

# GM 597

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, ROSS YAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-  
2018.

TESTIMONY  
OF  
ROSS I. YAMASAKI  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, AND HOUSING  
ON  
March 31, 2014  
GM 597

Submitting for your consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, ROSS I. YAMASAKI

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

First of all, I would like to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. It is truly an honor and a privilege to be considered for the Stadium Authority.

Secondly, thank you to everyone who submitted letters of support on my behalf and to everyone here in attendance lending me their support and aloha.

I believe Hawai'i is a special place with its rich culture and natural capital, and I feel very blessed to have been born and raised here. I was taught that to whom much is given, much is required. Therefore, I feel a great sense of responsibility toward this place that I call home. These values are at the center of everything I do and it has shaped my family, career and community engagement throughout my life. Having the privilege to serve on the Stadium Authority will give me another opportunity to honor my belief.

Service on the Stadium Authority will also be meaningful for me, because the Aloha Stadium has been a part of my life growing up. I recall attending Hawai'i Islander games, Hula Bowls, summer concerts, fairs and shows at the venue. I also remember playing on the field from my pop-warner championship games, through high school, to my last game as a University of Hawai'i Rainbow Warrior against Michigan State in the Aloha Bowl.

At KYA Design Group, I have over 20 years of architectural experience and have been involved in many projects involving planning, development, design, and construction. I have been involved with some sporting facilities, but not to the scale of the stadium. However, I do have a good amount of experience with airport facilities, which are comparable in scale, complexity, and stakeholder involvement.

In my capacity as partner, I have been able to grow KYA into a community leader in green building. I am personally involved with the U.S. Green Building Council both locally and nationally. I just completed my term as the chair of the Chapter Steering Committee, where I was responsible for managing oversight of the chapter network. I am also involved with the Living Building Challenge, Global Reporting Initiative and recently founded the KYA Sustainability Studio, which provides consulting services to address matters of sustainability.

At Pacific Rim Sports Initiative, a sports marketing company I co-founded to foster international engagement around the pacific rim through sports, I have had the opportunity to work with the stadium management on projects involving various broadcast companies, educational institutions like UH, Events like the Hawai'i Bowl, entertainment, and travel trade companies.

I am very appreciative of all those involved with the continued success of KYA and PacRimSI.

I hope that my professional background in architecture, sustainability and marketing, my community interests in sports and the visitor industry, and my personal history with the venue will be an asset to the Authority as it addresses matters of the Stadium's future.

I perceive there is an enduring need for a large scale sports/entertainment venue in Hawai'i to serve both the local interests as well as those of the visitor industry. Moving forward, the challenge is one of solvency and sustainability. Both are complex and deserve attention and care. I look forward to working diligently with the other Stadium Authority members and the stadium management if approved.

In closing, I would like to thank this Committee for the hard work you do for the State of Hawai'i. Thank you for considering my nomination. Also thank you everyone who submitted testimony on my behalf and to those who are here today in support.

I'll be happy to answer any questions you have at this time.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



DEAN H. SEKI  
COMPTROLLER  
MARIA E. ZIELINSKI  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING  
ON  
March 31, 2014

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 597

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STADIUM  
AUTHORITY, ROSS YAMASAKI

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on G.M. 597. The Department of Accounting and General Services supports the confirmation of Mr. Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority.

Mr. Yamasaki's professional certifications include being a Registered Architect and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional in the areas of Building Design and Construction and Operations and Maintenance. Mr. Yamasaki is employed by KYA Design Group and has been involved in a number of significant projects including his current involvement in the Terminal Modernization Program, Honolulu International Airport, serving as the Program Manager. Mr. Yamasaki's technical knowledge and professional experience provides him with the necessary skills to be a contributing member on the Stadium Authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



**ALOHA STADIUM**

*An Agency of the State of Hawaii*

TESTIMONY  
OF  
SCOTT L. CHAN, STADIUM MANAGER  
STADIUM AUTHORITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING  
ON  
MARCH 31, 2014  
2:50 PM  
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 16

G.M. 597

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Ross I. Yamasaki for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony on behalf of Mr. Ross I. Yamasaki.

We are excited in hearing of Mr. Yamasaki's nomination and welcome the opportunity to work with Mr. Yamasaki and support his nomination to the Stadium Authority board. As a board member, Mr. Yamasaki's extensive and in-depth professional architectural background coupled with his legislative experience will prove to be invaluable in guiding the Stadium Authority toward achieving its goals and objectives.

In summary, we support the appointment of Mr. Ross I. Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority board and look forward to working with him in the future.



## First Hawaiian Bank

**Raymond S. Ono**  
Vice Chairman &  
Chief Operating Officer

March 28, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Senators:

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Mr. Yamasaki for many years both through his architectural practice and his involvement with the University of Hawaii athletics. On the occasions that we have worked together on projects, he has shown genuine care for people and a strong commitment to success. His promotion of teamwork and collaboration will benefit the other members of the Authority as well its endeavors in the future.

Mr. Yamasaki's years of experience in the architecture and planning field, involvement in Hawaii's sporting community and commitment to sustaining a vibrant community will serve the Authority well in its charge to provide public benefit through the management of the state's largest sports/entertainment venue.

Aloha,  
  
RAYMOND S. ONO

# Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

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222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 524-4459 Fax (808) 599-4340

March 25, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair  
Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 16

**RE:** **GM597** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROSS YAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

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

Outstanding is a word that is often used when describing Ross Yamasaki.

I have known Ross Yamasaki for nearly twenty years. He is an outstanding graduate of the University of Hawaii, holding two degrees, an undergraduate degree in Sociology and a Master's Degree in Architecture, as well as a certificate and license as an Architect.

He had a distinguished career as a defensive end for the UH Warrior football team, and continues as member of the Board of Directors of the UH Letter Winners Club.

He is also active and prominent in his community and his church.

A husband, and a father of four children, he and his wife Nani, also a UH Letter Winner (Volleyball), are terrific parents, role models, and citizens in our community.

As a graduate of the UH Athletic Department, Ross has traveled the globe (mostly in Asia) on behalf of UH athletics.

He is precisely the sort of person that the Governor seeks when searching for members of boards and commissions.

He will be a particularly good fit as a member of the Aloha Stadium Authority, because as a former athlete, who played there, as an increasingly well-known architect, and as an advocate for athletics, he has walked the walk and has the right experience for this important position.

I recommend his candidacy in the strongest possible terms.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.

Sincerely,

John H. Radcliffe



## Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

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222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 524-4459 Fax (808) 599-4340

March 25, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair  
Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 16

**RE: GM597** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROSS YAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

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

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I have known Ross Yamasaki for nearly twenty years. He is an outstanding graduate of the University of Hawaii, holding two degrees, an undergraduate degree in Sociology and a Master's Degree in Architecture, as well as a certificate and license as an Architect.

He had a distinguished career as a defensive end for the UH Warrior football team, and continues as member of the Board of Directors of the UH Letter Winners Club.

He is also active and prominent in his community and his church.

A husband, and a father of four children, he and his wife Nani, also a UH Letter Winner (Volleyball), are terrific parents, role models, and citizens in our community.

As a graduate of the UH Athletic Department, Ross has traveled the globe (mostly in Asia) on behalf of UH athletics.

He is precisely the sort of person that the Governor seeks when searching for members of boards and commissions.

He will be a particularly good fit as a member of the Aloha Stadium Authority, because as a former athlete, who played there, as an increasingly well-known architect, and as an advocate for athletics, he has walked the walk and has the right experience for this important position.

I recommend his candidacy in the strongest possible terms.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.

Sincerely,

John H. Radcliffe



## G.A. Morris, Inc.

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222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 531-4551 Fax (808) 533-4601

March 28 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair  
Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 16

**RE: GM597** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROSS YAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

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

I write in support of the appointment of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority. I have known his wife and family well over 20 years. During this period he was going to the University of Hawaii, where he played football and earned his master's degree in architecture.

If I could put all I know about Ross in a few words I would say, character, ethics, dedication and commitment. He has them all.

He worked while going to University of Hawaii Manoa and ultimately became a partner in the same firm he started with over 20 years ago. He's continued his professional development by becoming a "Leeds" certified instructor and has been active in engaging in ventures with the UH by encouraging interaction between Japan & the UH football program

He and his wife are home schooling their four children while giving back to the community through their ministry via "Hope Chapel" in Kaneohe and Kahuku.

There's no question I know a lot of the history of Ross and I am proud to say that he's not only a "great person" who is married to my youngest daughter "Nani" but is a credit to his Ohana who grew up on Kauai.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit these written comments and your favorable consideration of his appointment.

Respectfully Submitted,

G.A. "Red" Morris

**SHAWN P. CHING**

Attorney At Law, LLC

Davies Pacific Center - 841 Bishop Street Suite 2201 - Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: 808.521.3336 - Fax: 808.566.0347 - Email: [shawn@shawnychinglaw.com](mailto:shawn@shawnychinglaw.com)

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March 25, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development,  
Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development,  
Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority**

Dear Senators:

It is with great honor that I respectfully submit my written testimony in support of Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Mr. Yamasaki for nearly 30 years—ever since we were student-athletes for the University of Hawaii football team representing our great state in collegiate athletics.

Mr. Yamasaki's 20+ years of experience in the architecture and planning field, as well as his past and present involvement in the sporting community will serve the Authority well in its endeavor to provide public benefit through the state's largest sports and entertainment venue.

Mr. Yamasaki has deep roots in our local community and would be a tremendous asset to the Stadium Authority.

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Senator Sam Slom  
March 25, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

If anyone appreciates what the Aloha Stadium means, and has meant to our community over the decades, it is Mr. Yamasaki. After all, he played there as a local boy for Hawaii's team, the Rainbow Warriors.

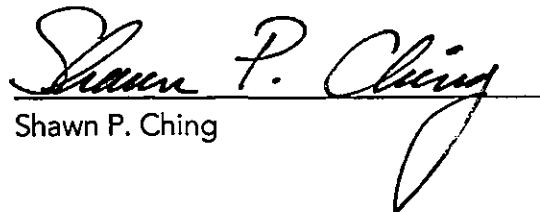
Reminiscing aside, I firmly believe Mr. Yamasaki is highly qualified for this position.

I know he will dutifully serve all of us and the many important functions this body oversees. I recommend him without reservation, doubt, or hesitation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICE OF SHAWN P. CHING

  
Shawn P. Ching

March 27, 2014

Reference: **Ross Yamasaki Nomination, Bill GM 597**

Dear Committee:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of Ross Yamasaki's nomination to serve on the Stadium Authority Board.

I met Ross when we attended the University of Hawaii (UH) together in the mid-to-late-1980's. We became good friends and continued to stay in touch over the years. I know him to be keenly intelligent, honest, humble, and of the highest integrity. He is also a passionate innovator as well as a collaborator who has always been community-minded and committed to doing what's best for Hawaii.

As a former UH football player, Ross has a deep understanding and appreciation for the importance of Aloha Stadium as the premier venue for UH athletics and many other high-visibility events to support Hawaii and our people.

Ross, founder, partner and president of KYA Sustainability Studio, is a high-level strategist who understands how to maximize the bottom line financially, socially and with regard to the environment. He understands and believes in Hawaii's communities and values, and is very passionate about investing in Hawaii and in our local talent and resources. He will direct these skills and passion to create and leverage opportunities for Aloha Stadium.

In my opinion, Ross is uniquely qualified to serve on the Stadium Authority. His background, knowledge, skills and passion make him the perfect candidate. I am confident that he will be a driving force in supporting the stadium's mission to provide a first class arena for the people of our state.

Thank you for considering my support for Ross Yamasaki's nomination to the Stadium Authority Board. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 546-7844.

Sincerely,

Eric K. Yeaman, CEO  
Hawaiian Telcom



March 27, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Mr. Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Honorable Senators Dela Cruz and Slom,

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Mr. Yamasaki for over ten years through our involvement in the architectural profession and his involvement in ministry. Throughout those years, I've always found Mr. Yamasaki to be someone of integrity and professionalism. As an architect and business owner, the State will be greatly benefiting from Mr. Yamasaki's technical and business acumen. Finally, Mr. Yamasaki was a proud member of the Rainbow Warrior football team. He has stood on the field of this very stadium so he knows firsthand, what it means to the athletes and the state of Hawaii.

I strongly support Mr. Yamasaki's nomination to the Stadium Authority.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald G. Nishihara", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ronald G. Nishihara, AIA, LEED AP

March 28, 2014

Senator Donovan M. De la Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Senators:

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of the Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Mr. Yamasaki for 31 years and highly endorse his ability to fulfill this role as an authority for Aloha Stadium.

I feel Mr. Yamasaki is qualified and his service in this capacity will benefit the State not only because he is a man of integrity and character but also he is one that of a strategic thinker at the highest level to bless our beloved Hawaii multigenetationally.

Very truly yours,

Del H. Fujinaka  
Managing Partner

Pacific Rim Legacy Group  
500 Ala Moana Blvd Ste. 3-480  
Honolulu, HI 96813



March 28, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Aloha Senator Dela Cruz:

It is with high regard that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known and been close personal friends with Mr. Yamasaki for over 25 years.

His 20 years of experience in the architecture and planning field, as well as his involvement in the sporting community will serve the Authority well in its endeavor to provide public benefit through the state's largest sports/entertainment venue.

More importantly, I believe his overall integrity, personal & family values, and commitment to bettering our community will help guide his decisions on behalf of the Authority and the residents of the State of Hawaii.

I have personally served as an auditor for the Stadium Authority back in the 1990's and understand some of the challenges, decision making, and vision needed to best serve our state.

I highly recommend Mr. Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Chang  
[mickeyc75@aol.com](mailto:mickeyc75@aol.com)  
(808) 778-9393

March 25, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz

Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee

Senate District 22

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom

Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee

Senate District 9

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Senators:

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of the Mr. Ross

Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Mr. Yamasaki for more than 35 years as a friend, teammate, and as a colleague in the sporting community. Mr. Yamasaki's 20 years of experience in the architecture and planning field, as well as his involvement in the sporting community will serve the Authority well in its endeavor to provide public benefit through the state's largest sports/entertainment venue.

I feel Mr. Yamasaki is qualified and his service in this capacity will benefit the State and provide the Authority with green building design and construction expertise to support our Stadiums future improvements. Please approve Mr. Yamasaki's Nomination.

Very truly yours,

Kiaka Gaughen, MEd.

67 -1301 Puaena Street

Kamuela, HI 96743

Ph. 808-222-9366

David A. K. Matlin  
c/o 841 Bishop Street, Suite 2100  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

**Date: MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014**

**Subject: GM 597, Stadium Authority,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, ROSS YAMASAKI**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Slom:

My name is David Matlin and I am the Executive Director for the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl and the Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic as well as a small business owner in Honolulu. I have worked twenty-seven years in both professional and collegiate athletics and have managed events at several local venues.

In my professional life, I have had the blessing to work with many outstanding individuals and organizations to promote the State of Hawaii via professional and collegiate sporting events. The majority of these events have been on national and/or international television. Through this work, I have gotten to know Ross Yamasaki and to personally observe his intelligence, diligence and commitment to success. Ross has assisted both the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl and Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic with effective outreach to the Japan market.

He has a heart for making a difference and his experience as a collegiate athlete for the University of Hawaii Warriors gives him a unique insight that will make him a valuable addition to the Stadium Authority.

Please confirm his nomination.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [EGHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [danette@gohta.net](mailto:danette@gohta.net)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM597 on Mar 31, 2014 14:50PM\*  
**Date:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:40:22 AM

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**GM597**

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for EGH on Mar 31, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David H. Uchiyama	Hawaii Tourism Authority	Support	No

Comments:

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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March 27, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Senators:

I have just learned of your consideration of this important appointment and I would like to respectfully submit written testimony in support of the Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Ross for many years, both personally and professionally, and can assure you that his knowledge, commitment and passion in developing creative solutions in business and community matters would be very beneficial in addressing the many challenges facing the Authority.

Mr. Yamasaki's 20 years of experience in the architecture and planning field, as well as his involvement in the sporting community will serve the Authority well in its endeavor to provide public benefit through the state's largest sports/entertainment venue.

I feel Mr. Yamasaki is both qualified and committed in this capacity, which will benefit the State during this critical period.

Mahalo and Aloha

Dean Fujitani  
91 Pinana Street  
Kailua, Hi 96734  
808 295-6511



March 27, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Yamasaki for 20 years, and have known of him as an outstanding University of Hawaii student-athlete for a few years before that. Our friendship began when he started attending Hope Chapel Kaneohe Bay where I am an associate pastor. I have had the privilege of seeing Mr. Yamasaki grow into the humble, talented and caring servant he is today.

Mr. Yamasaki's extensive background as an architect and planner would definitely be a benefit to the work of the Stadium Authority. His history as a University of Hawaii athlete gives him a special perspective considering the frequency of UH's usage of the stadium. Lastly, as a local boy growing up in Hawaii, his love of sports, his heart for serving the people of Hawaii, and his knowledge of the needs and perspectives of the local community would be invaluable to the facility that hosts so many sports and entertainment events.

I believe Mr. Yamasaki will serve with wisdom, compassion, humility and aloha on the Stadium Authority, and so I urge you to seriously consider him for this position. His gifts, talents and values will serve the state of Hawaii well, and his qualifications will make him a valuable part of the Stadium Authority.

Very truly yours,

Rob McWilliams  
Associate Pastor

March 27, 2014

Brian Kealoha  
5405 Oio Drive  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Senators:

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of the Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to the Stadium Authority.

I have known Mr. Yamasaki for many years and have been repeatedly impressed with his vision, collaborative approach to problem solving, and strong character. Mr. Yamasaki strives hard for success and can identify and rectify problems and challenges efficiently. Mr. Yamasaki's has demonstrated this achievement over the course of his career and I am confident this would continue if he is selected to serve on the Stadium Authority.

I feel Mr. Yamasaki is qualified and his service in this capacity will benefit the State. I recommend Mr. Yamasaki to serve on the Stadium Authority

Respectfully,

Brian Kealoha

March 28, 2014

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 22  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Sam Slom  
Vice Chair, Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing Committee  
Senate District 9  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination of Ross Yamasaki to the Stadium Authority

Dear Senators:

It is my pleasure that I respectfully submit written testimony in support of Mr. Ross Yamasaki and his nomination to serve on the Stadium Authority.

I have known Ross for over 6 years and aware of his architectural and planning experience and he always demonstrates good business excellence. Very strong in the sporting community as he once was part of the University of Hawaii's Football Team and he continued to participate in various sport activities. But I will speak of his personal side.

A good husband and family man who tries to be at every activity of his children whether it's their school or athletics. Still can juggle his time at his work yet can be counted on when you need a strong back to help you build a play set for the community. He's even help build our tree house for my children. Good architectural advice that I received. I could go on and on but the bottom line is you're getting one "hell of a guy" to give direction and sound advice on the Stadium Authority.

I personally feel that Ross is more than qualified to sit on this board as his knowledge and input will benefit our State and the Stadium Authority.

Regards,  
Wesley Chong

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [EGHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jswlr66@aol.com](mailto:jswlr66@aol.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM597 on Mar 31, 2014 14:50PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, March 31, 2014 2:10:50 AM

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**GM597**

Submitted on: 3/31/2014

Testimony for EGH on Mar 31, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james wataru	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)