



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of
David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m., Room 211

In consideration of
Governor's Message 506

Submitted for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial nominee, Linda Chu Takayama

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation. On December 11, 2017, Takayama was appointed to serve as interim director of Department of Taxation. Takayama also served as the director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations since 2015.

Takayama previously served as the executive director of the Honolulu Mayor's Office of Economic Development and deputy director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Takayama received a BA in journalism from the University of Hawai'i and earned her Juris Doctorate degree from George Mason University School of Law in Virginia.

This administration is committed to reshaping the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Linda Chu Takayama will support our employees in the Department of Taxation in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

TESTIMONY OF DAMIEN ELEFANTE
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018 10:00 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

GOV. MSG NO. 506

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-03-2018.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee. I am testifying as an individual and I am in strong support of Linda Chu Takayama's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

In working with Linda, I have witnessed her professionalism and practical approach in leadership to help foster and move the Department in a positive direction. From the day she was appointed, she has been working steadily with managers and employees to improve processes and procedures. She also has the willingness and ability to recognize the strengths of employees and make them work towards achieving the goals of the Department.

Ms. Takayama's overall background and experiences working on the Federal, State and local level positions will be an asset and resource for the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
ACTING DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

TESTIMONY BY
LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
ACTING DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. GM 506

February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.
Room 211

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT TAXATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee

Please accept my testimony in SUPPORT of the nomination of Ms. Linda Chu Takayama for Director of Taxation (TAX). I have worked with Ms. Chu Takayama both in her capacity as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and as Interim Director of Taxation since her nomination in November 2017.

Ms. Chu Takayama has both the academic training and administrative experience needed to manage the TAX department. Her previous experience in such positions as Hawai'i Insurance Commissioner, Deputy Director for the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, and Director of Economic Development for the City and County of Honolulu, underscore her commitment to public service.

Ms. Chu Takayama is always willing to work together on problem solving, and anticipates the next steps in program implementation, which is an important quality in a Director. She is a valuable and respected leader in our community, and is well-known for her long-standing support of the Hawaii Foodbank, amongst other organizations.

I look forward to working together with Ms. Chu Takayama as Director of TAX.

Statement of
Mary Alice Evans
Deputy Director
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
GM 506
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of the
Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee,
LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee.

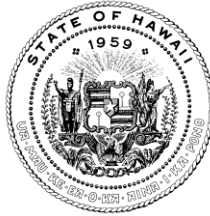
I respectfully urge your **strong support** for the confirmation of **Linda Chu Takayama** to serve as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

Linda has served the citizens of Hawaii in many different capacities. She has served as a Congressional staffer, and worked for the State and the City and County in leadership roles. In addition, Linda has donated her time and skills to non-profit organizations working to improve the lives of Hawaii's families.

I respectfully urge you to recommend advice and consent to the nomination of Linda Chu Takayama for the Director of Department of Taxation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**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
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 506
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DIRECTOR
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-03-2018**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 506 nominating Linda Chu Takayama to serve as the Director of the Department of Taxation (DoTax) to expire on December 3, 2018.

Ms Takayama is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a degree in journalism, and of George Mason University School of Law. She is licensed to practice law in Hawaii and Pennsylvania.

Ms. Takayama brings a wide range of public and private experience to her the position as the Director of DoTax. She has been the director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations as well as the Deputy Director for the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. She has also worked at high levels for the City and County of Honolulu and in the United States Senate. The Department has found Ms. Takayama to be cordial and responsive when helping us to address labor issues in her previous position.

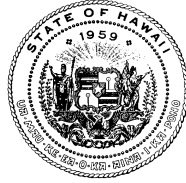
Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Ms. Takayama serving as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

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 HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM506
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of the Department of
Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA, for a Term to Expire at
Noon on 12-03-2018

SENATOR DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: February 13, 2018

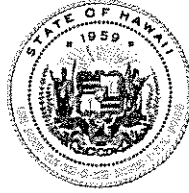
Room Number: 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None for Department of Health.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of Linda
3 Chu-Takayama for Director, Department of Taxation. In addition to her storied resume, Ms.
4 Chu-Takayama recent tenure as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
5 was characterized by strong leadership and clear vision. Her renewed emphasis on health care
6 workforce development was a true partnership among key Cabinet agencies. I look forward to
7 Linda bringing her commitment to public service, collaborative nature, and talent for
8 administration to the Department of Taxation.

9

10 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.



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

February 13, 2018

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

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

GM 506 Linda Chu Takayama to Serve as Director of the Department of Taxation

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

My name is Leonard Hoshijo and I am the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). In both a personal and professional capacity, I strongly support the confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation. Linda's extensive public and private sector experience, her educational credentials, and her recent tenure in which she served effectively and admirably as Director of DLIR, have well-prepared her to serve as Director of the Department of Taxation.

I urge you to confirm Ms. Chu Takayama to serve as the Director for Taxation where, if confirmed, she will be an effective public servant.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Chu Takayama.

GM 506 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA, for a term to expire 12-03-2018

Committee on Ways and Means

February 13, 2018

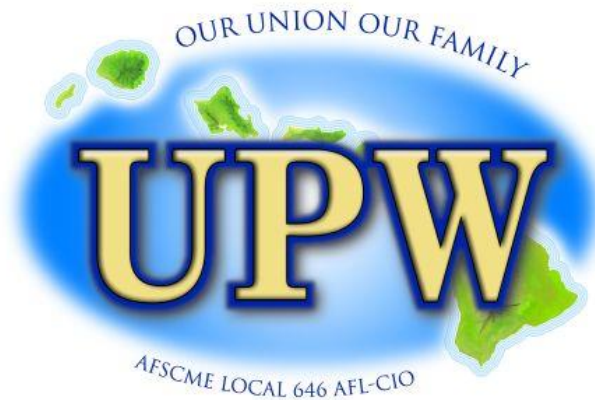
Room 211 @ 10:00 AM

I am pleased to have the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the appointment of Linda Chu Takayama as the Director of the Department of Taxation (DOTAX). Linda and I have served together as the Governor's representative to the Pearl City Neighborhood Board and in that time I have always found her to be reasonable, intelligent, and willing to serve her community.

Linda's work at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to strengthen the penalties for wage violations, expand Hawaii's Family Leave Law, and protect the construction workers working on Ala Moana Shopping Center's Ewa Wing demonstrates that she possess' the will and know how to get things done for the people of Hawaii. These traits will be crucial as DOTAX completes its Tax System Modernization program.

For these reasons I strongly support the confirmation of Linda as DOTAX Director and I encourage the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to advise and consent.

SUBMITTED BY: ED SNIFFEN



THE HAWAII STATE SENATE

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Keith S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
TIME OF HEARING: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol, Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY ON GM506 LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA

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 confirmation of Interim Director Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Hawaii State Department of Taxation. Ms. Takayama has held high-level leadership positions throughout her career and is eminently qualified to be the Director of the Department of Taxation. She has a broad span of executive experience in many fields from business, finance, insurance, to all three levels of government, legal and community affairs. We believe that she has already earned the confidence and support of the dedicated staff of the DOTAX as Interim Director of the Department of Taxation.

The UPW humbly requests the Senate Ways and Means Committee to submit GM506 to the full Senate for her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

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

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 506
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
FOR DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, 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 **support** of Governor's Message 506, Relating to Gubernatorial Nominee Linda Chu Takayama for Director of the Department of Taxation (DOTAX).

Ms. Takayama brings a wealth of experience and leadership to the position of DOTAX director. Her career spans decades in government, the private sector, and nonprofit organizations. I worked closely with her when she was director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and more recently when she became the Interim Director of the Department of Taxation. Takayama previously served as the executive director of the Honolulu Mayor's Office of Economic Development, deputy director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and as the Hawai'i Insurance Commissioner.

As interim director of DOTAX, she has gained the understanding and knowledge of the structure, and function of the department. She is committed to ensuring that our taxpayers, both individuals and businesses, are served well making her the appropriate and suitable person to lead the organization.

Thank you for your consideration of ETS's strong support of Ms. Takayama serving as the Director of DLIR.

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 3:47:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marie Laderta		Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of the confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama for the position of the Director of the Department of Taxation.

Marie Laderta

Member, Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 4:38:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melanie Matsui	LIRAB	Support	No

Comments:

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 4:47:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lily ling	DLIR-LIRAB	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony from Lily O.C. Ling, Executive Officer, Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board:

I strongly support the confirmation of Director Linda Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation. I worked with Director Takayama when she was the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board. She is a collaborative leader and manager who provided strong leadership and guidance to the department and its attached agencies. She will certainly do the same at the Department of Taxation.

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 12:30:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alan oshima	Hawaiian Electric Company	Support	Yes

Comments:

I am testifying in support of the confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation. I have worked as a community volunteer alongside Ms. Takayama for over 15 years and have a deep respect for her commitment to public service and Hawaii. She is dedicated, organized, a person of high integrity and has a very strong work ethic.

We have worked as leaders of Hawaii 3Rs that has saved the State of Hawaii over \$40 million while addressing the backlog in school repairs and improvements. Hawaii 3Rs brings the community, school stakeholders and the building sector together to lower the cost of needed repairs by adding "sweat equity", volunteer efforts and/or funding, to approved projects.

I would be willing to provide other information as requested. Mahalo, Alan Oshima

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 8:21:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachele Lamosao	Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation	Support	Yes

Comments:



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: February 12, 2018

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Submitted Via Capitol Website

RE: **GM 506 – Confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Linda Chu Takayama
Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room: 211**

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Rick Tsujimura and write in **support** of the nomination of Linda Chu Takayama's appointment as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have known Linda and Gregg for over two decades. We first worked together when Linda served under Governor Waihee as Insurance Commissioner and we were devastated by Hurricane Iniki. Although we have had our differences, I respect Linda and her ability to charge forward to solve problems. Her current appointment to the Department of Taxation is not an easy assignment but I know she will face it just as she faced a devastated homeowners market during Iniki and solved the problem.

I ask for your support of her nomination and positive consent to her appointment.

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 9:17:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Kawaoka	DOH	Support	No

Comments:

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 7:25:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig K. Hirai		Support	No

Comments:

I have known Linda Chu Takayama for many years and support her nomination for Director of the Department of Taxation.

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Pankaj Bhanot (in my personal capacity)

Re: GM 506

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Place: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, my name is Pankaj Bhanot and I am the current Director of the Department of Human Services. However, I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen in **strong support** of GM 506 submitted by the Governor for consideration and confirmation of Ms. Linda Chu Takayama as the Director of Taxation, for a term to expire at noon on December 03, 2018.

Ms. Takayama has a long history of serving our great Country and Aloha State in various capacities in the public and private sector. She has the professional experience, education, knowledge, skills, abilities, and the lived experience to honorably and competently serve as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

She served as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, which included unemployment insurance, workforce development, worker safety (OSHA), workers compensation, health insurance, wage and hour standards, nonprofit grants, and civil rights. I had the honor and pleasure to work collaboratively with Ms. Takayama on various issues related to the employment opportunities for low-income and under-employed residents of Hawaii. We also had the opportunity to collaborate on the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA); and data sharing efforts to serve our citizens in an efficient and streamlined manner.

She also served as the Director of Economic Development for the City & County of Honolulu where her duties included community revitalization, agriculture and international affairs; Deputy Director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, which regulates businesses, banks and financial institutions, real estate sales, securities, insurance, cable television and 30 boards and commissions; Hawaii Insurance Commissioner. She was responsible for enforcing Hawaii's insurance code, including insurance rates, financial examinations, and admission, as well as the licensing of individual agents. During her tenure, she developed programs to stabilize and expand a collapsing property insurance market in the highly volatile period following the unprecedented losses of Hurricane Iniki, including the establishment of a \$1.5 billion pool for hurricane insurance (Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund) and led national efforts to seek a federal solution to catastrophe exposure.

She also served as the chief of staff to the U.S. Senate Sergeant Arms in Washington, D.C., the largest office in the Senate, responsible for providing support services, security and technical services to Senate offices, with a budget of \$120 million and a staff of more than 1,500. The Office included the Senate Computer Center, Recording Studio, Post Office, Capitol Police, Telecommunications, Capitol Guide Service, four press galleries, Photographic Studio, custodial services, print shop and services to 400 district offices.

For about 20 years, she was an attorney with practice areas in county, state and federal regulatory and governmental affairs, health, insurance, land development and corporate business law.

She currently serves as the Chair of the Hawaii Foodbank (named the No. 1 charity in Hawaii). She was a founder and coordinator of Ready to Learn, a nonprofit program providing school supplies to 25,000 needy children in Hawaii and is a founder and current Secretary/Treasurer of Hawaii 3R's, a program providing repair and maintenance on Hawaii public schools.

Born and raised in Honolulu, she received a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Hawaii. She earned her Juris Doctor degree from George Mason University School of Law in Virginia and is licensed to practice in Pennsylvania and Hawaii.

I request the Ways and Means and the Senate to unanimously confirm Ms. Lida Chu Takayama as the Director of the Department of Taxation. Thank you for the opportunity to support GM 506.

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2018

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

TESTIMONY ON GM 506 - RELATING TO THE CONFIRMATION OF LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

TO THE HONORABLE DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Nolan Kawano and I strongly support the appointment of Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have known Linda for many years, first professionally in her role as Deputy Director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, but most importantly in her community services work as Chair of the Hawaii Foodbank and as Secretary/Treasurer of Hawaii 3Rs.

Both of these non-profit organizations offer valuable community support and Linda has been at the forefront of directing their missions. She has been both creative and disciplined in her leadership role with these organizations and as a result, they have survived and thrived even during the most difficult of times.

Given Linda's outstanding leadership and strong sense of doing what's right for those she serves, I strongly support her confirmation as Director of the Department of Taxation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 8:25:34 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rona Suzuki		Support	No

Comments:

February 12, 2018

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and
members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Rona M. Suzuki

Subject: Governor's Message 506: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Linda Chu Takayama, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018

I am pleased to offer testimony in **strong support** of Linda Chu Takayama's appointment as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have known and worked with Ms. Takayama in various capacities for more than a decade. She is an intelligent, fair, and focused manager.

Most recently, while at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, we worked together to improve the Office of Community Services, where I served as the Executive Director. We also worked on the shutdown of the Hawaii Health Connector and the transition of Hawaii's Exchange to a "State-based Exchange using the Federal Platform."

In the short time that she has been with the Department of Taxation, she has learned about the department and identified many opportunities for improvement that she is working to address. She has set clear priorities for improving customer service, accountability, and teamwork. With her leadership, the Department of Taxation's critical Tax System Modernization project will be put back on the right track to deliver the functionality needed by the State now and into the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in **strong support** of Ms. Takayama's nomination.

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 8:07:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Grimm		Support	Yes

Comments:

My name is Dick Grimm and I have worked with Linda Chu Takayama for over seventeen years. Linda and I first served on the Hawaii Foodbank Board of Directors and then she hired me to be the President of that firm.

Linda was and still is the Chairwoman of the Hawaii Foodbank and I reported to her. I can vouch for her fairness, empathy and acute sense of direction in managing and guiding not only the Hawaii Foodbank both all of its staff. Linda was always able to see the big picture and help guide me through some difficult decisions. Yet, she did not micro-manage.

With Linda's help we were able to build the Hawaii Foodbank into one of the best nonprofits in the State.

I heartily endorse Linda Chu Takayama for the position of Director of Taxation. I know she will do a great job

Thank You,

Dick Grimm

CYNTHIA S. NAKAMURA

Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 4115
Honolulu, HI. 96812

Tuesday, February 13, 2018; 10:00 am
Conference Room 211

Written Testimony Presented Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

GM 506, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

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

My name is Cynthia Nakamura. I am a licensed attorney practicing in Hawaii.

I write in strong support of Linda Chu Takayama, Gubernatorial Nominee for Director Taxation. I worked with Linda for nearly fifteen (15) years in private practice. Prior to joining her law practice, I knew Linda when we both worked at the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs where Linda served as Insurance Commissioner and later as Deputy Director.

Until her appointment as Interim Director of the Department of Taxation, Linda served as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, which included unemployment insurance, workforce development, worker safety (OSHA), workers compensation, health insurance, wage and hour standards, nonprofit grants, and civil rights. She also was the Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, where she had oversight of international affairs, business and economic issues, as well as agricultural matters and the City's film office. With experience in both the public and private sectors, Linda has the skills and knowledge to be effective. Linda is energetic and hard working, and can tackle any assignment given to her. I believe Linda is an ideal nominee to lead the Department of Taxation.

In addition to her professional career and responsibilities, Linda serves as the Chair of the Hawaii Foodbank (named the No. 1 charity in Hawaii). She was also instrumental in establishing the Ready To Learn program (a nonprofit program providing school supplies to needy children) and Hawaii 3R's (a program providing repair and maintenance on Hawaii's public schools) of which she is the current Secretary/Treasurer.

I ask that this Committee support Linda's nomination and recommend her confirmation as Director of Taxation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Linda's nomination.

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 2:53:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darrell T. Young		Support	No

Comments:

GM 506 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.

Committee on Ways and Means

February 13, 2018

Room 211 @ 10:00 am

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Agaran-Keith, and members of the committee:

It is an honor to offer this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Linda Chu Takayama as the Director of the Department of Taxation. Mrs. Takayama brings years of experience and expertise in public service as the former Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Other public service positions have included the Director of the City and County of Honolulu's Office of Economic Development, Deputy Director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and Chief of Staff to the US Senate Sergeant at Arms in Washington DC. Her collective experience from the public and private sector makes her the best person for overseeing the transitional and modernization efforts for the department.

We respectfully request your support of Linda's nomination, and we thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
FOR DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

G.M. 506
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.
Room 211

I support the nomination and confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama for Director of Taxation.

I have known and worked with Ms. Takayama for many years and know her to be intelligent, well organized, and a person of high moral character. Her excellent management skills will serve her well as Director of Taxation.

Thank you for allowing e this opportunity to submit this testimony in firm support of her nomination.

Submitted by:
Russell Suzuki
February 10, 2018
Russ1106ras@msn.com