to mergers and acquisitions.

With her success and experience in both high tech and corporate law, she can assist HTDC in multiple areas. HTDC core mission is to provide mentoring and resources to the technology industry and to expand the tech industry to help create a sustainable economy. Ms. Miyasato's vision and dedication to assisting companies will add a valuable perspective to the HTDC Board.

The existing Board and I very much welcome her appointment and encourage your favorable vote on her behalf.

Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc. • P. O. Box 730 Honolulu, Hawaii 96808-0730



Alan M. Oshima Executive Vice President Corporate and Community Advancement

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Leigh-Ann Miyasato. She has been a strong supporter of innovation in Hawaii and has broad experience in the technology and start-up environment. When I served on the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii board, it was my pleasure to see her dedication to and knowledge of this vital part of our economy.

Leigh-Ann is passionate about further development of high-tech companies in Hawaii and connecting them to the other parts of our economy and culture. She would be an asset to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

ang Him Jon



March 28, 2014

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations & Housing Twenty-Eighth State Legislature Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Governor's Message No. 557, Letter in Support for Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Leigh-Ann Miyasato

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the confirmation of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC). I have known Leigh-Ann personally for approximately 14 years. We first met when I was the CEO at Silicon Valley Bank and she was the Executive Director of HiBEAM.

Leigh-Ann's extensive background in the areas of high technology and entrepreneurship make her perfectly suited for a role on the HTDC board. In addition to her experience working with entrepreneurs, startups, and local high tech businesses for the past 13 years, she was also an executive of venture firm DragonBridge Capital, which invested and supported Chinese technology companies. And for the past decade, she has served as President and Executive Director of the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii, a nonprofit organization I founded to support local startups.

In her capacity at Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii, Leigh-Ann has helped dozens of local entrepreneurs build successful technology companies by connecting them to people and resources to aid in their growth. In this role and others, she has proven herself to be a dedicated leader who has navigated many challenges within the technology sector. I know Leigh-Ann to be a hard working individual, full of integrity, and I believe that her enthusiasm, positive energy, and vision for the future will make her a valuable and respected board member.

I believe that Leigh-Ann's confirmation as a board member will continue to positively impact the HTDC, the State, and counties as well. It is for these reasons that I urge the Committee to confirm Leigh-Ann as an HTDC board member. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 544-3555.

Sincerely,

John C. Dean President & Chief Executive Officer Central Pacific Bank



735 Bishop St. Suite 421, Honolulu, HI 96813, USA 🔳 Voice: +1-213-785-2222 🔳 Fax: +1-213-596-3889

#### March 23, 2014

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am the founder and CEO of Inovaware Systems Corporation, an enterprise billing software company based in Honolulu serving both local clients such as Hawaiian Telcom and major clients worldwide including EMC and NTT in Europe. I have known Leigh-Ann for over five years in her position as President and Executive Director of Entrepreneur's Foundation of Hawaii and have always enjoyed and valued my interactions with her.

One of the key things about Leigh-Ann is that aside from being a very qualified and experienced professional she also has heart – she truly cares about making a difference and is dedicated to helping entrepreneurs succeed. Making high-tech succeed in Hawaii is not an easy task so in addition to the requisite experience and skills you need someone that is willing to go that extra mile to get things done. I truly believe Leigh-Ann would be a tremendous addition to the Board of Directors of the High Tech Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Bren Kny

Bruce Kim Founder/CEO Inovaware Systems Corporation

## EK VENTURES, LLC PO BOX 62077 HONOLULU, HI 96839 March 24, 2014

## COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

As President of EK Ventures, LLC, Bubble Tea Supply, and a community volunteer that serves on the Board for a variety of Hawaii's non-profit organizations, I am pleased and honored to endorse Leigh-Ann Miyasato's nomination by the Governor to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation. I've known Ms. Miyasato for nearly 9 years and can count on her as a friend and business associate.

Ms. Miyasato is President and Executive Director of the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii where I serve on the Advisory Board. Ms. Miyasato's role at the Entrepreneur's Foundation, actively engages her with entrepreneurs and businesses in the technology sector, including many companies that are a part of the High Technology Development Corporation. While she encourages the mission of the Entrepreneur's Foundation of philanthropy within a company's mission, Ms. Miyasato also shares her experiences and expertise of building a business, perspective of an investor, and legal knowledge as an attorney. Many businesses and entrepreneurs in Hawaii have benefitted from Ms. Miyasato's generosity to sharing her time and advice with them.

Ms. Miyasato has the experience, knowledge, and values to be a member of the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation. She has shown through her work for 13 years that she is dedicated to developing and supporting technology companies in Hawaii. Ms. Miyasato would bring a breadth of experience, wealth of advice, resources, and a voice of advocacy for HTDC and the technology sector in the Hawaii community.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Kari Leong President of EK Ventures, LLC



March 26, 2014

## COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

Re:

GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am an entrepreneur that started a company from a spare closet in Kailua and I am currently the CEO of that company, AGIS Network, Inc. Our company started in Hawaii and has deep roots in the Hawaii business community. AGIS Network, Inc. has since grown throughout the nation and has created jobs, helped people and is continuing to fulfill its mission in Hawaii and across the country.

Ms. Miyasato first got involved with our company in 2001 in her capacity as the Executive Director of HiBEAM. She helped shepherd me as a young entrepreneur and attended many of our board meetings and local angel and venture investor meetings. Ms. Miyasato was an individual in the "know" but always made it easy for startups to learn from her experience and that of those she brought to us through HiBEAM. As you might have heard before, the angel and venture community is not always kind to inexperience. Ms. Miyasato can help provide that experience to those looking to become entrepreneurs or those already on that path.

Ms. Miyasato's experience within the tech start-up space, legal environment and venture and angel investing is one of the broadest and deepest in Hawaii. I highly encourage you to appoint her to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Ki Smil

Kevin Sypniewski, President & CEO AGIS Network, Inc.

William K. Richardson, Managing Director HMS Hawaii Management Partners, LLC 1000 Bishop Street, Suite 902 Honolulu, HI 96813 Ph: 808-545-3755 Email: bill@HMSHawaii.com

March 25, 2014

## <u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to write in very enthusiastic support of the nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the HTDC Board. I have known Leigh-Ann for well over 20 years as a friend and business associate. I was on the committee that initially hired Leigh-Ann to lead the HIBEAM board upon her return to Hawaii from Washington D.C., many years ago. Subsequently, Leigh-Ann joined me as a partner in DragonBridge Capital, an investment fund. I consider Leigh-Ann a good friend.

Leigh-Ann has served with me on the Board of the Entrepreneurs' Foundation Board, and has many other community service accomplishments including the Catholic Charities Board, Buddhist academy and PACE advisor. I can attest to her high intelligence, commitment to public service and integrity. Leigh-Ann brings a welcome entrepreneurial spirit and experience to whatever she chooses to do. In addition, her legal experience and perspective will serve the Board well. She will be a great asset to the HTDC Board.

In summary, I know of nothing that would cause any doubt whatsoever about how very fitting it is that Leigh-Ann should become an HTDC Board member. Her willingness to serve will be of great value to HTDC. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

William K. Richardson General Partner, HMS Hawaii Management



March 25, 2014

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of Leigh-Ann Miyasator, someone I have had the benefit of knowing and working with the past 13 years. I am writing as a founder of Broadband iTV, Inc. (BBiTV), a technology start-up and as a mentor to others.

I have worked with Leigh-Ann as a board member of both technology start-up accelerator HiBEAM and the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii which has a community service mission. Leigh-Ann also has advised me regarding BBITV.

Leigh-Ann is knowledgeable about Hawaii's technology sector issues and challenges and is genuine in her commitment. She is thoughtful, collaborative and an excellent communicator. I offer this testimony as strong support for Leigh-Ann's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Clifton Kagawa Chief Executive Officer

## **RENEWABLE WATER TECHNOLOGIES LLC**

#### March 22, 2014

## COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

## <u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: <u>GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High</u> <u>Technology Development Corporation</u>

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Committee Members:

I have known Leigh-Ann Miyasato professionally for well over a decade, commencing when she was appointed Executive Director of the Hawaii Business and Entrepreneur Acceleration Mentors (HiBEAM) and I was serving as the president of the Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation. In our respective capacities we were both focused on development of new technology businesses to diversify Hawaii's economy. Ms. Miyasato, representing private sector investors and entrepreneurs, very readily adopted a collaborative approach to working with the state entities- HSDC, HTDC, and the University of Hawaii- in pulling together private and public resources to help companies launch their new technologies. She continues to support the Hawaii community as a whole in her current capacity leading the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii.

Over the years, Leigh-Ann has built a very strong network of business people, educators, and representatives of non-profit entities, all of whom totally respect her judgment, ethics, and effectiveness, all accomplished in a highly professional, firm, but low-key manner. Given her background in technology advancement, her contacts, her legal background, and her community orientation, HTDC could find no individual better suited to serve on its board. She is highly qualified and will offer much to assist HTDC in setting and maintaining direction, and achieving the agency goals of furthering technology development in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

John achock

John A. Chock Principal

2800 Woodlawn Drive, Suite 101 Honolulu, HI 96822



#### March 21, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am the CEO of Tow Choice Inc., a startup technology company based in Honolulu with operations here and on the mainland. I have known Leigh-Ann for over 10 years, starting when I was living and working in Silicon Valley, continuing to today as a member company of EF Hawaii. Leigh-Ann and I have been in contact on a regular working basis throughout the years.

Leigh-Ann has held positions which put her in a bird's eye view of Hawaii's high tech community for many years. She has worked directly with a majority of Hawaii's high tech executives. Her understanding of the challenges for high tech involving all interested parties is deep. I believe Leigh-Ann would be a valuable member of the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Dave Kozuki CEO, Founder Tow Choice



March 24, 2014

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Senate President and Members of the Senate Twenty-Seventh State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: GM 557

Dear Senate President Kim and Members of the Senate,

This testimony is being submitted in support of the nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to serve on the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation ("HTDC").

I have known Leigh-Ann for 20 years and have admired her dedication and commitment to public service and to our community.

Her background as an attorney, a venture capitalist, President and Executive Director of the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii, and her many other experiences allow her to bring a rounded view to the Board.

I am confident that she will provide an excellent business, as well as community and social perspective to policy decisions and other urgent issues that the Board needs to address.

I respectfully provide the highest endorsement to Leigh-Ann for this position, and would ask for your support in her nomination.

Thank you,

Jan N. Sullivan Executive Vice President, COO

www.oceanit.com



March 24, 2014

ATTENTION:	Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING
HEARING:	Monday, March 31, 2014, 2:50PM Conference Room 16

SUBJECT: SUPPORT GM 557 for Leigh-Ann Miyasato's Nomination to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I have known and worked with Leigh-Ann for many years both professionally and socially. Leigh-Ann is principled, ethical, trustworthy, intelligent and reliable. She has consistently volunteered her time and energy to help build and support Hawaii's technology community, including a wide range of activities ranging from business plans and financial analysis mentorships and community philanthropy.

The State of Hawaii and the High Technology Development Corporation ("HTDC") would greatly benefit from Leigh-Ann's participation as a HTDC Board Member.

I am happy to offer my endorsement to the nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on Leigh-Ann's behalf.

Mahalo.

Patrick K. Sullivan, PhD Chief Executive Officer

## GOODSILL ANDERSON QUINN & STIFEL

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

MICHAEL J. O'MALLEY

First Hawaiian Center, Suite 1600 • 999 Bishop Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

> MAIL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 3196 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801

TELEPHONE (808) 547-5600 • FAX (808) 547-5880 info@goodsill.com • www.goodsill.com

March 25, 2014

## COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

#### Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom and Members of the Committee:

I am a senior partner with Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel, LLP, one of Hawaii's largest and oldest law firms. I was born and raised in Hawaii and have practiced as a corporate tax attorney for over 32 years. I have worked with many start-ups and other technology companies in Hawaii.

I am writing to offer my unqualified support for the appointment of Ms. Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation. I have known Ms. Miyasato for many years and have had the privilege and pleasure of working with in various capacities, including as a member of the board of directors of HiBEAM, a Hawaii high tech business accelerator which Ms. Miyasato lead as its Executive Director for a number of years, and a an Advisory Board member for the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii, which she currently leads as President and Executive Director. I also worked with Ms. Miyasato when she served as Vice President of Dragon Bridge, a Hawaii merchant bank.

Simply put, Ms. Miyasato would be an outstanding director for HTDC. She is extremely bright, hard-working, diligent and a natural leader. She has great people skills and has the gift of bringing people together and fostering teamwork and shared vision among the professionals she has worked with over the years.

Importantly, Ms. Miyasato knows the high tech community, its stakeholders, its challenges and its promise, both here, in Silicon Valley and elsewhere across North America.

DIRECT DIAL: (808) 547-5836

INTERNET: momalley@goodsill.com Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair March 25, 2014 Page 2

Her knowledge, contacts, dedication and experience would be brought to bear to the advantage of HTDC. I know she would serve HTDC well and be a tremendous asset to the leadership team of the organization.

I strongly urge you to approve the appointment of Ms. Miyasato to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors. I would be a happy to discuss this matter with you at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Malle Michael J. O'Malley Partner

MJO:rlj

4735476.1



#### March 21, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

#### Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Darren T. Kimura, I'm the Managing Partner of Enerdigm Ventures. Enerdigm Ventures is a Venture Capital firm that has invested in such Hawaii based companies as Sopogy, Energy Industries, Contix and LiveAction Software. In addition to our direct investment in Hawaii's high technology industry, we are deeply involved Hawaii based programs that also invest and support Hawaii's technology industry such as the Energy Excelerator, University of Hawaii College of Engineering, Chaminade Hogan School of Entrepreneurship, "SEE-IT" Hawaii's high tech museum and many other programs.

I have had the great privilege of knowing and working with Ms. Leigh-Ann Miyasato for over 8 years. I strongly support her nomination as a candidate for the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation. Leigh-Ann is knowledgeable regarding the issues surrounding the high technology industry and has been an advocate for Hawaii, its entrepreneurs and companies.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours, /. Darren T. Kimura

Managing Partner



#### March 21, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am the CEO of Tow Choice Inc., a startup technology company based in Honolulu with operations here and on the mainland. I have known Leigh-Ann for over 10 years, starting when I was living and working in Silicon Valley, continuing to today as a member company of EF Hawaii. Leigh-Ann and I have been in contact on a regular working basis throughout the years.

Leigh-Ann has held positions which put her in a bird's eye view of Hawaii's high tech community for many years. She has worked directly with a majority of Hawaii's high tech executives. Her understanding of the challenges for high tech involving all interested parties is deep. I believe Leigh-Ann would be a valuable member of the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Dave Kozuki CEO, Founder Tow Choice



### March 25, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

As a Co-Founder and CEO of Greater Good Inc and Bubble Tea Supply, I am very pleased and honored to endorse Leigh-Ann Miyasato's nomination by the Governor to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation. I've known Mrs. Miyasato for nearly 9 years; she is a good friend and business acquaintance.

Leigh-Ann is an active volunteer of Kokua.org, a community organization that helps Hawaii's community with cross sector collaborations. I also had a chance to work with her at the UH Shidler College of Business Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship.

Mrs. Miyasato has the experience and core values to be a member of Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

- A strong 13 years worked with entrepreneurs and businesses in the Hawaii Technology sector
- Executive Director of HiBEAM that managed the non-profit organization created to help launch and build high growth Hawaii technology
- Vice President of DragonBridge Capital that helped Hong Kong and Chinese technology companies with venture capital, M&A and other private equity needs
- President and Executive Director of the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii, another non-profit dedicated to encourage entrepreneurs and many of them form the technology sector.

Given the above credentials, Mrs. Miyasato has demonstrated great dedication throughout the years in building and helping Hawaii's technology industry. That

dedication allowed her to form strong relationships within the high technology industry, vast knowledge and leadership skills. It is empirical to consider her to be member of Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Mrs. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Evan Leong Co-Founder and CEO Greater Good Inc



#### March 30, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am Bee Leng Chua, Executive Director of HiBEAM. I served on the Board of Entrepreneurs Foundation Hawaii from 2011-2013, where Ms. Miyasato is its Executive Director and President. I have known her since 2010 as our organizations have collaborated on joint entrepreneurship education programs to serve our respective members and the public.

Ms. Miyasato is one of the earlier drivers of entrepreneurship development in Hawaii. Her understanding and insights into the needs and challenges of high growth companies in Hawaii qualifies her for serving on HTDC Board. She also has led and carried various initiatives and programs to address these challenges. Ms. Miyasato has high integrity, is conscientious and hard working and will truly contribute as a HTDC Board member.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

## BLChua

Bee Leng Chua, PhD Executive Director 650 Iwilei Road, Suite 218 Honolulu, HI 96817

Corporate Office • 702 South Beretania St. • Honolulu, Hawali 96813 • Phone: (808) 545-5966 • Fax: (808) 543-5366

#### March 28, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am a business owner and angel investor. Our family business has survived and thrived for over 100 years, and we are very grateful to the community that has supported us over several generations. My parents have instilled in us the values of giving back and helping others. For me, that has included serving as an advisor and investor for local entrepreneurs and their growing companies.

I met Leigh-Ann over 10 years ago while she was working at HIBEAM and assisting many of the same companies with which I was involved. She later co-founded a private equity partnership DragonBridge Capital, which our family joined as a limited partner. Most recently I was fortunate to work with Leigh-Ann at EF Hawaii as a board member and then board chair.

Leigh-Ann has a deep understanding of Hawaii's startup community, including its many challenges and its potential paths to an improved environment. She has a positive outlook, a can-do attitude, and an inclusive working style. She would be a role model and an outstanding board member of HDTC. I wholeheartedly recommend that you add Leigh-Ann to your board.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Bennett Wo Owner, C.S. Wo & Sons



SULTAN VENTURES 808.722.6360

#### March 27, 2014

#### COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

#### From: Omar Sultan, In SUPPORT

Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to support Ms. Leigh-Ann Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors. As a founder of a Hawaii based business and management consulting firm specializing in working with entrepreneurs and startups, I have worked closely with many innovative technologies and companies based in, or arising out of, the State and University of Hawaii.

As such, I have known Ms. Miyasato for several years. Most recently, I have had the great pleasure of working with Leigh-Ann on the Board of the Entrepreneur Foundation of Hawaii, where she serves as President. We have also worked closely together at the UH Foundation's UPSIDE Fund, which was created to help commercialize UH Intellectual Property, and where Leigh-Ann acts as the interim Chief Financial & Administrative Officer for the three UH spinouts that are in the UPSIDE portfolio.

Leigh-Ann is an exceptional individual and very experienced in working with Hawaii entrepreneurs and startups. Her background and passion for working with and helping Hawaii's nascent entrepreneurs lends easily to HTDC's mission and priorities, namely facilitating the growth and development of high technology as a viable industry sector in Hawaii's economy, and promoting and marketing Hawaii as a site for commercial high technology activity. Few individuals have done as much as Leigh-Ann to help Hawaii's startups and entrepreneurs develop, mature, and thrive.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your committee to select Ms. Miyasato to the HTDC Board of Directors. The HTDC Board would truly benefit from Ms. Miyasato's appointment to this position, as would the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony.

Sincerely yours,-

Omar S. Sultan Co-Founder, Sultan Ventures Vice President, Entrepreneur Foundation of Hawaii

C. Jay Voss 1350 Ala Moana Boulevard No. 1602 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814

#### March 29, 2014

# COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chairman Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chairman

#### HEARING

Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

#### Re: GM557

Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice Chairman Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I have been a member of the Advisory Board of the Entrepreneur's Foundation of Hawai'i for the past seven years and seen what an outstanding job Leigh-Ann Miyasato does as Executive Director. She is thoroughly familiar with the Hawai'i entrepreneurial community supporting start-up companies and helping them succeed.

Leigh-Ann is smart, in front of issues, thoroughly prepared for any task, and a sincerely genuine person who is liked and admired by everyone.

She is superb communicating with members and encouraging members and member companies to participate in projects that benefit our community.

Leigh-Ann also has great rapport with her own board and is adept at working within groups. She studies and knows the topics before any meeting, and in my opinion would be an outstanding member of the HTDC Board of Directors. I wholeheartedly support her nomination.

Sincerely yours,

√⊄. Jay Joss Managing Trustee The Rhoades Trust Chaminade University The Hogan Entrepreneurial Program 3140 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, HI 96816

March 28, 2014

#### COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am delighted to learn that Leigh-Ann Miyasato has been nominated to the board of the High Technology Development Corporation. As head of the Hogan Entrepreneurs at Chaminade University for more than twelve years, I have had routine interactions with Ms Miyasato on all aspects of technological entrepreneurship.

She is eminently qualified, in part thanks to her considerable experience as leader of the Entrepreneurial Foundation of Hawaii, HiBEAM and Dragon Bridge Capital – and even more importantly, because of the ethical and professional manner in which she has carried out these leadership duties.

She is a team builder, a consensus builder and an innovator. All qualities of the type of person you undoubtedly seek for this important position.

I recommend her without reservation and am heartened to see a person of this caliber being considered for this important position.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

John Webster, PhD Director, The Hogan Entrepreneurs



INNOVATION FUND 4471 Kahala Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816 Tel (808) 737-2991

March 23, 2014

 To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair The Honorable Sam Slom, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations & Housing

From: Barry Weinman, In SUPPORT

Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

From 2002 until 2011 I was a member of the UH Foundation Board of Trustees. I was the Chair of the Trustees for FY 2010 & 2011, Chair of the Investment Committee for two years and Co-Chair (along with Senator Daniel Inouye) of the UH Centennial Campaign which raised \$336 Million against a target of \$250 Million. I am co-founder of Allegis Capital, a Silicon Valley Venture Capital Fund with \$700 Million under management, and Chair of the Queens Health System Endowment & Pension Committee.

I have known and worked with Leigh-Ann Miyasato for 15 years. She was the Executive Director of HiBEAM, a volunteer mentoring organization for entrepreneurs, where I was Chair and a co-founder. Leigh-Ann and I were founding partners of Dragonbridge Capital, a Merchant Bank helping Chinese entrepreneurs find strategic relationships with Hawaii and Silicon Valley venture funds and partners.

Currently, Leigh-Ann and I work together on the University of Hawaii Foundations Upside Fund. Upside, which is a partnership between UHF and Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation (HSDC) helps commercialize UH Intellectual Property. Leigh-Ann acts as the interim Chief Financial & Administrative Officer for the 3 UH spinouts that are in the Upside portfolio.

Leigh-Ann is an exceptional person and very experienced in working with Hawaii entrepreneurs. Thank you for your consideration, and I respectfully urge your committee to select Leigh-Ann for the Board of Directors of HTDC.

BMMbui



March 26, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations & Housing Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I write to you today to express strong support for the nomination of Ms. Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

I am the president and CEO of the Hawai'I Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, a statewide intermediary organization working to strengthen and unite the nonprofit sector as a collective force to improve the quality of life in Hawai'i. HANO member organizations serve every major community across the state.

Ms. Miyasato has been a board member of HANO for the past two years and recently joined the Executive Committee of the Board. She has served HANO with tremendous commitment, sound character and professionalism, providing strategic insights and guidance. HANO has truly benefited from her service.

Her diverse background across various sectors has given Ms. Miyasato a unique and comprehensive perspective of the community that will lend greatly to the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer written testimony in strong support of Ms. Leigh-Ann Miyasato's nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Lisa Maruyama President and CEO



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAI'I

March 25, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

> Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to submit this testimony in support of the nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC). I have known Leigh-Ann for over eight years. From 2006-2008 I served on the Board of Directors of her nonprofit organization, the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii. From 2008-2013, Leigh-Ann served on the Board of Directors of my nonprofit agency, Catholic Charities Hawaii, some of those years as Secretary of the board, Chair of the Nominating Committee, member of the Executive Committee, and member of the Development Committee. She is presently a member of our Program Board.

Having served with Leigh-Ann on the above-mentioned boards, I have had the fortune of witnessing her outstanding collaborative leadership skills. She is able to work with individuals at every level in the community to effectively accomplish objectives and get results, all with integrity and grace. As a board member, Leigh-Ann not only demonstrates sound understanding of board governance, but is also adept in strategic thinking and in implementing strategic goals. Her savvy in running a nonprofit organization, from operations to fiscal management to best practices, has been invaluable in helping to guide our organization.



CLARENCE T.C. CHING CAMPUS • 1822 Keeaumoku Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822 Phone (808) 524-HOPE (4673) • www.CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org

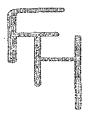


Leigh-Ann has been a trusted contributor on our board and doubtless will be the same on the board of HTDC if nominated, as her experience and involvement with businesses and entrepreneurs in Hawaii's technology sector for the past 13 years have uniquely attuned her to the needs of that sector. I strongly support Leigh-Ann's nomination to the Board of Directors of HTDC.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Leigh-Ann Miyasato's nomination to the HDTC Board of Directors. I hope my testimony promotes favorable consideration of her nomination.

Sincerely

Jerry Rauckhorst President & Chief Executive Officer Catholic Charities Hawaii



## March 29, 2014

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & HOUSING Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development

**Corporation** 

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Leigh-Ann Miyasato, a nominee of Governor Abercrombie, to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

I have known Ms. Miyasato since 2009 when our organization, Feed The Hunger Foundation first thought of bringing our international microfinance program to Hawaii. Ms. Miyasato was not only encouraging, but has played a leadership role in Feed The Hunger Foundation as a board member and Treasurer.

Ms. Miyasato has overseen the growth of Feed The Hunger Foundation's program in Hawaii from conception, to now contributing 1.3 million dollars of loan capital to low income individuals involved in Hawaii's local food production. Over the past 5 years, Ms. Miyasato has provided her fundraising expertise, business management and oversight, legal guidance, and financial oversight to our work. Through our programs, our foundation now provides economic development loans to more than 3000 individuals and their families around the globe.

Ms. Miyasato conducts herself with the utmost integrity and is respectful of all whom she comes into contact. She is supportive of innovative concepts and strategies. For all of these reasons, as well as her considerable experience in working with high technology companies and her encouragement of entrepreneurialism, I highly recommend Leigh-Ann for the position of Board of Directors for the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's

nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Very truly yours,

Denise Albano President Feed The Hunger Foundation



March 29, 2014

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS &</u> <u>HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

HEARING Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

## Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development

**Corporation** 

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Leigh-Ann Miyasato, a nominee of Governor Abercrombie, to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

I have known Ms. Miyasato since 2009 when our organization, Feed The Hunger Foundation first thought of bringing our international microfinance program to Hawaii. Ms. Miyasato was not only encouraging, but has played a leadership role in Feed The Hunger Foundation as a board member and Treasurer.

Ms. Miyasato has overseen the growth of Feed The Hunger Foundation's program in Hawaii from conception, to now contributing 1.3 million dollars of loan capital to low income individuals involved in Hawaii's local food production. Over the past 5 years, Ms. Miyasato has provided her fundraising expertise, business management and oversight, legal guidance, and financial oversight to our work. Through our programs, our foundation now provides economic development loans to more than 3000 individuals and their families around the globe.

Ms. Miyasato conducts herself with the utmost integrity and is respectful of all whom she comes into contact. She is supportive of innovative concepts and strategies. For all of these reasons, as well as her considerable experience in working with high technology companies and her encouragement of entrepreneurialism, I highly recommend Leigh-Ann for the position of Board of Directors for the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Ms. Miyasato's

nomination to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Very truly yours,

Matulia Chang Patricia Chang CEO



# JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER OF HAWAI'I

Honoring our heritage. Embracing our diversity. Sharing our future.

March 29, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Hawai'i State Capitol Honolulu, HI

RE: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

As president and executive director of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH), I am pleased to offer my support for Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation.

I have worked with Ms. Miyasato as a volunteer in the community and as a member of the JCCH board of directors. Ms. Miyasato will bring a wealth of experience in organizational management, strategic planning and economic development to the HTDC. With her network of support, she is resourceful and creative in tackling issues and challenges. As a board leader, she works collaboratively with her board colleagues and respectfully with the management staff. As the executive director of the JCCH, I especially appreciate her decision-making and leadership style which is both consultative and data-driven.

For these reasons, I believe Leigh-Ann Miyasato will be a valuable member of the HRDC board of directors and strongly support her nomination to the High Technology Development Corporation.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Carole Hayashino President and Executive Director

2454 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET . HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96826 . TEL: (808) 945-7633 . FAX: (808) 944-1123 . info@icch.com . www.icch.com



Pacific Buddhist Academy High school cars whole and light.

## March 30, 2014

# <u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS &</u> <u>HOUSING</u> Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

<u>HEARING</u> Monday, March 31, 2014 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 16

Re: GM557: Nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the Board of Directors of the High Technology Development Corporation

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

As a friend and fellow trustee of Pacific Buddhist Academy high school, I am writing this letter to strongly endorse Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the HTDC Board of Directors. Ms. Miyasato has served on the Board's Executive Committee for the past five years and during that time has demonstrated exemplary leadership, integrity, and impeccable moral character.

Ms. Miyasato is well known and highly respected in the Honolulu community through her selfless service on the boards of several non-profit organizations. In addition, her decade of experience working with technologyrelated entrepreneurs and businesses in her capacity as President and Executive Director of the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Hawaii make her a uniquely well qualified choice to serve as an HTDC board member.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the nomination of Ms. Leigh-Ann Miyasato to the HTDC Board of Directors.

Sincerely yours,

Joel D. Determan Chair, Board of Trustees