

GM604

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Public Utilities Commission

Current Referral: CPH



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
March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m., Room 229

In consideration of
GM 604, Leodoloff Asuncion
to the
Public Utilities Commission

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Leodoloff Asuncion (Leo) to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

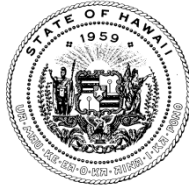
Leo currently serves as planning program administrator for the state's Office of Planning, overseeing the overall management, administration and operations of the Planning Division. He also served as director and interim director of the Office of Planning from 2015 – 2018.

Prior to that, he worked as a senior regulatory analyst and senior integrated resource planning analyst at Hawaiian Electric Company; a project planner/manager at SSFM International, Inc.; a planner for the Planning and Program Evaluation Division at the Hawai'i State Judiciary; and a state planner at the State Land Use Commission.

Leo's wealth of knowledge and experience will be an asset to the Public Utilities Commission to ensure that the public's interest is upheld in PUC matters.

My administration is committed to reshaping the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I am confident that Leo Asuncion has the expertise and commitment to continue to serve our community well. Moving forward together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

G.M. 604

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the confirmation of Leodoloff Asuncion as Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

Mr. Asuncion's understanding of planning, economics, regulatory and fiscal principles along with his ability to forecast trends and react proactively makes him an exemplary choice to be the Chairperson of the PUC.

We have every expectation that Mr. Asuncion will protect consumers, uphold the public trust, and approach his responsibilities with humility. He recognizes what is required of the PUC and understands the big picture and the need to have a balanced, measured, and responsible approach to the most complicated and challenging actions the PUC ever faced. We believe his experience and the lessons he has learned will serve him and the PUC well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

GLENN K. MURANAKA
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,
& HEALTH**

**MARCH 22, 2019
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 604
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020**

Chairperson Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 604, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Leodoloff Asuncion, for a term to expire 06-30-2020. The Department strongly supports this measure.

Mr. Asuncion has many years of experience with the State Office of Planning and with Hawaiian Electric Company. Mr. Asuncion had various responsibilities in each of his professional role highlighting his ability to be a leader for the State of Hawaii. He will be vital for the State of Hawaii in his work at the Public Utilities Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
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

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Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
Mike McCartney

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Friday, March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
GM 604
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee,
LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 6-30-2020.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee.

I **support** the appointment of **Leodoloff Asuncion** to serve on the Public Utilities Commission.

Leo is an experienced and skilled leader that has held various positions in the Office of Planning, most recently serving for five years as the Director. In past leadership roles with the State of Hawaii he has been responsible for the oversight of the Office of Planning from administration to operations, program management and the budget. At Hawaiian Electric Company he managed the regulatory affairs from implementation of policies to strategic direction. His understanding of regulatory requirements, in-depth knowledge of planning, proven leadership skills and commitment to public service are essential for the continued success of the Public Utilities Commission.

For these reasons, I urge his confirmation for the Public Utilities Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIJO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099

Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

March 21, 2019

To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair,
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health

Date: Friday, March 22, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Scott T. Murakami, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

**Re: G.M. No. 604 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Public
Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Scott T. Murakami, and I am the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I am testifying in strong support of Governor's Message 604, Gubernatorial Nominee, Leodoloff Asuncion, to serve on the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

Mr. Asuncion has demonstrated that he has the leadership and experience to serve on the PUC. As the Director of the Office of Planning, Mr. Asuncion oversaw the management, administration, and operations as well as represented the office before the Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, State Legislature, and various decision-making bodies. Mr. Asuncion's prior work as a Senior Regulatory Analyst at the Hawaiian Electric Company and his background in administration show his extensive experience and ability to address governmental issues and develop strong management plans for organizations.

I urge you to confirm Mr. Asuncion to serve on the PUC so that he may continue to provide leadership and service to the public.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Mr. Asuncion.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 420
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8675 / Fax: (808) 586-8685
Email: dliir.ocs@hawaii.gov

Testimony of
Denise Iseri-Matsubara
Executive Director, Office of Community Services
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
March 22, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 229

GM 604

Submitted for consideration and confirmation as a Member of the
Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Leo Asuncion

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Committee Members:

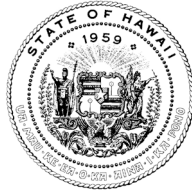
Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of the Governor's nomination of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). I've had the honor and the pleasure to work alongside Leo for the past several years in my capacity as the Governor's former housing coordinator and Chief of Staff's delegate on the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development.

In addition to his six years of resource planning and analyzing public utility regulations at the Hawaiian Electric Company, Leo also served as chair of the Special Action Team on Affordable Rental Housing (SAT). SAT was established by Act 127 (SLH, 2016) to explore ways to increase the supply of rental housing and achieve the mandated goal of 22,500 affordable rentals by 2026. Through his urban planning background and leadership skills, there was successful collaboration with the counties on a ten-year plan that identified 10,688 acres of suitable land for affordable housing, a list of recommendations, performance measures, and a timeline to achieve the production goal set forth by the Legislature.

Mr. Asuncion also served as co-chair for the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development, established by Act 130 (SLH, 2016), to coordinate development between the state and the county governments along the transit routes in each county. Leo's experience and academic training helped guide the group in applying smart growth and TOD principles in an effort to preserve non-urbanized land, improve workers' access to jobs, and reduce fuel consumption along the mass transit routes in each county. These are just a few of the many significant contributions that Leo Asuncion has made while at the Office of Planning.

As evinced by his impressive resume, Leo Asuncion is amply qualified to serve on the Public Utilities Commission. He not only has the experience and expertise, he has the integrity to act in the ratepayer's best interest. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support for this nominee.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
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Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTED, AND HEALTH
Friday, March 22, 2019

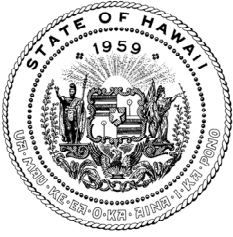
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 604
Gubernatorial Nominee Leodoloff Asuncion

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and members of the committee:

I am testifying in support of Leodoloff Asuncion, nominee to the Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Asuncion recently served as the director of the State Office of Planning (OP), from 2015 to 2018, and has also held other leadership roles within that office. As OP Director, he played a key role in the strategic partnership between the Office of Enterprise Technology Services and the Office of Planning that revamped and expanded the State's highly successful geographic information systems (GIS) program now used by many Hawaii State Government agencies and decision makers. Mr. Asuncion has also worked at the State Land Use Commission, and the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program.

Mr. Asuncion's planning positions in the public, private sector, and regulated utilities, gives him a comprehensive understanding of the complex, inter-dependent policy issues, such as in the energy area where he handled resource planning for Hawaiian Electric Company and for SSFM International, Inc. His broad background, experience, and commitment to public service during his 30-year career clearly qualifies him for appointment to the Public Utilities Commission. Further, his extensive project management, land use planning, environmental policy development, and program evaluation skills as a professional planner brings added expertise to that regulatory body.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this nomination.



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH | 235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702, Honolulu, HI 96813 | oeqchawaii@doh.hawaii.gov

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT GLENN
DIRECTOR

(808) 586-4185

Testimony of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Friday, March 22, 2019
10:00 AM, Room 229

in SUPPORT of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 604, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION
As a **Public Utilities Commissioner**
(Written Testimony Only)

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of the appointment of Mr. Leodoloff Asuncion to serve as a Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission.

Mr. Asuncion has extensive experience with regulated industries, including past experience as an integrated resource planning analyst and regulatory analyst for an electric utility. Mr. Asuncion in his capacity as the Director of the State Office of Planning served as the Co-Chair of the State Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Commission and the Chair of the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force. He is aware of the need for action to address our climate crisis through timely climate mitigation, such as achieving our 100% renewable electricity mandate. Also, as a member of the National Board of Directors for the American Planning Association, he is able to share nationally how Hawai'i is leading on our energy transformation and bring back emerging best practices and lessons learned from around the country to better inform our energy transition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-604

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 7:57:13 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/22/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Miyamoto	Testifying for Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

**Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair**

Governor's Message No. 604

**Testimony of Joe Boivin
President of Young Brothers, LLC**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

POSITION:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 604, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC"), Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire June 30, 2020. On behalf of Young Brothers, LLC ("Young Brothers"), **I submit this testimony in strong support of Mr. Asuncion's nomination.**

RATIONALE:

Mr. Asuncion is well-qualified and well-suited to lead the State as a PUC Commissioner. Mr. Asuncion's experience as the Director and Interim Director of the Office of Planning from 2015-2018, and as a senior regulatory analyst and senior integrated resource planning analyst at Hawaiian Electric Company before that, provides Mr. Asuncion with the depth and breadth of knowledge that will serve him and the State well as he analyzes and decides on the critically important issues that face the PUC and the State. His blend of public and private work experience places Mr. Asuncion in position to fairly weigh the public interest and the needs of Hawaii's public utilities to ensure safe and reliable service at a reasonable cost.

Mr. Asuncion's knowledge, experience, and leadership skills will be an invaluable resource to the PUC and the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Asuncion's nomination.



Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Friday, March 22, 2019 10 a.m.

Conference Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

RE: GM 604 – Nomination of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

I respectfully submit my strong support for the consideration and confirmation of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission and provide the following **comments** to GM 604:

Mr. Asuncion is well qualified for this role. In his recent capacity as the Director of the State’s Office of Planning and prior to then as the head of the State’s Coastal Zone Management Program, he is well-versed with a broad perspective of the state’s climate change, clean energy, sustainability, coastal zone and land use goals. Mr. Asuncion’s prior experience with the Hawaiian Electric Company also provides him with a unique understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing an electric utility. This is key as the state continues to advance a wide range of renewable energy projects to meet the 2045 targets. In addition to his professional roles, he is an active leader in the community and has a great record of public service having served on numerous state and national boards and associations.

Throughout Mr. Asuncion’s years of service to our state, I have found him to be a dedicated, thoughtful, and earnest leader who works collaboratively with his colleagues and peers to address challenges facing Hawaii. He is an excellent choice to serve on the Public Utilities Commission.

For these reasons, I humbly urge your support for the confirmation of Mr. Asuncion.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 604.

Sincerely,

Jeannine A. Souki
Director, Government Affairs and Communication



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 18, 2019

TO: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Rick Tsujimura

RE: **GM 604 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 6-30-2020.**
Hearing Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health:

I write in **support** of the nomination of Leo Asuncion's appointment to the Public Utilities Commission. I have known Leo and can attest to his sense of fairness, objectivity, and analytical ability. In his new role at the Public Utilities Commission he will bring these traits and more. Understanding where we as a state need to head but understanding the economics of doing business in Hawaii are unique abilities few of us have. Moreover, his local roots ground him in the challenges of the everyday individual trying to live a life here in the islands.

I know he will do a great job and urge the committee to support his nomination.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2019
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229

**TESTIMONY OF JAMES E. COON IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 604 CONSIDERING
NOMINATION TO PUC OF LEODOLOFF ASUNCION**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the CPH Committee:

My name is James Coon and I am testifying as a private Citizen.

I have known Mr. Asuncion for several years since he came to the Office of Planning. I have had the privilege of working in committees under his guidance and leadership and have appreciated his vision, competence and work ethic.

With the background of industry experience and Government employment, I believe Mr. Asuncion will be a strong voice in the PUC and urge his approval.

Sincerely,



James E. Coon

PO Box 847

Kula, HI 96790

Testimony to the Senate Committee on
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2019

Friday, March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.

Testimony on **Governor's Message No. 604**, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Leodoloff (Leo) R. Asuncion, Jr.**, for a Term to Expire on June 30, 2020.

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, the Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am writing in **support** of the appointment of Leo Asuncion to serve as Commissioner on the Public Utilities Commission, for a term to expire on June 30, 2020.

I've worked in some capacity with Leo Asuncion since around 2005, as he and I have held different positions over the years. Throughout that period, I have had the opportunity to observe the work Mr. Asuncion, who prior to being appointed as Commissioner, served as the Program Administrator and Director of the Office of Planning. I found Mr. Asuncion to be competent and helpful on matters that involved matters that crossed our jurisdictions. In addition, I believe he is hard-working, detail-oriented, and collaborative, and will be wonderful complement to the existing members and team at the Public Utilities Commission.

I firmly believe Mr. Asuncion will be a valued and highly productive member of the Commission, and respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 604. I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have.



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 22, 2019

TO: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Luis P. Salaveria

RE: **GM 604 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 6-30-2020.**
Hearing Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health:

I write in **support** of the nomination of Leo Asuncion's appointment to the Public Utilities Commission. I have known Leo for over 25 years in both a personal and professional capacity. Most recently I had the pleasure of working with Leo when he served as Director of the State Office of Planning. I found him to be a person of solid work ethic and deep understanding of the issues pertinent to his role. I believe he would be a valuable member of the Public Utilities Commission. Leo has had experience in both the public and private sectors, he worked on energy and utility related issues while at both Hawaiian Electric Company and State government. The experience he will bring to the commission will serve the people of Hawaii very well. Also as a lifelong resident of Hawaii, his grasp of local issues is absolutely critical as Hawaii's transforms and adjusts to a global economy.

I know he will do a great job and urge the committee to support his nomination.

I strongly support his appointment.

GM-604

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 7:49:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/22/2019 10:00:00 AM

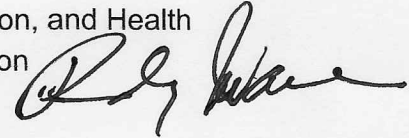
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bickel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have known Leo for five years or more. He is honest, hard-working, and intelligent.

Testimony Re: GM 604

To: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
From: Randy Iwase, Former Chair, Public Utilities Commission
Re: Testimony in Support of GM 604



Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

Please permit me to take this means to submit testimony in **STRONG** support of the nomination of Leodoloff Asuncion as Commissioner to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

Mr. Asuncion's career in both the public and private sectors and his current leadership role at the Office of Planning makes him uniquely qualified to serve as a Commissioner. The PUC is facing difficult but exciting challenges ahead. In addition to its regulatory oversight of a variety of utilities (e.g. motor carriers/water carriers, telecommunications and enforcement activities), the PUC is also tasked with helping to shape our energy policies and to meet the statutory mandate of 100% renewable energy by the year 2045. With his background and experience, Mr. Asuncion will be a valuable member of the PUC in its drive to meet that important goal.

I respectfully ask that this Committee approve the nomination of Mr. Asuncion.

Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF
JENNIFER M. POTTER

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Friday, March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

MEASURE: GM 604

TITLE: Governor's Message Number 604.

DESCRIPTION: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

POSITION:

Jennifer M. Potter is in **support** of GM 604 and offers the following comments for consideration.

COMMENTS:

I, Jennifer Potter, is in support of this measure to confirm as Commissioner to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

LEO ASUNCION is an excellent choice for Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission. Given his commendable experience at the Office of Planning for the State of Hawaii, academic accomplishments, and ongoing dedication to public service, I believe that Mr. Asuncion will be a valued and highly productive member of the Commission, and respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-604

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 10:44:25 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/22/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse K. Souki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

I support the confirmation of Leodoloff Asuncion to serve on the Public Utilities Commission.

I have worked directly with Mr. Asuncion when I served as the director of the State Office of Planning. He is a thoughtful, smart, and patient public servant who gets the job done. His experience as a planner with a background and working knowledge in energy policy will be an excellent asset to the Commission and the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,
Jesse K. Souki

GM-604

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 10:49:23 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/22/2019 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

I write in **support** of the nomination of Leodoloff "Leo" Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission. I have know Leo from our days in the Urban and Regional Planning program at UH Manoa.

Leo is a committed public servant and will contribute much to the State in this position. He has a keen ability to understand and communicate complex issues. He is a well-rounded, fair, and honest person, who cares deeply about Hawaii and its people.

I believe Leo will be a valued member of the PUC and respectfully ask for your advise and consent to his nomination.

Sincerely,

Janice Takahashi

Testimony of
Linda K. Rosehill
President, Rosehill & Associates

Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
March 22, 2019
10:00am, Room 229

In consideration of
GM 604, Leodoloff Asuncion
as the
Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the nomination of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission.

Mr. Asuncion's background in both private sector as well as in Government gives him a broad and experienced base from which to make reasoned decisions. His addition will provide diversity as well as balance to the current commission. The tasks before the Public Utilities Commission will have lasting and potentially major impacts on the community and the future of the state; Mr. Asuncion is well up to those tasks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

TESTIMONY OF
JAMES P. GRIFFIN, Ph.D.

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.

MEASURE: GM 604

TITLE: Governor's Message Number 604.

DESCRIPTION: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

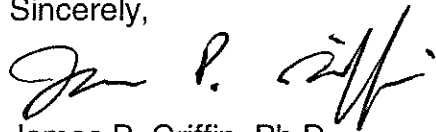
Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC" or "Commission"). With Mr. Asuncion's prior experience and professional training, he is well qualified to serve on the PUC. As Director of the Office of Planning, which appears as a mandatory party before the Land Use Commission, he has considerable experience with the conduct of quasi-judicial proceedings. Mr. Asuncion's background includes electric utility planning but also spans other industries and public policy areas, including coastal zone management. With this broad involvement in public policy issues that are important to Hawaii's future, Mr. Asuncion is prepared to address the wide array of regulated utilities and regulatory issues within the PUC's jurisdiction.

In my personal interactions with the nominee, he is highly motivated by public service and understands the critical role of the Commission. For these reasons, I encourage your committee to consider his nomination favorably.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Asuncion's nomination.

Sincerely,



James P. Griffin, Ph.D.

Chair, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

GM-604

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 3:10:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/22/2019 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I urge your favorable consideration of the nomination of Leo Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission. His extensive experience in planning and regulatory affairs make him a solid addition to the Commission.

March 21, 2019

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawai'i State Senate
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker, Senator Chang, Committee Members:

I was thrilled to learn about the Governor's nomination of Leodoloff "Leo" Asuncion to the state Public Utilities Commission and enthusiastically support his confirmation to this position.

I worked extensively with Leo when we were members of the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce in the 1990s. I did not know him prior to our service in the Jaycees, by quickly acquired a sense of his commitment, diligence, and leadership qualities.

As president of that organization, I appointed Leo to the Young Business Roundtable, a newly launched program we created in partnership with Hawaii Business magazine. Leo's leadership of that effort was instrumental in its success and the roundtable's continued existence two decades later is a testament to Leo's role.

As a former staffer in the Senate and as a former employee of the company then known as Verizon Hawaii, I see Leo's extensive planning and policy experience as a tremendous benefit to the people of the state through the PUC.

I look forward to Leo's service on the PUC and support his confirmation as a commissioner.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Kamisugi", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Kamisugi
340 S. Lemon Ave, Unit 5588
Walnut, CA 91789
415-874-5550
keith@keithpr.com

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
RODERICK K. BECKER
AND
ROBERT YU

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 604

March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.
Room 229

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 06-30-2020.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee:

We strongly support the appointment of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). We will work with Mr. Asuncion in our professional capacities as Director and Deputy Director of Finance, respectively.

Governor Ige's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our state in a direct and forthright manner. We strive to do the right thing, the right way to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable economy to support our keiki, our kupuna, and the disadvantaged.

Mr. Asuncion is an integral part of a team that is committed to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Mr. Asuncion has worked in various State positions including the Office of Planning, the Judiciary and the Land Use Commission. In addition, he worked at the Hawaiian Electric Company for six years. His work experience will benefit PUC and the State; therefore, we support confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



March 22, 2019

Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Vice Chair Senator Stanley Chang
Committee on Commerce, Consumer
Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 604 - Letter in Support of the Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee,
LEODOLOFF ASUNCION To Serve on the Public Utilities Commission

Hearing: **Friday, March 22, 2019 @ 10:00 AM**, Conf. Rm. 229
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this letter in **strong support** of the nomination of **LEO ASUNCION** to serve on the Public Utilities Commission. I have known Mr. Asuncion for over ten (10) years. He has broad experience in both the public and private sectors, including serving in the Office of Planning as a planning administrator; and then as director and interim director from 2015-2018. In addition, he was a planner at the State Judiciary and at the State Land Use Commission. His broad experience in the private sector included time with the Hawaiian Electric Company and an engineering firm.

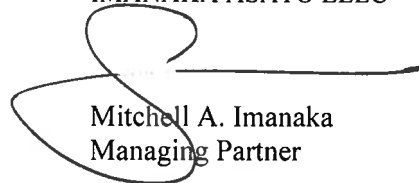
Mr. Asuncion is a person of integrity. He brings to the table a wealth of knowledge and experience in project management, administration, policy development, implementation methodology and in areas of budget and finance. As a senior regulatory analyst and senior integrated resource planning analyst at Hawaiian Electric (HECO) from 2005 to 2011, he worked with the PUC in developing new integrated resource planning process and obtaining approval from the PUC to establish a special electrical vehicle charging time-of-use rate. Mr. Asuncion has a long history of reviewing different sectors in government planning and evaluating policy, programs, research and analysis, environmental impacts, as well as authoring and managing various State and Federal projects.

The people of Hawaii will be well served if Leo Asuncion is a member of the Public Utilities Commission.

I am pleased to submit this letter in **support of LEO ASUNCION's** nomination and stand ready to answer any questions should they arise.

With Aloha,

IMANAKA ASATO LLLC



Mitchell A. Imanaka
Managing Partner

MAI:ssk

Copy via Email: L. Asuncion

Statement of
Mary Alice Evans

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Friday, March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
GM 604
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation, Public Utilities Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee,
LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, for a term to expire 6-30-2020.**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee.

I recommend your **strong support** the appointment of **Leodoloff Asuncion** to serve on the Public Utilities Commission.

I have known Leo since he worked for the State Land Use Commission a few years ago. I have worked with Leo, and for Leo, at the Office of Planning. Leo has the right combination of experience with a regulated monopoly and representing the public's interests in dockets before the PUC. Leo is an experienced planner and dedicated public servant.

For these reasons, I urge your advice and consent to Leo Asuncion's confirmation for Commissioner on the Public Utilities Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

TESTIMONY OF DAMIEN ELEFANTE
TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019 10:00 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

GOV. MSG NO. 604

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and members of the Committee. I am testifying as an individual and I am in strong support of Leo Asuncion's confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission.

I have known Mr. Asuncion, since I became the Deputy Director for the Department of Taxation. From the day he was appointed, he has demonstrated his willingness to learn and implement the goals and objectives of the commission. His overall experiences working in a variety of positions in the public and private sector, as well as, his policy and regulatory knowledge is an asset and resource for the State.

I urge you to support the confirmation of Leo Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



ASHFORD + WRISTON
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

BENJAMIN A. KUDO
Telephone: (808) 539-0400
Fax: (808) 533-4945
bkudo@awlaw.com

March 21, 2019

To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Benjamin A. Kudo
Ashford & Wriston
999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM-604 – Consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION - **SUPPORT**.
Hearing date: Friday, March 22, 2019
Hearing time: 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee:

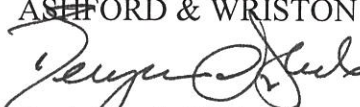
I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and the support of your Committee members on the appointment of Mr. Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission.

I have known Mr. Asuncion for over twenty years. His many years of service in State government has given him the ability and experience to be an excellent Commissioner. He is a person of high integrity, compassion and intelligence and has the capability to meet the challenges of this position. Mr. Asuncion will faithfully carry out his responsibilities as Commissioner for the State of Hawaii, Public Utilities Commission.

Based on the foregoing, I recommend with no reservation your favorable consideration of Mr. Leodoloff Asuncion for the aforementioned position. He is a person who will prove to be worthy of your support.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully urge your Committee's support to confirm his nomination.

Very truly yours,

ASHFORD & WRISTON

Benjamin A. Kudo

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Capitol
Consultants
of Hawaii

LATE

Hawaii State Senate
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health Committee
Chair Sen. Baker

**IN SUPPORT
GM604**

Nomination of Leodoloff Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission

March 22, 2019
10:00 a.m.
Room 229

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and members of the committee:

It is my honor and privilege to testify in support of Mr. Leo Asuncion's nomination to the Hawaii State Public Utilities Commission (PUC). I've known Mr. Asuncion for many years and regard him as a strong, intelligent and thoughtful leader.

He is an ideal candidate with an extensive background in land use planning and regulatory affairs for electric utilities. He possesses the skills and experience necessary to preside over the many critical issues facing the PUC.

Hawaii is at a critical crossroads with many of the issues that are overseen by the PUC. It is imperative, therefore, to have the right commissioners in place to guide our regulated industries for the benefit of all Hawaii's citizens. I am confident that Mr. Asuncion is an ideal fit for this important role.

I strongly urge the committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health to advise the Senate to confirm Mr. Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission.

Mahalo,

Bruce A. Coppa
President



**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,
AND HEALTH
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
10:00 AM**

March 22, 2019

RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 604, CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, LEODOLOFF ASUNCION, TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the committee:

My name is Gladys Quinto Marrone, CEO of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA-Hawaii is in **strong support** of the confirmation of Mr. Leodoloff (Leo) Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission.

Mr. Asuncion will bring a wealth of knowledge and government experience to the Commission. His prior positions at the Hawaiian Electric Company provides him with exposure in dealing with the Commission. As the Director of the Office of Planning, Mr. Asuncion provided oversight on a wide range of issues that impacted the State of Hawaii.

We believe that Mr. Asuncion will bring a fresh perspective to the Commission, and his knowledge and independent thinking will benefit the Commission in their regulatory capacity.

We strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Leodoloff (Leo) Asuncion to the Public Utilities Commission.

LEODOLOFF (LEO) R. ASUNCION, JR., AICP

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
State Capitol, Room 230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Senator Baker:

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES GM 604 – LEODOLOFF ASUNCION

In response to the questionnaire forwarded to me for completion prior to my confirmation hearing on Friday, March 22, 2019 at 10:00 am in State Capitol Room 229, please find attached my responses to the questions posed.

Should you or the committee have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to the confirmation hearing on March 22, 2019.

Mahalo,



Leodoloff (Leo) R. Asuncion, Jr., AICP

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

Leodoloff R. Asuncion, Jr.

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Public Utilities Commission?

I desire to continue my service to the State of Hawaii and its people. As a member of the Public Utilities Commission, this will be a unique opportunity to not only serve the public, but to also use my broad knowledge and experience from both the public and private sectors to shape balanced Commission decisions that impact our residents, businesses, and organizations.

(2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Commission?

A member of the Commission has the obligation to ensure establishment and maintenance of utility services as required by law, and to ensure that such services are provided at rates and conditions that are fair, reasonable and nondiscriminatory for all consumers.

A member of the Commission must also be aware of related issues and topics that surround its work and provide for open and holistic dialogue among all stakeholders to receive robust yet pertinent information that is used towards rendering decisions.

Lastly, a member of the Commission must serve as an unbiased decision-maker and issue decisions that are fair and have the public's interest at its core.

(3) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a commissioner, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Commission.

I possess qualified experience and skill sets that will be of great benefit to the Public Utilities Commission, including but not limited to:

- Extensive understanding and application of State goals, plans, policies, and objectives.
- Demonstrating a steadfast commitment to providing fair decision-making that fosters holistic success.
- Working knowledge of business, financial, economic and fiscal matters.
- Experience and knowledge of working with Hawaii's public utilities, stakeholders, and the Commission.

I have the background to work with a wide range of stakeholders and with people of varying backgrounds to provide the highest level of fairness and equity. I am capable of organizing and implementing initiatives and strategies that will result in the overall growth of the Public Utilities Commission, and I believe my proven communication skills, relationship skills, personal approach, holistic attitude, and good judgment will be of immense benefit to the organization.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

Within the current two-year term, I would like to accomplish the following:

- Assist the Public Utilities Commission in advancing their goals and objectives.
- Better the agency in terms of productivity and efficiency.
- Issue balanced decisions that are timely.

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

Leodoloff R. Asuncion, Jr.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Public Utilities Commission.

- Broad knowledge and experience
- Humility
- Open-minded

I believe that my broad knowledge and experience, including that received while at a utility will bring added benefit to the Commission by raising our knowledge base to a higher level. This will certainly assist in the issuance of decisions that are well thought out and considerate of all viewpoints.

Humility – where the importance is placed upon the public’s interests versus that of a Commissioner or staff – will bring great benefit to the Commission and will build the public’s trust of the Commission and the decisions issued.

Open-mindedness and being unbiased will benefit the Commission in its analysis and decision-making responsibilities.

(6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a commissioner.

Certainly, my experience of working for a utility will be beneficial as a Commissioner. During my tenure at the utility, I worked in areas where I was able to interact with various technical disciplines and learn about the business complexities of the organization. While specifics and circumstances regarding the utility may have changed since my leaving the utility, the basic underpinnings of the company remain the same, and this knowledge will be of benefit to me in carrying out my responsibilities as a Commissioner.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Public Utilities Commission? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any potential conflicts of interest that may arise during my service as a Public Utilities Commissioner. However, should potential conflicts of interests arise or are brought to my attention, I will seek the counsel and guidance of the Commission’s legal staff or of the State Ethics Commission to determine if a conflict of interest is present and to perform the necessary actions in order to clear the conflict of interest.