



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND  
TECHNOLOGY**

Wednesday, March 02, 2016  
1:15pm  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of  
**GM 522**  
**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LYN MCNEFF, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2019.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Slom and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) **strongly supports** GM 522, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, **LYN MCNEFF**, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Ms. McNeff currently serves as the CEO for Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO), an organization whose mission entails assisting lower-income residents of Maui County. MEO accomplishes its mission through programs that supports the needs of the individuals it serves, but also through the support of services and programs that help build a stronger, more diversified economy. MEO serves 20,000 people in Maui County with 90 programs and services.

Under Ms. McNeff's leadership, MEO's Business Economic Development Department assists entrepreneurs with business planning education and micro-loan programs that assists first-time businesses that are not able to secure conventional financing. Her other duties and responsibilities as CEO include, but are not limited to: Evaluating and disciplining staff, solving program and personnel challenges, and providing leadership and overall management.

Ms. McNeff brings to the CBED Advisory Council those skills that are needed in assessing the needs of Hawaii's communities, and determining the most effective and efficient

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Lyn McNeff  
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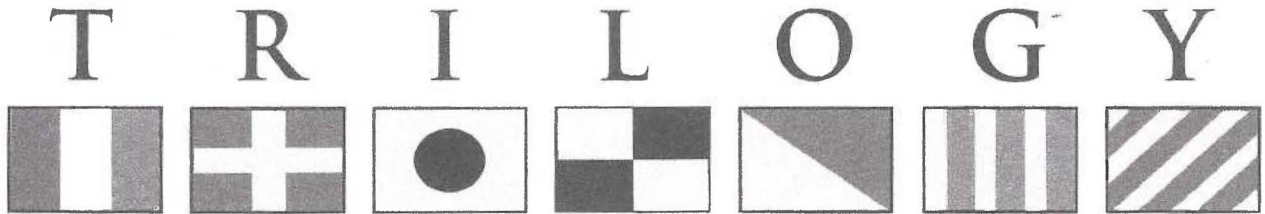
ways to help fill those needs. Her position with MEO provides great insight into the way communities throughout Hawaii work and think.

The CBED Program incorporates community vision and values into an effective strategy to achieve community goals by empowering communities, increasing capacity, and conserving local resources.

The experience, skills, and commitment Ms. McNeff brings to the CBED Program and CBED Advisory Council will prove invaluable to our State, Department and our communities.

We humbly ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of **LYN MCNEFF** to the CBED Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND  
TECHNOLOGY

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 02, 2016  
TIME: 1:15pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 414

**TESTIMONY OF JAMES E. COON SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF GM522 LYNN  
MCNEFF**

Chair Senator Wakai, Vice Chair Senator Slom, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology

My name is James E. Coon. I am a Maui businessman involved with several enterprises on Maui and Lanai speaking in support of Lynn McNeff for a term on the Community Based Economic Development Advisory Council

I have known Ms. McNeff for nearly 40 years and have complete confidence in her ability to effectively contribute to this Council. She is highly respected in the Maui Community and is considered a leader in this field. She is a person of impeccable integrity, smart, hardworking and will be an asset to this Council.

I humbly ask you to approve Lynn McNeff for this important Council position.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, CEO

Trilogy Corporation

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