

GM503

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, RYKER WADA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.

Report Title: Director of the Department of Human Resources Development

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: LBR

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by</u> <u>Date</u>	Status Text
1/29/2018	S Received.
1/29/2018	S Referred to LBR.
3/6/2018	S The committee(s) on LBR has scheduled a public hearing on 03-13-18 2:45PM in conference room 229.

S = Senate | **H** = House | **D** = Data Systems | **\$** = Appropriation measure | **ConAm** = Constitutional Amendment

Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

GM503



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of Ford Fuchigami
Administrative Director, Office of the Governor

Before the
Senate Committee on Labor
March 13, 2018
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 229

In consideration of
Governor's Message 503

Submitted for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources and Development, Gubernatorial nominee, Ryker Wada.

Chair Tokuda , Vice Chair English, and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Ryker Wada as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development. Mr. Wada served as the Deputy Director of the Department of Human Resources Development since January 2017. Prior to serving as Deputy Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Wada was Personnel Regional Officer for the Department of Education (DOE), where he was responsible for Human Resources and Labor Relations in the Windward District of the DOE. He served as liaison for the Office of Human Resources and the Windward District providing a range of services regarding employment, personnel administration and labor relating to schools, complexes and district. Wada also worked for the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii between 2003 – 2015 where while serving as managing attorney he coordinated recruitment, training, development and management of staff.

Mr. Wada has a BA from the University of Washington, Seattle and his Juris Doctor from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

This administration is committed to transforming the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Ryker Wada will support our employees in the Department of Human Resources Development in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawaii. Mahalo for your consideration.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

March 6, 2018

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
For Hearing on Tuesday, March 13, 2018
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 229

Governor's Message 503

Relating to the Consideration and Confirmation of

RYKER J. WADA

As Director of the Department of Human Resources Development

Honorable Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and Committee Members:

The Department of Human Resources Development's management team thanks you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Ryker J. Wada's confirmation as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development ("DHRD").

Ryker has over 13 years of background and experience in human resources, including experience in labor relations. Since joining DHRD in January 2017 as Deputy Director, Ryker has quickly expanded his knowledge of the Department, its functions and staff, which has enabled him to seamlessly transition operations within the Department. We have observed him to be fully committed to doing all he can to ensure that DHRD provides high quality services to our State employees and the public. He is intelligent, hard-working, and has great people skills. As a supervisor, Ryker has shown himself to be very approachable, supportive and appreciative of his staff, and genuinely concerned about the well-being of our employees.

We have no hesitation in stating that Ryker is a great choice as DHRD Director, and we respectfully urge this Committee to support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Minami
Deputy Director

Debra Nishiyama
Employee Staffing Division

Patti Miyamoto-Asato
Employee Staffing Division

Shelly Perez
Employee Staffing Division

Joy Inouye
Employee Compensation Branch

Raynell Yee
Employee Classification Branch

Lois Maeda
Employee Claims Division

Lily Chu
Safety Office

Jennifer Mori-Kilbey
Employee Claims Division

David Keane
Information Systems Office

Amanda Lavis
EEO Program

Allision Murakawa
Labor Relations Division

Sherry Shishido
Personnel Transactions Office

Doreen Kuroda
Employee Assistance-Benefits Office

Patricia McDonald
Employee Assistance-Training Office

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RODERICK K. BECKER
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018
2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

G.M. 503

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, RYKER WADA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-03-2018.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 503. I support the nomination of Mr. Ryker Wada to the position of Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD).

Mr. Wada joined DHRD in December 2016 as Deputy Director and has been serving as its Acting Director from January 1, 2018. He previously worked for the Windward District of the Department of Education (DOE) as the Personnel Regional Officer where he was responsible for human resources and labor relations. Before joining DOE, Mr. Wada served as the Managing Attorney for the Honolulu Office of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii. He also served as the Legislative Specialist for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Business Registration Division where he researched and drafted Decision and Orders for the

Commissioner of Securities. Mr. Wada earned a B.A. from the University of Washington and a J.D. from the University of California Hastings College of the Law.

Mr. Wada's extensive background in legal and public service are an asset to the State of Hawaii and will facilitate the successful execution of his duties as director.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony of this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

**MARCH 13, 2018
2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 503
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, RYKER WADA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-03-2018**

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 503. This measure seeks to confirm Ryker Wada as the State's Director of the Department of Human Resources Development. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Mr. Wada has been working as the Department of Human Resources Development since January 2017. He has a solid understanding of local State government and the experience needed to move the State forward. The knowledge that Mr. Wada has gained as a result of his career is something that the State of Hawaii will benefit from in his role as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

TESTIMONY BY

LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
ON
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. GM 503

March 13, 2018
2:45 p.m.
Room 229

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF
THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE RYKER
WADA

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee on Labor

Please accept my testimony in **SUPPORT** of Mr. Ryker J. Wada for Director of
Human Resources Development (HRD). I have worked with Mr. Wada during his tenure
as Deputy of HRD from January 2017, and in his current appointment as the Interim
Director of HRD.

Mr. Wada has both the academic training and administrative skills to manage the
Department's myriad responsibilities ranging from employee recruitment and workforce
training, employee classification and compensation review, facilitation and
implementation of collective bargaining agreements, advice and counsel on state
employment-related legal issues. Mr. Wada has been responsive to our Department's
requests for assistance and support in all the above areas, and has sought input from
other Department Directors on state employment-related issues.

Mr. Wada has a record of public service, having worked as a Personnel Officer for the Hawai'i Department of Education and managing Attorney for Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, and staff counsel for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and the House of Representatives Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee.

I look forward to working together with Mr. Wada as the Director of HRD.

Written Statement of
Mary Alice Evans
Deputy Director, DBEDT

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Tuesday, March 13, 2018
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
GM 503

**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of the
Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee,
RYKER WADA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee.

I respectfully urge your **support** for the confirmation of **Ryker Wada** to serve as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD).

I have been working with Ryker since his appointment as Deputy Director of DHRD and have found him to be knowledgeable and helpful to DBEDT. Ryker is a good listener and problem solver.

I respectfully urge you to recommend advise and consent to the nomination of Ryker Wada for the Director of Department of Human Resources Development.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT


MATTHEW C.W. HO
COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

LANELLE HIBBS
COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WINDWARD OAHU DISTRICT
46-169 KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY
KANEIOHE, HAWAII 96744

DATE: Monday, March 12, 2018

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Labor

FROM: 
Matthew C.W. Ho
Complex Area Superintendent, Castle-Kahuku

SUBJECT: GM 503, Support of Ryker J. Wada as Director of the Department of Human Resources Department

I am writing in support of Ryker J. Wada as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

I have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Wada in the Department of Education, Windward District where Mr. Wada served as the certificated personnel regional officer (PRO). I had worked with Mr. Wada in the capacity as a school principal, and most recently as the complex area superintendent of the Castle-Kahuku Complex Area.

In his capacity as the Windward District certificated PRO, Mr. Wada was responsible for the human resources and labor relations for teachers and educational officers, which included recruitment, employment, and personnel administration.

Mr. Wada was a direct support to principals and two complex area superintendents—he always remained a professional, and ensured confidentiality as expected with personnel concerns. Although not having prior experience with the Department of Education (DOE), Mr. Wada was an adept and eager learner, strived towards building efficient systems, built positive working relationships with his peers and colleagues, and through reflective conversations with his supervisors, improved his proficiency in understanding the DOE and its systems to better serve the DOE and its employees.

I am confident that Mr. Wada will continue to provide quality work and serve the State of Hawai'i and its people well.

I strongly urge that you confirm Mr. Ryker J. Wada as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TODD NACAPUY
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of
TODD NACAPUY
Chief Information Officer, State of Hawai'i

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
Tuesday, March 13, 2018
2:45 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 503
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE RYKER J. WADA
FOR DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT HUMAN RESOURCES
DEVELOPMENT

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and members of the committee:

I am Todd Nacapuy, Chief Information Officer of the State of Hawai'i and head of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), testifying in **strong support** of Governor's Message 503, Relating to Gubernatorial Nominee Ryker J. Wada for Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD).

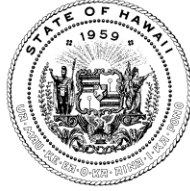
Mr. Wada has been serving the State of Hawaii through DHRD since 2016, first serving as its Deputy Director and since December as its interim director. In both positions, he has worked closely with ETS to review the HR implications of many departmental information technology projects. Through his tenure at DHRD, he has gained the understanding and knowledge of the structure and function of the department.

Mr. Wada has worked in both the legislative and executive branches of government, with experience in human resources and labor relations. As managing attorney for Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, among some of his duties, he coordinated recruitment, training, development, and management of staff. The aforementioned experiences will serve him well as Director of DHRD

Thank you for your consideration of ETS's strong support of Mr. Wada as the Director of DHRD.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LEONARD HOSHIJO
DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

www.labor.hawaii.gov

Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

March 9, 2017

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair,
The Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Labor

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2018
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 229?, State Capitol

From: Leonard Hoshijo, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**GM 503 Ryker J. Wada to Serve as the Director of the Department of Human Resources
Development**

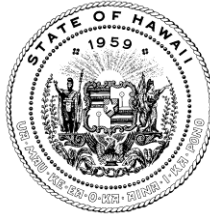
Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair , and Members of the Committee:

My name is Leonard Hoshijo and I am the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I support the nomination of Mr. Wada to serve as the Director of Human Resources Development (DHRD). Mr. Wada's extensive legal and public service experience, including most recently as the Deputy Director of DHRD, have prepared him well to serve as Director of the Department.

I urge you to confirm Mr. Wada as the DHRD Director. where, if confirmed, he will serve competently and effectively.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Wada.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
LABOR**

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 503
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DIRECTOR
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
RYKER WADA
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-03-2018**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 503 nominating Ryker Wada to serve as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) to expire on December 3, 2018.

Mr. Wada is a graduate of the University of California, Hastings College of Law and of the University of Washington in Seattle. He has worked for the State since 2001, with a brief stint in the private sector in 2001 and a longer stint in the non-profit world as the managing attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

Mr. Wada had been the Deputy Director of DHRD since 2016 and is the current Interim DHRD Director. The Department feels that he is well qualified to lead DHRD, given his familiarity and knowledge of its operations and programs gained in his capacity as Interim Director and Deputy Director, and because most of his career has focused on workforce development and human resources management. The Department has worked well with Mr. Wada on systemic personnel improvements.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's support of Ryker Wada serving as the Director of DHRD.



Office of the Administrative Director - Human Resources THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII
426 QUEEN STREET, FIRST FLOOR, KAPUĀIWA HALE, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE (808) 539-4948 • FAX (808) 539-4955

Rodney A. Maile
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR
Brandon Kimura
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Dee L. Wakabayashi
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

March 9, 2018

Written Testimony of
Dee L. Wakabayashi, Human Resources Director
The Judiciary, State of Hawaii
to the
Senate Committee on Labor
on
Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229

GM 503
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the
Director of the Department of Human Resources Development,
Gubernatorial Nominee, RYKER WADA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor:

I would like to state my support for Ryker Wada, as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD). As the Human Resources Director for the Judiciary, I have firsthand knowledge and interaction with Mr. Wada in his capacity as Deputy Director of DHRD and currently as Interim Director of DHRD.

Mr. Wada is intelligent and deliberate in his research of and approach to issues and problems. He exercises tact when dealing with divergent perspectives and personalities. As an example, in a recent meeting with human resources directors from the various employer jurisdictions, Mr. Wada displayed his ability to work with people with different opinions. He clearly and succinctly communicated the State's position without offending any jurisdiction.

Mr. Wada has espoused openness and transparency in conducting business. Thus far, he has been open in dealing with the directors and staff; and shares information, which allows us to inform our respective chief executives. Mr. Wada has shown skill in conducting meetings, allowing everyone to express their opinion without losing sight of the objective; ably and effectively communicates orally and in writing; and displays an even temperament.

It is important that the Director of DHRD work with the jurisdictions' human resources directors to ensure that meaningful discussion take place prior to decision making. This is especially important when jurisdictions have to "collectively" bargain together or to implement various human resources initiatives. As the director of the largest jurisdiction, he has already assumed a leadership role amongst the human resources directors.

I am confident that Mr. Wada will serve the State of Hawaii Department of Human Resources Development well in his role as Director.

Thank you for your consideration of my statement of support.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 13, 2018
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

G.M. 503

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, RYKER WADA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.

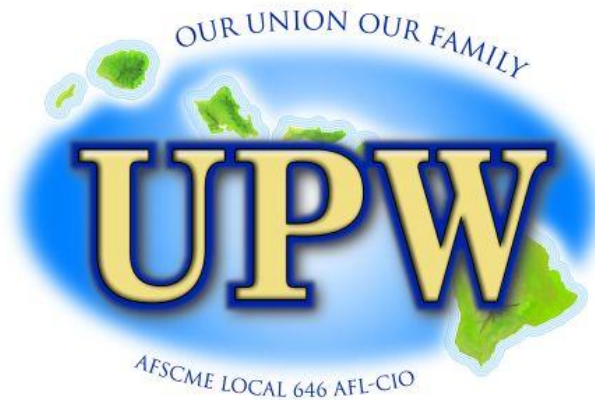
Senate Committee on Labor

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of Ryker Wada as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD).

Mr. Ryker earned his Juris Doctor at the University of California, Hastings College of Law. Since 2001, he has worked in a variety of policy positions at the Legal Aid Society and the Department(s) of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Education, and currently serves at the Department of Human Resources Development as its Deputy Director.

We have worked directly with Mr. Ryker and have always found him to be respectful of others' points of view, thoughtful and diligent, and deeply committed to making Hawaii a better place for all. His background in law and his professional experience, knowledge, and insight make him an ideal nominee as DHRD Director where, if he is confirmed, we have no doubt that he will work to the utmost of his abilities to fulfill the responsibilities of his department. As an effective leader, who is modest and unassuming, his predisposition is to understand complex issues before comment or action. We have come to rely on Mr. Ryker's leadership in the recruitment, management, and retention of a high-performing workforce so that the DOT can deliver efficient and effective services that meet the public's needs. We look forward to working with him as he has given DOT close attention and active support.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



THE HAWAII STATE SENATE
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: March 13, 2018
TIME OF HEARING: 2:45 p.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 229

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM503, RYKER WADA

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers (UPW),
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The UPW strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Ryker Wada, as the Director of the Hawaii State Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) term to expire 12-03-2018. He is currently the acting Director of DHRD and was recently the Deputy Director of DHRD beginning in January 2017.

Mr. Ryker comes from a legal background and training with 12 years as Managing Attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii and 2 years as the Personnel Regional Officer for the Department of Education. He is very professional in his approach to working with the exclusive employee representatives. The UPW strongly recommends his confirmation by the full State Senate.

We appreciate the opportunity to support Mr. Ryker Wada as the Director of DHRD.

SHOPO



PRESIDENT
Tenari R. Ma'afala

VICE PRESIDENT
Malcolm Lutu

TREASURER
James "Kimo" Smith

SECRETARY
Don Faumuina

DIRECTORS AT LARGE
John Haina
David "Kawika" Hallums
Vacant

HONOLULU CHAPTER CHAIR
Robert Cavaco

HAWAII CHAPTER CHAIR
Todd Pataray

KAUA'I CHAPTER CHAIR
Christopher Calio

MAUI CHAPTER CHAIR
Mark Vickers

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Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
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Fax: (808) 242-9519

Kaua'i Chapter Office
4264 Rice Street, Lihue
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1708
Lihue, Hawaii 96766
Ph: (808) 246-8911

Via email
lbrtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

March 6, 2018

HEARING
BEFORE THE : SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair

HEARING DATE : March 13, 2018, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

REGARDING : GM 503
RYKER J. WADA
Confirmation as Director of the Department of
Human Resources Development (DHRD),
State of Hawaii, Term to expire 12-03-2018

Chairman Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers (SHOPO), the labor union representing approximately 3000 police officers statewide, I am pleased to submit the Union's support of Ryker J. Wada.

Mr. Wada has a well-earned reputation for having an incredible work ethic and is of impeccable character and integrity. By all accounts, he possesses exceptional litigation skills, knowledge and experience, but most importantly, a temperament commensurate for human resource administration and labor management relations.

His current position as DHRD's Deputy Director has shown him to be open-minded and fair. Although we are on opposite sides in the collective bargaining process, we believe that in his role as chief negotiator he will be balanced in his approach on the issues and conduct meaningful, fruitful dialogue between the parties.

Thank you for this opportunity and we look forward to the committee's unanimous approval of Ryker J. Wada.

Respectfully submitted,

TENARI R. MA'AFALA
President

jmo



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

March 8, 2018

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Committee on Labor
State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Dear Chair Tokuda and Committee members,

I write in strong support of Ryker Wada's nomination as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

I have known Ryker for about seven (7) years. I am the CEO of the YMCA of Honolulu and for a number of years, Ryker served on the Y's Metro Board of Directors as well as the Board of Governance Committee. So, I have direct personal experience with Ryker.

Ryker is bright, hardworking, ethical, and fair. He also cares deeply about Hawaii and its people.

I humbly request that you vote to confirm Ryker Wada.

Mahalo.

Michael Broderick
President & CEO



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 12, 2018

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Chair, Committee on Labor
Submitted Via Capitol Website

RE: **GM 503 – Confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ryker Wada**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee on Labor:

I am Rick Tsujimura and write in **support** of the nomination of Ryker Wada's appointment as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD). My wife and I have known Ryker for many years and know his parents very well, as well as his wife Vanessa.

Ryker is a committed and diligent public servant and will contribute much to the state in his position. He is an honest and intelligent person, who has the best interest of the people of Hawaii in his heart.

I remember first meeting Ryker when he was at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, and have been impressed with his progress as an attorney and as a manager. I believe he will do a great job at DHRD and strongly support his appointment, and ask for your positive consent to his nomination.



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 12, 2018

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Chair, Committee on Labor
Submitted Via Capitol Website

RE: **GM 503 – Confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ryker Wada**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee on Labor:

I am Gary Slovin and submit this testimony in very strong support of Ryker Wada's nomination to be the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

I have known Ryker for a very long time, going back to his time in high school and through his career. Accordingly I have observed him in many different roles. Consistent throughout that time has been his integrity, his dedication and his concern for and generosity toward others. He works hard and is diligent, but he is also creative. I believe he has the qualities that will make him an excellent Director just as those qualities have enabled him to excel in everything else he has done. I am very pleased to support his nomination.

Carolee C. Kubo
1919 Young Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

March 8, 2018

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on
Labor & Public Employment
The Senate
State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee:

Subject: Gubernatorial Nominee 503
 Nomination of Ryker Wada to Serve as the Director of the
 State of Hawaii Department of Human Resources Development

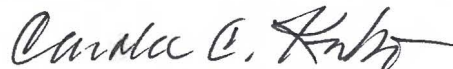
G.M. 503 seeks to confirm the nomination of Ryker Wada as the Director of the
aforementioned department.

I am currently the Director of the Department of Human Resources of the City and
County of Honolulu. I have been involved in the labor relations arena for the past 27 years. I
have the pleasure of working with Ryker Wada in his capacity as the Interim Director/ Chief
Negotiator of the State's Office of Collective Bargaining. He is very qualified to serve in the
above capacities and manages to juggle performing two positions simultaneously. His legal
background enables him to fully analyze the issues presented, seek input from all jurisdictions
and determine a viable resolution. We are currently involved with negotiating new collective
bargaining agreements for a majority of the public unions.

I fully support the nomination of Ryker Wada to serve as the Director of the Department
of Human Resources Development and humbly ask for your support in confirming his
nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,



Carolee C. Kubo

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 12:44:30 PM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Chu Takayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Linda Chu Takayama and I am testifying in strong support of Ryker Wada for Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.. Although I have only known and worked with Ryker for a short period of time, I am very impressed with his intelligence, attitude and responsiveness. In these days of highly competitive markets, he really "gets it" and tries his best to help us fulfill our manpower needs, often times despite a bureaucracy that is still operating at less than optimum speed.

I strongly support his confirmation. Thank you for the opportunity to testify

Linda Chu Takayama

808 384 9030

Audrey Hidano
1620 Hau Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

TESTIMONY OF
AUDREY HIDANO
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018
2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

G.M. 503

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, RYKER WADA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON 12-03-2018.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 503. I support the nomination of Mr. Ryker Wada to the position of Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

I am testifying as an individual and I have known Mr. Wada for a few years. He brings to the job his experience and knowledge from a different perspective. He is open minded and a good listener which should be a positive trait for the Director's position.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Mr. Wada for the nomination of Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:10:15 PM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nalani Fujimori Kaina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting strong testimony in support of Ryker Wada to be confirmed as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development. I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Wada at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii where I saw him start on housing discrimination cases and eventually rise to the Managing Attorney of the Asset Protection Unit which focused on consumer and housing law cases.

Mr. Wada has always shown great compassion for the community as well as strong sense of commitment to the work that he does. He is mindful of how he works with others and was always well respected by those that worked with him.

His vision and his commitment to his work will help him as the new Director of Department of Human Resources Development.

I strongly support his nomination and ask that the Committee on Labor vote affirmatively to send him to the Senate for confirmation.

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:42:35 PM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
phyllis shimabukuro	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Chairperson Tokuda, Vice Chairperson English and members of the committee,

I strongly support GM 503, the submission for your consideration and confirmation Gubernatorial Nominee Ryker Wada as the Director of DHRD for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018. I have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Wada while he served as Deputy and interim Director of DHRD. I concur with the testimony of HDOA Chairperson Enright that Ryker Wada has collaborated well with HDOA to fill the department's vacancies and other Human Resources issues. Mr. Wada has been attentive and responsive to our recruitment challenges and I appreciate his support of the specialized positions and services that HDOA provides to farmers and the people of Hawaii.

I respectfully ask for favorable consideration and confirmation of Ryker Wada as the Director of DHRD. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit my personal testimony in strong support..

Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser

Testimony of JoAnn Yosemite
Senate Committee on Labor
Tuesday, March 13, 2018; 2:45 PM
Conference Room 229

GM 503 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee,

RYKER WADA

for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee: I am submitting testimony in STRONG SUPPORT for Ryker Wada's confirmation as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

I have known Mr. Wada for almost twenty years. His intelligence, integrity, strong work ethic, and sincere compassion for others--along with his previous work experiences provide the strongest foundation to address the complex workings of the Department of Human Resources Development. He will do a great job as its Director.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and I respectfully ask the Committee to support Mr. Wada's nomination and affirmatively recommend his confirmation as Director of Human Resources Development.

TESTIMONY OF JO ANN UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2018, 2:45 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

(WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY)

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 503, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **RYKER WADA**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON 12-03-2018.

Chair Tokuda and members of the committee, my name is Jo Ann Uchida Takeuchi and I am testifying as an individual in **strong support** of the confirmation of Ryker J. Wada as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD).

I have worked with Ryker Wada in my capacity as Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) since he was appointed as Deputy Director of DHRD in January 2017, and have always found him to be responsible, helpful and committed to ensuring that DHRD was a valuable resource to its fellow agencies. He is responsive to requests for assistance and open to dialoguing on matters of mutual concern.

Previously, I was familiar with Ryker Wada from his work at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii (LASH), as he was the "go to" guy on a number of matters that overlapped with DCCA such as consumer law, foreclosures and predatory lending. Among other things, he handled foreclosure matters for LASH during the worst economic downturn in our recent history, and worked hard to protect homeowners from the harsh consequences of what would eventually prove to be deceptive lender practices.

I urge you to give him favorable consideration for this confirmation.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 2:30:28 PM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good afternoon Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Labor Committee:

My name is Ryan Sanada and I currently serve as the Director of Legal and Government Affairs for the Hawaii Employers Council (“HEC”). HEC is a non-profit trade association that has provided human resources and labor relations support for many of Hawaii's businesses over the past 75 years. I submit the following testimony as both a friend and colleague of Mr. Wada.

I have personally known Mr. Wada for nearly 30 years. Based on his educational and professional accomplishments alone, he is clearly a hardworking and intelligent individual. What makes Mr. Wada particularly suited to serve as the Director of Human Resources Development, however, are two qualities that might not be immediately obvious from his resume.

First, I have always known Mr. Wada to be a very civic minded individual. For instance, during our youth, he spent a significant amount of his time working with the local YMCA, even serving as a youth leader to mentor younger kids. After graduating from Hastings, a nationally recognized and prestigious law school, Mr. Wada chose to work in public service at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, even though he could have had his pick of jobs in Hawaii or on the mainland. In fact, practically his entire career since graduation has been in public service.

Second, for the past 30 years, I have always viewed Mr. Wada as a natural born leader. He is one of those individuals who has the natural ability to emerge as a leader in any given situation, in both his personal and professional lives. As an example of his leadership abilities in a professional setting, Mr. Wada was selected to serve as the Managing Attorney at Legal Aid, where he was tasked with leading the attorneys and staff of the Honolulu office.

Mr. Wada is a great selection to serve as DHRD Director and I support his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ryan Sanada

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 4:47:26 PM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth Hiraki	Individual	Support	No

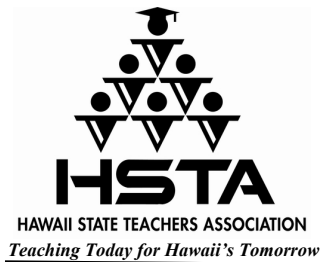
Comments:

I respectfully submit my full support of the confirmation of Mr. Ryker Wada, for the State of Hawaii Director of the Department of Human Resources Development.

I first met Ryker a number of years when I hired him to serve as my staff attorney for the House Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee. I can personally attest to his intelligence, reliability, and competence. He is also a man of integrity, honesty and truthfulness.

Ryker brings a wealth of knowledge and experience gained from his employment at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii and the State. Hawaii is indeed fortunate to have someone of his impeccable background and character to help serve the people of Hawaii.

I urge the committee to confirm Mr. Ryker Wada's appointment to the Department of Human Resources Development. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



LATE

1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
LABOR

RE: GM 503 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, RYKER WADA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-03-18

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

WILBERT HOLCK, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports GM 503**, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ryker Wada, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-18.

Ryker Wada is an excellent choice to lead DHRD. As former managing attorney of the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, Wada was responsible for the supervision of litigation and case evaluation for issues relating to fair housing, consumer law, and taxation, and predatory lending. Wada's experience in these areas gives him valuable insight into the concerns facing working families, which will be beneficial in developing policies that support the recruitment and retention of a high-performing workforce for our islands.

Moreover, Wada served as the Personnel Regional Officer for the Department of Education's Windward District, where he oversaw labor relations involving teachers and school administrators. Thus, Wada brings an understanding of the challenges faced by Hawai'i's hardworking teachers to DHRD that will be advantageous in assisting the DOE in placing and preserving quality educators in every classroom.

To guarantee that DHRD is driven by experienced leadership, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this motion.

LATE

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 8:16:08 PM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Kent	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I write this testimony in strong support of Ryker Wada's nomination. I met Ryker about a decade ago when we worked together on a project related to foreclosure. His competence, compassion, organizational skills, and tenacity impressed me. After that experience we worked on other projects and my respect for him grew. It will be great to see what he does as Director of DHRD. It is a big job and I am sure he will excel.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Ryker's nomination.

Yours truly,

Elizabeth Kent

LATE

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 6:43:00 AM

Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JN Takahashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Ryker Wada is well-qualified to serve as the Director of DHRD. He is an intelligent, fair-minded, and humble leader who is an asset to the State of Hawaii.

LATE

GM-503

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 8:54:50 AM
Testimony for LBR on 3/13/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
darren ueki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in strong support of Ryker Wada. I have known and worked with Mr. Wada for over ten years. During this time I have witnessed him address difficult situations and people with calmness and confidence. His confirmation will be a great addition to the Ige administration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Darren Ueki