

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY

GM 734 Submitting for consideration and confirmation
To the Advisory Board on Veterans Services,
Gubernatorial Nominee,
BRIDGET KOMINE for a term to expire
6-30-2021

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN, JR.
DIRECTOR OF THE STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES

April 11, 2017
1:15 pm

Good afternoon Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and Committee members:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans' Services (OVS). The OVS **strongly supports** the GM 734 confirmation of Bridget Komine and her appointment to the State Advisory Board on Veterans' Services for a term to expire June 30, 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my wholehearted support to Chief Master Sergeant Bridget Komine (USAF, Ret) for her second-term with the State Advisory Board on Veterans Services. Chief Komine has attended every one of our monthly State Advisory Board Meetings and has been a strong factor promoting Veteran issues throughout the State. She is currently serving as a sub-committee chair for two committees on the Advisory Board. As the Deputy Director for the Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Services (DOL/VETS) for Hawaii and Guam, she helped to develop and sustain the Hawaii Hires Heroes (H3) Program ensuring that Veterans seeking job opportunities are connected with Veteran-friendly employers. The results of her diligent and skillful efforts enabled the lowering of the overall unemployment rate for Veterans in the State from a high of 8.0% three years ago to a current rate of 3.5%.

A top-notch recruiting and retention superintendent while in uniform for the Hawaii Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserves, Chief Komine knows first-hand the challenges facing our men and women in uniform today. More importantly, she knows how important it is that they receive their Veterans benefits and entitlements earned because of their dedicated service and sacrifice in support of our Nation. Chief Komine also helped immensely in planning and supporting two State Women's Military and Veterans Conferences in 2015 and in 2016 attended by close to 200 women at each event. Her efforts ensured our Women Veterans received increased focus and attention and reaffirmed that their issues would not be forgotten.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Chief Bridget Komine's confirmation and consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 9:50 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: greenlee@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM734 on Apr 11, 2017 13:15PM

GM734

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for PSM on Apr 11, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Greenlee	Governor's Advisory Board for Veteran Services	Support	Yes

Comments: As Chairperson of the Governor's Advisory Board, it is a pleasure to recommend confirmation of Ms Komine for another term as board member. Her support for women veteran initiatives has been especially noteworthy. She has worked endless hours supporting to Hawaii Women Veteran Conferences the past two years. Her continuation as a board member will benefit all Hawaii veterans.

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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To: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

From: Galen Yoshimoto

Date: April 11, 2017

Subject: **Governor's Message 734, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRIDGET KOMINE, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.**

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and the members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

My testimony is in **support** of the nomination of **BRIDGET KOMINE** to serve another term on the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

I served with Bridget Komine in the Hawaii Air National Guard. She excelled as a line recruiter and later as the Recruiting and Retention Superintendent. Being a veteran herself, she understands the challenges facing veterans.

Currently, she serves as the Deputy Director for the Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Services (DOL/VETS) for Hawaii and Guam. DOL/VETS serves veterans in several ways, including: assisting in the transition to civilian life, working with them in their search for employment and protecting their rights. DOL/VETS continues to work with local employers about veteran's employment.

I ask the committee to confirm Bridget Komine's nomination.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this written testimony.

73-1291 Kaiminani Dr
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
808-557-5833
April 8, 2017

Chairman
Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations and Military affairs
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: PSM Testimony 04-11-17 GM 734

Dear Chairman and members of the committee

It is a privilege to support the recommendation of the Governor for nominee Bridget Komine to represent Oahu on the Advisory Board for Veterans' Services.

I have had the Opportunity of working with Bridget as a fellow member of the present Advisory Board. She has earned a high degree of respect from the current Board for her involvement and efforts to improve veteran services. Her keen interest in Veterans' issues and ability to define and offer solutions to them make her an extremely creditable representative on the Board. She has contributed significantly in addressing women's issues and setting up forums to increase involvement by women veterans.

I look forward to having Bridget as part of our Advisory Board team for the next term.

Mahalo,

Sincerely,

Jim Traxler

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 9:59 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: wpereira1@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM734 on Apr 11, 2017 13:15PM

GM734

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for PSM on Apr 11, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
WILBERT W PEREIRA	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Bridget Komine has been doing a great job as a member on the OVS Advisory Board on Veterans' Services. She has filed in running the meetings several times and did a great job.

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ROBERT J. FISHMAN

700 RICHARDS STREET, #1103 HONOLULU, HI 96813
808-741-4911 fishmanrobert@hotmail.com

April 9, 2017

Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: SUPPORT FOR CONFIRMATION OF WILLIAM ANONSEN TO
THE HAWAII ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

It is a pleasure to offer this letter of strong support for Bill Anonsen's nomination to be reappointed to the Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management. I have known Bill for several decades and throughout this era, he has been a tireless contributor to public institutions at federal, state and local levels, both with his time, energy and resources. In all of his community work, he invariably emerges as an altruistic and inspirational figure worthy of respect and admiration.

I have personally observed his leadership during my own years in public life as I related to him in his leadership role at the Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management. He invariably provides common sense and eminently practical approaches to significant community challenges in the realm of natural and man-made threats to our community safety. He knows how to get strong-minded individuals to work together for all of our well-being. He has earned the trust of government executives, public safety officers, and community leaders, and Hawaii is fortunate to have public-minded citizens of Bill's caliber as members of important advisory councils.

I have served at every level of government in Hawaii over the years, including the Hawaii National Guard, and I have come to appreciate the contributions of Bill and citizen's of his spirit and wisdom at every step. Your affirmative confirmation of his nomination for reappointment to this Council is heartily encouraged by the undersigned.

Very respectfully,



Robert J. Fishman
Former Managing Director
City and County of Honolulu