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GOVERNOR

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March 23, 2017

To: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair,
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: GM568 Confirmation of Edward Richardson to the Workforce Development Council

On behalf of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, as well as myself personally, this testimony is provided in strong support for the appointment and confirmation of Edward Richardson to the Workforce Development Council.

Major General Edward Richardson's extensive and impressive military service speak to the qualifications, integrity, and character necessary for this role. In his work with State Civil Defense, he institutionalized training exercises to improve disaster response. As a result, General Richardson was awarded the National Governor's Award for Distinguished Service to State Government in 1995 due to the State's response during Hurricane Iniki.

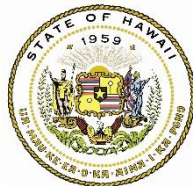
Major General Richardson currently services on the executive committee of the Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i; as Vice president of the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor; as the Director of the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy Foundation, and as a member of Mamaka 'Aialo.

I have no doubt that Major General Richardson will make an excellent addition to the Workforce Development Council.

I strongly urge his confirmation.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS
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March 23, 2017

To: Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair and
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director
Workforce Development Council

RE: GM 568 Advise and Consent, Nominee Edward Richardson as a Member of the
Workforce Development Council
Hearing: Thursday, March 23, 2017, 10:00 a.m., Room 016

POSITION: Strong Support

Good afternoon Chair Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in strong support of Edward Richardson's confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2018 (GM 568). Major General Richardson (USAF Retired) would fill a slot reserved for a private sector member on the Council.

The WDC is an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and advises the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for employers and employees.

Also, the WDC is responsible for the administrative oversight and implementation of a federally mandated initiative, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 or WIOA. WDC is tasked with strategic planning and developing the infrastructure for a seamless common intake and referral system at the American Job Centers (or One-Stop Centers) so job seekers and employers can maneuver through the workforce system efficiently and receive employment, education, training and support services throughout the State. It's a "no wrong door" approach to workforce development.

General Richardson is currently owner of Edward V. Richardson, LLC. He has served as the longest active Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense and he served as a member of several governors' cabinets and was the military commander of the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard and director of State Civil Defense.

He serves on the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's Military Affairs Council (MAC) as a member of the Executive Committee. He is valued for his ability to work across military,

governmental and business communities. He is a founding member of the National Guard's Youth Challenge Academy Foundation and is very active with the vocational training of the Youth Challenge cadets.

Under WIOA, Veterans receive priority of service. The General has graciously agreed to Chair the Military and Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Council. General Richardson's extensive experience in the military, in government, and with the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii will make him a valuable resource to the WDC.

I respectfully urge you to confirm General Richardson as a member of the Workforce Development Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of General Richardson's nomination.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 567 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, EDWARD RICHARDSON**

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

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** the confirmation of Edward Richardson to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,600+ 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.

Major General Edward Richardson served as Hawaii's fifteenth adjutant general from 1991-1999, prior to which he held a number of leadership roles, including 199th Fighter Interceptor Squadron command, Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) chief of staff and HIANG commander. He implemented joint Army/Air Guard and State Civil Defense planning, training and emergency response exercises, which were tested during Hurricane Iniki relief operations in 1992.

Since his retirement, General Richardson has served as a valued member of numerous organizations. As an advisor to the Chamber's Military Affairs Council ("MAC"), Richardson's input has been critical to the success of the MAC as a liaison between the community, state and local government, and the military. The Chamber strongly believes General Richardson would do well to serve on this council.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our support for this nomination.

Testimony in support of General Richardson's Appointment to the
Workforce Development Council

March 21, 2017

I am Myron Brumaghim, former Public School Principal and current President of the Hawaii National Guard Academy Youth Challenge Foundation. I am writing to express my full support of General Richardson to the Workforce Development Council. I have known General Richardson for 20 years, where he served our country in various capacities and responsibilities. While serving in these positions, he consistently focused on training requirements and work environment that would make the workforce more efficient and safe. Most recently, he has been instrumental in making the Hawaii Community College Bridge Programs a successful experience for the graduates of Youth Challenge. It is for these reasons and many more that I fully support General Richardson to the Council. You will find him to be a valuable asset in supporting the council's mission and goals.