



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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

Wednesday, April 12, 2017
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
GM 783
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic
Development Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, RACHEL JAMES, for a term to
expire 06-30-2021.**

Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports GM 783, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, **RACHEL JAMES**, for a term to expire 6-30-2021.

Ms. James currently serves as the Project Manager for Advanced Transportation Technologies (HCATT). Her position utilizes her skills in project management, communication, community outreach.

In April 2015, Ms. James was appointed as an Interim Council Member on the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council and has diligently served and carried out her duties and responsibilities as a Council Representative.

Ms. James formerly served as a staff member for Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, assisting in communicating with constituents to address community concerns. She also helped developed collaborative relationships with various government agencies and participated in and coordinated community outreach opportunities. Ms. James' community service experience includes serving as a Board member for Kuleana Microlending, working with communities to support small business endeavors. In addition, she also volunteered as a Housing and Intake Specialist with the Catholic Charities Hawaii Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program.

The Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Program incorporates community vision and values into an effective strategy to achieve community economic goals.

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The experience and skills Rachel James brings to the CBED Program and CBED Advisory Council has and will continue to prove invaluable to our State, Department and communities.

We humbly ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of Rachel James to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

PATSY T. MINK
CENTER FOR
BUSINESS &
LEADERSHIP

April 11, 2017

Submitted COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND TECHNOLOGY
To: Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
 Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

I am submitting testimony to strongly support confirmation of Rachel James, a Gubernatorial Nominee, to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Rachel has served on the Advisory Board of the Patsy T. Mink Center for Business & Leadership for 3 years and it has been my pleasure to work with her for the last 2 years. Rachel is a deliberate, contemplative speaker and decision maker. I highly value her well thought-out opinions and articulate communication skills. Rachel is also a member of MCBL's Leadership Committee where our members established the Patsy T. Mink Leadership Alliance, which focuses on developing women leaders in Hawaii.

Rachel James is a very responsible, well-respected woman who has work experience in non-profits as well as a career in government. I believe that Rachel will continue to be an asset to the Community – Based Economic Development Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

Colleen McAluney
Program Manager
Patsy T. Mink Center for Business & Leadership
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(808)695-2636

Brent Kakesako
1133 Waimanu Street, #1611
Honolulu, HI 96814

Aloha,

My name is Brent Kakesako and I am submitting testimony in support of GM783, which nominates Rachel James to serve on the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council.

I met Rachel in my professional role as the Executive Director for the Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development (HACBED). Rachel has demonstrated a passion for the community, a desire to partner with and support the community-based organizations (CBOs) doing the work, and the willingness to ask needed clarifying questions as community-based economic development is not a one size fit all approach.

As such, Rachel is a great fit for the CBED Advisory Council. Her skill sets and passion are critical in the Council's role to review financing requests and make recommendations on the awarding of loans and grants as well as to provide advice on program implementation. Rachel's willingness to partner and support the CBOs doing the work is also critical for the role of individual Council members to liaison with CBOs on their island to understand the place-based issues tied to community-based economic development.

I thus strongly support GM783 for Rachel James's nomination to serve on the CBED Advisory Council.

If you have any questions, please email me at bkakesako@gmail.com.

Mahalo in advance for your consideration,

Brent Kakesako