

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS  
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN H. TASAKA  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
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April 12, 2016

To: Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair and  
Senator Maile Shimabukuro and  
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Allicyn Hikida Tasaka, Interim Executive Director  
Workforce Development Council

RE: GM 640 Gubernatorial Nominee Brian Tatsumura to the Hawaii Workforce Development  
Council for a term to expire June 30, 2019  
Hearing: Thursday, April 14, 2016 @ 9:30am, State Capitol Room 016

POSITION: Strong Support

Good morning Chair Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Interim Executive Director of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in strong support of Mr. Brian Tatsumura's confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2019. Mr. Tatsumura would fill a slot reserved for a private sector business member on the WDC.

The WDC is an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and is responsible for advising the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for employers and employees. The WDC is the State Workforce Development Board for purposes of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. The WDC assists the Governor in developing and updating comprehensive, strategic workforce development plans and oversees publicly funded workforce investment activities in the state.

For the past 41 years, Mr. Tatsumura has dedicated himself to Nordstrom starting as part of the stock team in the shoes department, then transitioned to shoe salesperson. A year later he became a buyer/manager for six years then was promoted to merchandising manager. Since 1997, Mr. Tatsumura has been Nordstrom's Store Manager in Hawaii.

Mr. Tatsumura will bring to the WDC his experience and knowledge of the retailing and merchandising industry in Hawaii, one of Hawaii's largest employment bases and economic drivers. His assistance is needed by the Council to identify the barriers associated with better preparing and positioning of local labor to fill employer-needs.

In this critical year, WDC has been preparing the WIOA Hawaii Unified State Plan. The plan covers the six core formula grant programs authorized under WIOA and outlines the state's vision and strategy for carrying out activities under each program. The WIOA plan is a Congressional mandate requirement for Hawaii to receive the bulk of federal funding for the State's primary job training and placement activities for job seekers and employers.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Mr. Tatsumura as a member of the Workforce Development Council where he would be a valuable asset to the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this nomination.-



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor  
Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 9:30 A.M.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 640 CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL  
NOMINEE, BRIAN TATSUMURA**

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") is in **support** of Mr. Brian Tatsumura's confirmation and appointment to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Mr. Brian Tatsumura is currently the Store Manager of the newly opened Nordstrom on the Ewa Wing of Ala Moana Center. In 1973, as part of the stock team of Nordstrom shoes at Liberty House, he tirelessly continued his climb up from salesperson, to buyer/manager, and merchandising manager. In 1997, Mr. Tatsumura assumed the position as Nordstrom Store Manger in Hawaii, beginning with the Nordstrom shoe store, Nordstrom rack in 2000, and the full-line store in 2008.

Mr. Brian Tatsumura serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Aloha United Way, Board of Trustees of the Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation, the Chair of the Chamber's Workforce Development & Education policy committee, and many more. Mr. Tatsumura's resume reveals passion and experience and makes him an excellent choice to continue to serve on the Workforce Development Council. We appreciate the opportunity to provide our support for this nomination of Mr. Brian Tatsumura.