

841 Bishop St., Suite 301 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Telephone: 808 926-1530 Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Education Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

April 12, 2017

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for GM774, consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH UEMURA, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations, which promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education. Our member list is attached.

One of HE'E Coalition's priorities is influencing policy that affects public education. Therefore, the Coalition staff attends Board of Education meetings on a regular basis. HE'E respects Mr. Uemura's honesty, speaking out on issues, and his dedication to our students. We also appreciate the financial expertise he brings to the Board.

Mr. Uemura is active in the community, serving on non-profit boards and participating in community organizations. He is also a respected member of the business community, holding executive positions at prominent firms in Hawai'i.

We encourage the Committee to approve Mr. Uemura's nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration. Our support represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura HE'E Coalition Director

#### **HE'E Members and Participants**

Academy 21

After-School All-Stars Hawaii

Alliance for Place Based Learning

\*Castle Complex Community Council

\*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS

Coalition for Children with Special Needs

\*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawaii

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

\*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

\*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

\*Hawai'i Charter School Network

\*Hawai'i Children's Action Network

Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

\* Hawai'i State PTSA

Hawai'i State Student Council

Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Hawai'i P-20

Hawai'i 3Rs

**Head Start Collaboration Office** 

It's All About Kids

\*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

Junior Achievement of Hawaii

Kamehameha Schools

Kanu Hawai'i

\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council

Keiki to Career Kaua'i

Kupu A'e

\*Leaders for the Next Generation

Learning First

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

\*Native Hawaiian Education Council

Our Public School

\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

\*Parents and Children Together

\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

\*Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

**US PACOM** 

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.



#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Samuel Fujikawa. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for over 50 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Samuel T. Fujikawa

Continental Mechanical of the Pacific



April 4, 2017

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education And Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Karen L. Lindsay, owner of Benefits International, Inc. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University (HPU). He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and County Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic, health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 17 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the education opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely.

Karen L. Lindsay

Owner

1580 MAKALOA STREET, SUITE 1111 • HONOLULU, HI 96814 • (808) 988-0700 • FAX (808) 946-8739

### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Lance Mizumoto, Executive Vice President at First Hawaiian Bank and Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education (BOE). The BOE plays a critical role in the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for over 30 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Lance A. Mizumoto

Executive Vice President – First Hawaiian Bank

Chair, Hawaii Board of Education

Lane a. Mazioneto

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Dean K. Hirata, president of 'ike Hawaii. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed on the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of being associated with Ken for over 30 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service of the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumnus of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Dean K. Hirata President 'ike Hawaii

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Denis Isono. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for many years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Alan Oshima. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for over 25 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Alan Oshima

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Gerald H. Takeuchi. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 25+ years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Gerald H. Takeuchi

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Deborah Nakashima, and I am an educational consultant and program manager for a Hawaii Army National Guard counseling program. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and being associated with Kenneth for over 10 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

As a public school graduate, a life-long practitioner in higher education (with over 35 years of working with students and families), and from a long family line of public school teachers and administrators (mother, daughter, aunt and cousins), I am happy to support Kenneth's nomination to the Board of Education.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Deborah Nakashima Educational Consultant

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#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Lori Shikuma. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 10 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Lori Shikuma

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Cathy Hirata. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for over seven years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Cathy Hipato

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Deborah Nakashima, and I am an educational consultant and program manager for a Hawaii Army National Guard counseling program. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and being associated with Kenneth for over 10 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

As a public school graduate, a life-long practitioner in higher education (with over 35 years of working with students and families), and from a long family line of public school teachers and administrators (mother, daughter, aunt and cousins), I am happy to support Kenneth's nomination to the Board of Education.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Deborah Nakashima Educational Consultant

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R: 4/6/17

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Crystal Acohido. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 10 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Crystal Acohido

cacohido@gmail.com

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Arick B. Yanagihara. I am a lifelong resident of the State of Hawaii and a product of its public education system. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii. It must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. The members of the BOE must also have the necessary skills, experience and attributes to make a meaningful impact and contribution. Mr. Kenneth Uemura provides the necessary qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura possess the necessary experience, skills and attributes to make a positive impact as a leader, and as well a team player. His financial background is particularly needed at the BOE. In his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University, he was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News. I have known Mr. Uemura throughout his business career in the various executive management positions he has held in local companies such as C. Brewer and Company, The Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He has the depth of business and community experience necessary to understand and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the economic health, well being and quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working with and being associated with Kenneth for over 35 years. I also consider Mr. Uemura a friend. In addition to his leadership and business expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for the children of Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a person of the caliber as Mr. Uemura who is willing to dedicate his time, expertise and experience for public service for our benefit. He himself is also an outstanding and exemplary example of our local public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-774.

Sincerely,

Arick B. Yanaaihara

5336 Puahia Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

## April <u>03</u>, 2017

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education And Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Marone My . \_\_\_\_\_\_. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business

and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 1 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is JoAnn Lumsden. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for over 40 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

JoAnn C. Lumsden

R: 4/1/17

RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. My name is Sara Wiley. I am the Sr. Marketing Manager at Oahu Publications Inc. (publishers of Honolulu Star-Advertiser, The Garden Island Newspaper, Hawaii Tribune Herald, West Hawaii Today, MidWeek, Hawaii.com and various other print and digital media). Part of my job is handling all of our sponsorships and support of various organizations and charities. My personal favorite events to be involved with are those that support and promote Hawaii's education. The quality of education for our future generations is of great importance to me. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on this, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life

In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,
Sac Wiley
Sara Wiley

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Diane T. Ono. I am an attorney, retired from private practice and a long time community volunteer .The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the honor and pleasure of knowing and being associated with Kenneth for almost ten years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core moral values, his sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumnus of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Clave 2 Our

R: 4/7/17

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Susanne Millard and I have lived in Honolulu for the past 17 years. We need experienced and committed leaders who understand our community and understand education. With his strong background, Mr. Kenneth Uemura not only has those qualities but has demonstrated them throughout his career. The BOE is fortunate to have someone with his experience and skills who is interested in serving our community. He should be kept permanently on the Board.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards. I for one joined him for ten years as a Board and Finance Committee member for Aloha United Way. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for sixteen years in both for profit and not for profit organizations. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his ethics, core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

1

Susanne Millard



Trust Division P.O. Box 1400 Honolulu, HI 96807-1400 Telephone (808) 544-6800 Facsimile (808) 532-5163

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is John Yanagihara, Senior Vice President at Central Pacific Bank. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of being Kenneth's friend and associate for over 20 years. During all these years, he has always displayed high character, excellent morals and fierce loyalty. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Singerely,

John Yanagihara

Senior Vice President

April 3, 2017

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education And Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Mark Rossi. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for the past 10 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely, Much a. Passi

Mark A. Rossi

130 Merchant Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Honolulu. HI 96813

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Norman Noguchi, President and Chief Operating Officer of Marcus & Associates, Inc. a locally owned full service real estate company. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth and his family for over 20 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

R: 4/7/17

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Joy Funakoshi, a public school graduate as well as mother of a public school teacher. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 22 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Joy Funakoshi

# RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Robert Slike. I have known Mr. Kenneth Uemura for close to twenty years. Over that time I have found Ken to be a person of great intelligence and integrity. Ken's leadership has always been of the highest order. In all instances, Ken's decisions and actions has shown him to be a person of principle.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Uemura at Hilo Hattie and Hawaii Pacific University, where Ken was Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Ken's vision and values, translated into a management style respected by all and drove significant improvements at both of those organizations.

Ken has a deep understanding of the needs of education in our State. As an alumni of public education, Ken has personally experienced the challenges and triumphs our State education system can provide. Ken will bring desired and needed positive qualities to the BOE. He will strive to make our educational system the best it can be. I heartily recommend Ken for this appointment.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Robert Slike

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Linda Nakashima. I am a retired public school teacher. I am writing in support of Mr. Kenneth Uemura's confirmation to the Board of Education (BOE). Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE and has faithfully served on the board thus far. He has a wealth of experience that would bring a fresh view as the BOE continues to help the schools to better educate our students.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely, Linda Nakashima

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Vince Baldemor. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 2 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Vince Baldemor 893 Hahaione Street Honolulu, HI 96825 808-391-0723 <u>Vince.baldemor@gmail.com</u>

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Darcy Query and can be reached at <a href="mailto:darcyquery@gmail.com">darcyquery@gmail.com</a>. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth T. Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader and as a team player for which I had the privilege of witnessing first-hand, while in his prior capacity as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawai'i Pacific University.

I can personally attest to his integrity and selfless devotion that he poured into every aspect of his support of education. His unwavering commitment to ensuring the most viable opportunities were explored, which included integrating competing priorities by various groups and organizations to come to consensus just to provide the tools needed for students to succeed in being our future world leaders.

In affirmation of his contributions, in 2010, he was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU.

Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 10 years and am looking forward to what the future holds. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth T. Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

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Sincerely,

**Darcy Query** 

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Bert Thornburg and I'm writing to give positive testimony for Mr. Kenneth Uemura for appointment to The Board of Education (BOE). I trust in the capabilities and compassion Mr. Uemura would bring to the BOE. In this time of Hawaii's challenging and sensitive needs with educating our youth, I feel Mr. Uemura would enhance critical decision making with positive goals in mind for both the Board and Hawaii's youth and their parents or caretakers. He is quick to challenge things that don't seem to make sense and is able to put the big picture in mind when making decisions. He will not only think of what decisions are made today, but what effect they may have long-term. I trust in his abilities and professionalism. With this said, he is also able to balance this professionalism with compassion and an eye for the personal perspective towards the impact on individuals also.

Mr. Uemura works well in a team and understands team dynamics. I know he has been placed in leadership positions with high demand such as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer at Hawaii Pacific University. He is well recognized in the public and with his peers. His numerous high-level awards should speak for themselves. I feel he is a well-seasoned person through his many executive management positions he's held. I'm sure his tenure as an Interim Board Member has been well served and now further enables him to serve. With his background, various other experiences, and now this experience, I know he will bring good input and products to the BOE.

I have no doubt Ken will be an asset to The Board of Education and all Hawaii residents utilizing public schools here by knowing that he's an outstanding citizen and alumni from our public education system himself. He possesses the qualities needed at this level to understand the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

//signed// Bert N. Thornburg 94-542 Ohepio Pl, Waipahu, Hl, (808) 398-0930, hotrodder@hawaii.rr.com

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Claire Cooper, owner of Workforce Excel, LLC and longtime friend, former teacher, and consultant to the Department of Education. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical role in impacting the quality of education for our future workforce in Hawaii. Therefore, it must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision, passion, and a business sense for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides these qualities that are so needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. I worked with Ken while at HPU and observed his commitment to quality education and service to students while running the university as a business. Mr. Uemura has extensive background in executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for over six years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. I believe he will bring not only fresh eyes to the education system, but will bring business concepts that work to our education system. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumnus of our public education system, having graduated from Farrington High School.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Claire Cooper Principal Consultant and Owner, Workforce Excel, LLC 1661 Pensacola Street Honolulu, HI 96822-2676

Edmund N. Nakano, CPA, CGMA 98-709 Nohoaupuni Place Aiea, HI 96701

April 7, 2017

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education And Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Edmund N. Nakano. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 48 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

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Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Edmund N. Nakano



April 6, 2017

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education and Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

RE: In SUPPORT of GM#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

I am Robert Fujioka, Vice Chairman of First Hawaiian Bank, and have known Mr. Uemura for at least thirty (30) years. He has the credentials in 1) his prior capacity as Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University (where he was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by *Pacific Business News*) to understand budgeting and the costs of education, 2) leadership ability from his years as a successful executive at C. Brewer & Company, the Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie, and 3) caring for our community through his volunteer service on numerous non-profit boards and as a Commissioner on the Honolulu City & Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. Furthermore, I can attest to his core values and desire to improve the educational opportunities for our youth in Hawaii.

Being a product of our public education system himself, Mr. Uemura understands and appreciates the vital role that quality primary education plays in the business activity, the economic health, and the quality of life in our State. More importantly, he is committed to providing each child with a base of knowledge from which he/she will be able to thrive, not just survive, within our communities. The Board of Education (BOE) would benefit tremendously from Mr. Uemura's financial expertise, business acumen, vision, and passion for public education.

We are fortunate to have a candidate of Kenneth Uemura's credentials wanting to serve on the BOE. By allowing him to continue serving on the Board, you will be taking a significant step toward improving our education system. Thank you for your consideration of Ken.

Sincerely.

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Alton Kuioka. I am presently out of the country and have requested my colleague Mark Rossi to present this letter in support of Kenneth T. Uemura on my behalf. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for the past 40 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely, alton Kuisha by much Rosan

Alton Kuioka By Mark A. Rossi

130 Merchant Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Honolulu. HI 96813

#### Jody Kodama 3075 Ala Poha Place # 811 Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

April 6, 2017

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair State Senate, Committee on Education And Members of the Education Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Jody Kodama and I'm in support of appointing Mr. Kenneth Uemura to the Board of Education (BOE). The BOE has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Uemura undoubtedly provides the experience and qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Mr. Uemura for 16 years. He was my supervisor and mentor at Hilo Hattie. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational system in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Mr. Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Judy Kedama

Sincerely,

RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Stacie Uemura. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of working and being associated with Kenneth for 40 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Stacie Uemura

R: 4/10/17

#### RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Blenn Fujimoto, Executive Vice President of Central Pacific Bank. The Board of Education (BOE) has a critical impact on the quality of education for our future generations in Hawaii, and therefore, must be comprised of strong leaders with a vision and a passion for our public education system. Mr. Kenneth Uemura undoubtedly provides the qualities that are needed in the BOE.

Mr. Uemura has demonstrated the positive impact he can make as a leader, as well as a team player, in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. He was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News for his work at HPU. Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies such as C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards and currently is a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. I also served on the Finance Committee of Aloha United Way with Mr. Uemura. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that quality primary and secondary education plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I know Mr. Uemura on a business and personal level for over 15 years. In addition to his leadership and expertise, I can attest to his core values, sincerity, and passion to continually improve the educational opportunities for youth in Hawaii. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Blenn Fujimoto

## RE: In SUPPORT of GM-#774 appointing KENNETH T. UEMURA to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee;

My name is Thomas Millard and I am writing this letter in strong support of Mr. Kenneth Uemura's appointment to the Hawai'i State Board of Education (BOE). We need experienced and committed leaders who understand our community and understand the importance of a high-quality public education system for our State. Mr. Uemura's background and career strongly demonstrate his possession of these qualities. The BOE is fortunate to have someone with his experience and skills who is interested in serving our community.

Mr. Uemura's constructive negotiation skills, as well as his adept leadership, were amply demonstrated in his prior capacity as Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaii Pacific University. During his tenure, he was named the 2010 CFO of the Year by Pacific Business News. In addition, Mr. Uemura has held various executive management positions in companies including C. Brewer and Company, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hilo Hattie. Having served on numerous not-for-profit boards, he is currently a Commissioner on the Honolulu City and Country Grants-in-Aid Advisory Commission. He possesses the depth of business and community experience to understand, and appreciate, the vital role that a quality education program plays in the business activity, economic health, and the quality of life in our State.

I have had the pleasure of being associated with Kenneth for over eight years, during which time we have had many conversations concerning business leadership, growth in our state, and the essential foundations for a successful education program. As President of the non-profit STEM-focused education program, Hawai'i State Science Olympiad, I have a vested interest in having ethical, thoughtful, and passionate members of our community serving in on the BOE. I have the highest confidence that Mr. Uemura will give his full attention to fostering the continued improvement of the educational opportunities for youth in Hawai'i. Our community is fortunate to have a candidate for public service at the caliber of Kenneth Uemura, who himself is an outstanding and exemplary alumni of our public education system.

Thank you for your consideration of GM-#774.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Millard

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