

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 WAYS & MEANS

FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:00 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 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

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 506. This measure seeks to confirm Linda Chu Takayama as the State's Director of the Department of Taxation. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Ms. Takayama has been a public servant for the State of Hawaii for many years now. Her experience in important roles, such as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relation and Economic Development with the City & County of Honolulu, provides a solid understanding of local State government. The knowledge that Ms. Takayama has gained as a result of her career is something that the State of Hawaii will benefit from in her role as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LATE

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

TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

G.M. 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, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 506. I support the nomination of Ms. Linda Chu Takayama to the position of the Director of the Department of Taxation (DOTAX).

Ms. Takayama was appointed to serve as the Director of DOTAX in December 2017. Previously, she served as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) from April 2015 which oversees unemployment insurance, workforce development, worker safety (OSHA), workers compensation, health insurance, wage and hourly standards, nonprofit grants and civil rights.

Ms. Takayama served as the Executive Director of the City & County of Honolulu's Office of Economic Development, the Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), Hawaii State Insurance Commissioner, and the Chief of Staff in the

Office of U.S. Senate Sergeant at Arms. In addition to her extensive career in public service, Ms. Takayama was an attorney in private practice for nearly 20 years specializing in the areas of county, state, and federal regulations, government affairs, health, insurance, land development, and corporate business law.

Ms. Takayama's public service extends to the community where she serves as the Chair of the Hawaii Foodbank and Director on the Board of the Hawaii Health Information Corporation. She previously served as the Director on the Board of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle, Zephyr Insurance company, and on the Board of Governors of the East-West Center. She was a founder and coordinator of Ready to Lean, a nonprofit program providing school supplies to 25,000 needy children in Hawaii and a founder and current Secretary/Treasurer of Hawaii's 3R's, a program providing repair and maintenance on Hawaii's public schools.

Ms. Takayama's exemplary career, background, and character will continue to serve for the State of Hawaii well in her new position.

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



LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS**

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 AM
State Capitol, 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 am writing in strong support of the appointment of Linda Chu Takayama to serve as the Director for the State Department of Taxation. My name is Luis Salaveria, and I am Director for the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I have had the opportunity to work with Linda under this administration, and feel her confirmation as DOTAX Director will benefit the people of Hawaii. Linda brings a wealth of knowledge to the position and is highly qualified to serve in the role, having worked in various leadership roles across state government in her career, along with her most recent role as Director for the State Department of Labor and Industrial relations for the past three years.

Linda is highly intelligent and she is always clear and concise in her communication style. She is the ultimate professional in my opinion.

For these reasons, I strongly urge her confirmation for DOTAX Director.

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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

LATE

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNORS MESSAGE 506
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA

PRESENTATION TO
THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
12 February 2018

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

I am Major General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Governors Message 506, Gubernatorial Nominee Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation.

I wholeheartedly support Linda Chu Takayama and request your support for her to fill the Director of Taxation.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governors Message 506 and Linda Chu Takayama.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RYKER WADA
INTERIM DIRECTOR

JASON MINAMI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

LATE

February 12, 2018

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
For Hearing on Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 211

By

RYKER WADA
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Governor's Message 506

(WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY)

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

RE: Consideration and confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama, for Director of the Department of Taxation

I submit this testimony in **Strong Support** of the confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Taxation. In the short time I have had the pleasure of knowing Ms. Chu Takayama in her capacity as Acting Director of the Department of Taxation, I have found her to be a dedicated, knowledgeable, measured and a well-prepared person who is well suited for the position of Director of the Department of Taxation. In her current capacity I have experienced Ms. Chu Takayama as cooperative, helpful, and welcoming.

I support the confirmation of Ms. Chu Takayama as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governors Message 506 and Linda Chu Takayama.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RYKER WADA
INTERIM DIRECTOR

JASON MINAMI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

LATE

February 12, 2018

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
For Hearing on Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 211

By

JASON MINAMI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Governor's Message 506

(WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY)

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

RE: Consideration and confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama, for Director of the Department of Taxation

I submit this testimony in **Strong Support** of the confirmation of Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation. In the short time I have had the pleasure of knowing Ms. Chu Takayama in her capacity as Acting Director of the Department of Taxation, I have found him to be a dedicated, knowledgeable, measured and a well-prepared person who is well suited for the position of Director of Taxation. In her current capacity I have experienced Ms. Chu Takayama as cooperative, helpful, and welcoming.

I support the confirmation of Ms. Chu Takayama as the Director of Department of Taxation.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governors Message 506 and Linda Chu Takayama.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LEONARD HOSHJO
ACTING 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

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

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

From: Elaine Young, Administrator, Workforce Development Division
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 Elaine Young and I am the Administrator for the Workforce Development Division of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I support the confirmation of Ms. Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation. Ms. Chu Takayama has garnered years of experience in many areas of government, having served as the Executive Director of the Honolulu Mayor's Office of Economic Development, the Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Hawaii Insurance Commissioner, the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and as the Interim Director for the Department of Taxation.

Having worked directly with Ms. Chu Takayama during her tenure as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations I can attest that with her leadership and organizational skills, she is definitely well-prepared to serve as the Director of the Department of Taxation and I urge you to confirm her.

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

LATE

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:51:12 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Danny J Vasconcellos | DLIR LIRAB | Support | No |

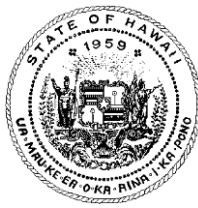
Comments:

I strongly support Linda Chu Takayama, the Governor's Nominee, for the DLIR Director of the Department of Taxation position.

Danny J. Vasconcellos

Chair, DLIR Labor& Industrial Relations Appeals Board (LIRAB)

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LATE

NOLAN P. ESPINDA
DIRECTOR

Cathy Ross
Deputy Director
Administration

Jodie F. Maesaka-Hirata
Deputy Director
Corrections

Renee R. Sonobe Hong
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 506,
NOMINATION OF LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA AS DIRECTOR OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

by

Nolan P. Espinda, Director
Department of Public Safety

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

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

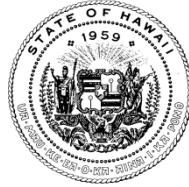
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **strongly supports** the appointment of Linda Chu Takayama to be Director of the Department of Taxation (DoTAX).

Ms. Chu Takayama possesses a wealth of related local and federal government work and leadership experience. She has been a member of the Administration's leadership team and will be able to seamlessly continue the work of the Department unabated.

PSD respectfully asks that this Committee favorably consider Ms. Chu Takayama's nomination as Director of DoTAX.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



Testimony of
JADE T. BUTAY
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROY CATALANI
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

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

G.M. 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

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** Linda Chu Takayama as Director of the Department of Taxation (DOTAX).

Ms. Chu Takayama received her B.A. in Journalism from the University of Hawaii and earned her Juris Doctorate degree from George Mason University. She has specialized in regulation, health, governmental affairs, insurance, and corporate business. Her distinguished legal career is marked by an intricate knowledge and understanding of the full range of laws and pertinent issues in these areas. Her abundant expertise in these areas has also garnered her a well-deserved reputation as respected public servant. She has led the Honolulu Office of Economic Development, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Insurance Commission, Office of Community Services and, most recently, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. There is also a side of Ms. Chu Takayama beyond her overwhelming qualifications that should be noted. She is a genuinely caring and warm person as demonstrated to her service to our most vulnerable as the Chairperson of the Hawaii Foodbank for the past 20 years.

There are few agencies that undertake the breadth and width of responsibility that DOTAX does to administer the State's tax laws in a consistent, uniform, and fair manner. The DOT believes Ms. Chu Takayama will do an excellent job.

Ms. Chu Takayama very well understands the balance needed by management and has an in-depth knowledge of State government and the issues for which DOTAX is responsible. Beyond managerial experience, the successful stewardship of the Department also requires the ability to work constructively with many stakeholders. Ms. Chu Takayama possesses the right amount of managerial and policy perspective that will serve DOTAX well and will ultimately serve those whose interests the Department is there to protect.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii-tourism-authority.org

David Y. Ige
Governor

George D. Szigeti
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
George D. Szigeti
Chief Executive Officer
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
on
GM506
Director of the Department of Taxation
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00am
Conference Room 211

LATE

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

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following **testimony in support of GM506**, which submits for consideration and confirmation, as Director of the Department of Taxation, Gubernatorial Nominee Linda Chu Takayama for a term to expire on December 3, 2018.

Ms. Takayama has been serving as Interim Director of the Department of Taxation since December 2017, and HTA supports her confirmation for a term to expire on December 3, 2018. Ms. Takayama has demonstrated her strength in leadership, most recently serving as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. At HTA, we recognize the importance of having strong and stable leadership in the Department of Taxation because of their work administering the State's revenue engine.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

February 12, 2018

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

LATE

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and WAM Members:

I regret that because of a scheduling conflict I will not be able to attend Tuesday's hearing to lend my voice to the nomination of a new tax director but submit this testimony in support of **Linda Chu Takayama**.

I have known Linda for a long time — over 20 years — and have had the privilege of working with her on a number of different projects over many years. There's a saying in sports that if you want to excel at something, you play with (or against) those who are better than you. For me, working with Linda these many years has been a lot like that and has made me into a better organizer and planner for special projects where the bar is often set high.

Linda has always demonstrated that you can be pleasant and still get a job done well. She listens with an open mind and offers constructive feedback or solutions to sticky problems. She's a great troubleshooter because she'll almost always weigh all options and doesn't hesitate to make a decision. She's fair and practical and like me, values efficiency and timeliness knowing that there are others depending on us to get certain jobs done.


She can ask hard or the right questions, which ultimately result in a better plan because potential trouble spots are either addressed early or identified in advance. But the greatest thing about Linda, which I've come to appreciate most is knowing that Linda is the kind of leader who will always have your back, through thick and thin. You just don't want to disappoint someone who is willing to go out on a limb with you!

Good leaders lead and then get out of the way. And somewhere in that mix, good leaders can't be rigid when unexpected things happen. Linda is always focused on getting the job done right and because of that, she's able to be flexible when plans change or need to change. And when all is said and done, Linda isn't afraid to roll up her sleeves and help in getting a job done, whether it's serving food or planting grass sod on a humid day in Ewa.

She is a hard worker and for her, there is no in-between when she commits to something. It's all or nothing to achieve success. And these are some of the reasons why I am confident Linda will give her best efforts to the post of state tax director and focus on moving the department forward as quickly and efficiently as possible. It will be an uphill climb with a department that is fraught with issues right now, but there is no one else who's willing and able to step in and get it back on track.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Kalowena Komeiji
Contact: Kalowena@gmail.com



Tuesday, February 13th, 2018 at 10:00AM
Conference Room 211

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President & Government Relations

Re: **Testimony in Strong Support of GM 506, Relating to Gubernatorial Nominee
Linda Chu Takayama**

My name is Michael Robinson and I am Vice President and Government Relations at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawai'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawai'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety.

I am writing in strong support of GM 506 regarding the nomination of Linda Chu Takayama to be the Director of the Department of Taxation.

Linda Chu Takayama's input will greatly benefit the Department of Taxation whose charge is to administer the tax laws of the State of Hawai'i in a consistent, uniform, and fair manner. 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. As the former Hawai'i Insurance Commissioner, 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 (Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund) and led national efforts to seek a federal solution to catastrophe exposure. Linda operates effectively under pressure and her breadth and depth of work experience qualifies her as an excellent candidate for the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have had the pleasure of working with Linda through her work as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and for more than a decade prior in her role in private practice as a government relations consultant to our health care system. I am

confident that she will bring the same diligence and concern for the well-being of our community as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I strongly support Linda's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Taxation. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

LATE

GM-506

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:52:58 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Peter Sybinsky | Hawaii Helath Information Corp | Support | No |

Comments:

I have known Ms. Chu Takayama for twenty years, first as a member of the Cabinet of the Waihee Administration and then as CEO of the Board of the Hawaii Health Information corporation, of which Ms. Chu Takayama was a member. She is a highly qualified leader--a public administrator, who asks good questions and is steadfast in her pursuit of answers to those questions. Prior to her tenure as a nominee to become Director of Taxation, she has headed two state agencies, and has significant accomplishments in both. Her work as Insurance Commissioner after Hurricane Iniki is illustrative. In that role, she developed a comprehensive solution to the complex problems arising in Hawaii's insurance market after the hurricane, a solution provided a firm basis for reestablishing an insurance market and led to a leadership role in national efforts to address insurance problems after natural disasters. She is exceptionally qualified to be Director of Taxation. I strongly support her confirmation!

LATE

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

Re: 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 12-3-2018 – IN SUPPORT

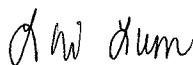
Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Linda Chu Takayama for the position of Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have known Linda for many years and have been impressed by her integrity, professionalism, communication and leadership skills, and her commitment to community service. She has been a public servant for many years, having served as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Director of Economic Development for the City and County of Honolulu, Deputy Director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and the Hawaii Insurance Commissioner. Linda is an attorney and for approximately 20 years practiced in regulatory and government affairs, health, insurance, land development and corporate business law. Her background, relevant experience, familiarity with the various State departments and existing relationships will provide for a smooth transition as Director.

I'm confident Linda will serve us well as the Director of the Department of Taxation. Your favorable action on her confirmation is respectfully requested. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,



Lori Lum
98-1008 Piku Place
Aiea, HI 96701

Audrey Hidano
1620 Hau Street
Honolulu, HI 96817



TESTIMONY OF
AUDREY HIDANO
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

G.M. 506

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

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 506. I support the nomination of Ms. Linda Chu Takayama to the position of Director of the Department of Taxation.

I am testifying as an individual and I am in support of Linda Chu Takayama's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have known Ms. Chu Takayama for about 20 years in her various roles in both the private sector and in State government. Recently I've worked closely with her while both at Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and at Department of Taxation. Ms. Chu Takayama is a very educated and dedicated public servant. She demonstrates professionalism and is a "get the job done" kind of person. Ms. Chu Takayama will truly be an asset to the people and the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Ms. Chu Takayama for the nomination of Director of the Department of Taxation.

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

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS

LATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2018

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 506, NOMINATING
LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA TO DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION.**

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

My name is Colin Hayashida and I strongly support the nomination of Linda Chu Takayama to Director of the Department of Taxation.

One of Ms. Takayama's greatest accomplishments was as Insurance Commissioner overseeing the Hawaii insurance market after Hurricane Iniki. It is through her efforts that the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund was established, and stability was brought back to the property insurance market in Hawaii. Today, state regulators across the country continue to echo the concerns for federal solutions to catastrophe exposure, which Ms. Takayama raised over twenty years ago. This serves as just one of many examples of how Ms. Takayama was a trailblazer during her tenure as Insurance Commissioner.

Ms. Takayama has been over the years not just a leader, but a problem solver. A public servant who has always shown competency whatever the subject matter and in a manner, that is fair. More importantly she is an individual who understands the importance and value of giving back to the community.

For those and many other reasons I ask for your favorable consideration on the appointment of Linda Chu Takayama to Director of the Department of Taxation. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the committee.

January February 12, 2018

Senate Committee On Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

LATE

Aloha Committee Members,

It is my great pleasure to recommend Linda Chu Takayama for the position of Director of the Department of Taxation for the State of Hawaii.

Linda is not only a friend, but a true professional who inspires greatness in the individual and the organization she leads. Her knowledge and experience base of working within government parameters, at all levels, spotlights her tremendous leadership skills. Linda is highly respected by her peers.

For nearly 30 years I have worked alongside her at the Hawaii FoodBank where, as a director and board chair, Linda led the foodbank to become one of the top charities in the state, awarded Four Stars by charity watchdog organization, Charity Navigator.

Linda is a fearless leader stepping out into the greater community on behalf of Hawaii's hungry. When she came aboard Hawaii FoodBank there was very little name recognition and the organization was on tenuous financial footing. Today, through Linda's leadership, the organization is on secure financial footing and carries a respected, well-known and robust brand of helping to feed Hawaii's hungry.

It is my great privilege to highly recommend Linda Chu Takayama to be named Director of the Department of Taxation for the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,
Sheri Rolf,
Hawaii FoodBank Director / Food Drive Chair

Sheri Rolf
Rolf Advertising
1100 Alakea Street Suite 2601
Honolulu, HI 96813
srolf@rolfadvertising.com
808-593-1533

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1100 Alakea Street Suite 2601 / Honolulu, HI 96813 / Phone: 808-593-1533

LATE

TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF
LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

February 13, 2018

To: Chairman Donovan Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am an attorney licensed in the State of Hawaii and have been primarily involved in government affairs for various clients. I am testifying in strong support of Linda Chu Takayama as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I have known Ms. Takayama for many years and had the opportunity to work on several issues for various clients with her throughout the years in her role as a public servant. I first interacted with her when she was the Hawaii Insurance Commissioner and found her to be fair and willing to listen to all sides of the issues I was working on. She always has a very positive attitude and is interested in solving the problems and/or issues that she is confronted with. I feel that this is one of her strengths besides her administrative ability. This same positive attitude was clear when she was the Deputy Director at the DCCA as well as when she worked at the City and County of Honolulu.

Her problem solving skills and her ability to listen to everyone and to find solutions makes her well suited to be the Director of the Department of Taxation.

I wholeheartedly support her nomination and urge this committee to recommend her for this position and for the Senate to confirm her as the Director of the Department of Taxation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.