

GM 750  
ROBERT HALL

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY  
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 17907  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

Statement of  
**Hakim Ouansafi**  
Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

**Monday, April 22, 2019**  
**1:00 PM**  
**Room 423, Hawaii State Capitol**

In consideration of

**G.M. 750**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert Hall, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.**

Honorable Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony in support of Governor's Message 750, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Robert Hall, for a term to expire June 30, 2022.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports the confirmation of Mr. Hall to the HPHA Board of Directors. The HPHA Board needs directors with a variety of life experiences and professional expertise in order to effectively fulfill its role as a policy guide for the agency. Mr. Hall has many years of public service experience as a former employee of the Hawaii Housing Authority (HHA), Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH), and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. Mr. Hall's knowledge and experience will make him a great asset to the HPHA Board of Directors.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Housing with the agency's position regarding G.M. 750. We respectfully request the Committee to confirm Mr. Hall to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of Directors.



MUTUAL HOUSING  
ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

*"Building our communities with respect, integrity, and aloha..."*

Kekaulike Courtyards ♦ Ko'oloa'ula ♦ Lihu'e Court Townhomes ♦ Palolo Homes

April 17, 2019

The Honorable Stanley Chang  
and the Members of the Senate Committee on Housing  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street; Room 423  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Chang and Committee Members:

Subject: Letter of Support for Robert J. Hall – HPHA Board of Director

**The Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i, Inc. ("Mutual Housing") strongly supports the nomination of Robert J. Hall ("Bob Hall") to serve on the board of directors for the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority ("HPHA").** Mutual Housing is a local non-profit organization that develops, owns, and self-manages low-income rental housing for families in Hawai'i.

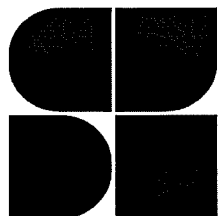
Back in the early 2000s, Mutual Housing privatized Palolo Homes which was the State of Hawai'i's first transfer of public housing. This privatization relieved the State of the financial and managerial burden of this very troubled property, and Bob was the State's champion as he deftly navigated numerous and complex federal and state regulatory requirements and was instrumental in securing Project-Based Section 8 for the property. Palolo Homes was lauded by former HUD Secretary Shaun Donavon as a private-public partnership model for the nation in the privatization and revitalization of public housing.

Bob is highly qualified to serve on the HPHA board. Obviously, he has relevant experience and extensive knowledge in the delivery and oversight of affordable housing in Hawai'i from his past roles within the Hawai'i Housing Authority and the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawai'i. Moreover, we have witnessed Bob's care for and his ability to communicate with the people we all serve, and his demonstrated ability to listen and understand will be a tremendous asset to the board.

We are fully confident that Bob can provide the wisdom and leadership that HPHA needs at this challenging time to help the State address the dire need for affordable shelter. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

David M. Nakamura  
Executive Director



## SHIGEMURA, LAU, SAKANASHI, HIGUCHI AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

April 17, 2019

Honorable Chairperson Stanley Chang  
Senate Committee on Housing  
Hawaii State Capital  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Howard K.C. Lau  
Craig H. Sakanashi  
Wayne K. Higuchi  
Beverly Ishii-Nakayama  
Jason Emoto

RE: Letter of Recommendation for **ROBERT HALL**  
Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Dear Mr. Chang:

I have known Robert Hall personally and professionally for 52 years now. In this entire time, Mr. Hall has always shown himself to be fair and of very high integrity. In his past positions with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL), the Hawaii Housing Authority (HHA) and the Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH), Mr. Hall has been involved with many architectural/engineering projects and is truly knowledgeable about the housing and construction industry in Hawaii. In his various capacities that included past roles as Director and Deputy Directors at the DHHL, HHA and HCDCH, he has developed these organizations into well-respected, strong, well-organized and financially sound ones that the community could rely on for affordable and low-income housing services. As such, with his past knowledge of how to develop and deliver affordable housing he would be a tremendous asset if he is allowed to serve on this Board.

Mr. Hall also has very good verbal and communication skills. Not only does he possess all the right attributes of a leader in our community, I have also always been most impressed by his integrity and professionalism over the many years of our acquaintance.

I highly recommend Mr. Hall for the Board position on the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. I believe he will serve at the very highest level and serve our community well in this capacity.

Very truly yours,

Sincerely,

Howard K.C. Lau, S.E.  
President  
Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates, Inc.  
Consulting Structural Engineers



# KEVIN'S ELECTRIC, INC.



April 18, 2019

The Honorable Stanley Chang  
Chair, Senate Committee on Housing  
The Honorable Dru Mamo Kanuha  
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Housing  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capital  
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Dear Chair Chang and Vice- Chair Kanuha and Members of the Committee,

RE: GM750: Relating to the nomination of Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

It gives me honor to support the nomination of Mr. Robert J. Hall in consideration of his nomination as a member of the Board of Directors for Hawaii Public Housing Authority. I have known Bobby for 52 years as a classmate at St. Louis School to the present day of serving on the St. Louis Alumni Association.

Bobby has been serving the State of Hawaii in many positions in government and has proven to be fair and provided high integrity in his performance. Whether his start in the Hawaii Housing Authority, to the Community Development Corporation of Hawaii and finally at Hawaiian Home Lands, he has proven to be a well-respected, strong and outstanding leader as a Deputy Director or Director of these agencies.

I humbly asked that you accept the nomination of Robert J. Hall as a Director to the State of Hawaii Public Housing Authority. I believe he will put his knowledge and experience of past employment to achieve greater leadership in housing needs for Hawaii.

Once again, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express my support.

Sincerely,

Kevin Chong Kee  
President  
Kevin's Electric Inc.



✦ 914 INDUSTRIAL ROAD ✦ HONOLULU, HI 96819-3347 ✦

✦ TEL: (808) 842-3655 ✦ FAX: (808) 848-2401 ✦ EMAIL: KCHONGKEE@AOL.COM ✦

✦ LICENSE #C14942 ✦



April 18, 2019

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chairperson**  
Michael W. Beasley, Esq.

Senator Stanley Chang, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing  
Hawaii State Senate

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Dr. Verlieann Malina Wright  
Ethan Cooper  
Alvin Pauole  
Herb Lee, Jr.

Dear Senator Chang & Members:

**ADMINISTRATION**

**President & CEO**  
Herb Lee Jr.  
**Chief Financial Officer**  
Louis F. Perez II  
**General Counsel**  
Ethan Cooper

Subject: GM 750; Consideration of Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

I am writing this letter in wholehearted support of Robert Hall to serve on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Pacific American Foundation  
C/O Bay View Golf Park  
45-285 Kaneohe Bay Drive, #102  
Kāne'ohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 664-3027  
[www.thepaf.org](http://www.thepaf.org)

My name is Herb Lee, Jr. and I am the CEO of the Pacific American Foundation. Established in 1993, the Pacific American Foundation (PAF) is a national 501c (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization with the mission to “improve the lives of Pacific Americans through service with dignity, courage, humility, and competence.” PAF’s goal is to influence systemic change in the educational system that preserve and perpetuate traditional indigenous ways of knowing for emerging Pacific Century leaders, college career readiness, culturally responsive research, evaluation and assessment, economic and community partnership development. PAF is a Native Hawaiian serving organization that owns and actively manages an ancient Hawaiian fishpond in Kaneohe bay.

I first become acquainted with Mr. Robert (Bobby) Hall about 10 years ago as a consultant and staff to the Pacific Growth Associates (PGA) Board in which I continue to serve.

We have been friends, colleagues and supporters of Hawaii’s families, children and children at-risk all during that time. PGA focuses on helping rural underserved communities with opportunities to utilize a federal New Market Tax Credit program in Hawaii and the Pacific.

His previous experience with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands makes him uniquely qualified in understanding both policy and implementation of serving the public to address housing and related economic development issues in Hawaii. He has had an exemplary career giving back to the community in many ways as his resume will show.

What I want to focus upon is his passion and desire to serve, his integrity and high standards that he has consistently practiced and lives by daily.

Hawaii is at a critical crossroads in its history and the issues facing government in the public housing arena will play a huge part in resolving the economic and homeless disparity. As an educator, community non-profit and working over 10 years in government, we need leaders that are committed to the values that make Hawaii unique for Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians alike.

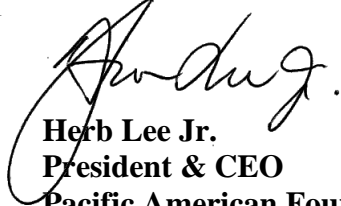
We need to build bridges of understanding between indigenous and contemporary ways of knowing.

Moreover, we need leaders that are fiercely respected by the work and deeds that have impacted our community in positive ways, over and over again.

I can't think of a better person in our community that has positively led us in so many ways, that has a proven track record of building relationships, doing what is right and pono while being innovative and never taking no for an answer. This is the Bobby Hall that I have known for the last 10 plus years! This is the kind of Board member that we desperately need to fortify the insight, respect and kuleana that I believe is critical for this unique job in our community.

Please give Bobby Hall your highest consideration as a proven innovative leader and bridge builder that will embrace the kuleana that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority has in our community.

Sincerely,



**Herb Lee Jr.**  
**President & CEO**  
**Pacific American Foundation**

**GM-750**

Submitted on: 4/19/2019 10:20:49 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/22/2019 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Perry O. Artates	Testifying for Waiohuli Hawaiian Homesteaders Association Inc	Support	No

Comments:





# Palolo Tenants Association

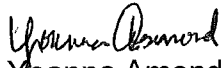
Date: April 19, 2019

To: THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING  
Senator Stanley Chang, Chair  
Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice chair  
Re: GM750 Robert Hall Nomination

Dear Senate Chair Chang and Senate Vice Chair Kanuha,

It is our honor to submit a letter of support for Robert Hall for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. He played a major role in his Executive position at the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawai'i in transitioning State owned Palolo Public Housing to Private. Robert Hall was able to secure vouchers for families to continue living at Palolo while undergoing renovations for 305 units in a year. It was done on budget and on time. It was a unique project in our islands that tied in the most important piece, the residents. Today, Palolo Homes residents strive to succeed and take advantage of the opportunities offered. The results would be different if it was not for Robert Hall's innovative mind to move this project through. Times have changed, we need to keep what works for housing in Hawaii and let go what is not. Many residents of Palolo Homes who witnessed the transition are grateful for the partnership that was brought together 17 years ago, to accomplish a goal that no one thought possible. Mahalo for your time and giving us the opportunity to share, there is no doubt in our mind that Robert Hall will be a benefit to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

Sincerely,

  
Ypanna Amond, President

Karly Kumo, Secretary



Pito Yandall, Vice President

Renee Arizo, Treasurer

Kehau Kupahu, Sgt. Of Arm

**LATE**

**GM-750**

Submitted on: 4/22/2019 8:34:19 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/22/2019 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Craig "Bo" Kahui	Testifying for Laiopua 2020	Support	Yes

Comments:

On behalf of Laiopua 2020 and the the Villages of Laiopu Homestead Association, I am writing in full support for Mr. Robert Hall to be confirmed to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

It has been an honor to work with Mr. Hall for nearly a decade and feel confident expressing my full support for his confirmation. Mr. Hall has served in executive management positions for 25 of the 33 years while being employed with the State of Hawaii government until he retired in 2011. He last served as Deputy Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, where he worked for over 15 years and can be considered an expert on its programs, policies and fiscal management. In his capacity, Bob guided the NAHASDA 5 Year Plan and implementation of NHHBG, had direct oversight of the Homestead Services Division, which managed admissions and occupancy and was instrumental in creating the department's Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) for new homebuyers.

Mr. Hall has the experience to offer the Housing Authority leadership and experience requisite of this position. In closing, we seek the committe's support Gubernatorial nominee Robert Hall to serve on the State Public Housing Authority. Mahalo

## LĀNA'Ī COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

P. O. Box 630142  
Lāna'ī City, HI 96763-0142



Phone: 808-565-6919  
Fax: 808-565-9111  
dshaw@lanaicommunityhealthcenter.org

*The Community is our Patient -- men, women, children, uninsured, insured!*

Testimony for  
Public Hearing  
Committee  
on Housing

**LATE**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, gubernatorial nominee, ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

April 22, 2019

Aloha Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee on Housing,

I am writing to show my strong support for Mr. Robert Hall to be confirmed to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. I believe Mr. Hall would be a great fit to serve on the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board and am writing to express my full support.

It has been an honor to work with Mr. Hall on several projects involving our new facility build and community effects. I feel confident expressing my full support for his confirmation. In addition to his work with us, Mr. Hall has served in executive management positions for 25 of the 33 years while being employed with the State of Hawaii government until he retired in 2011. He last served as Deputy Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, where he worked for over 15 years and can be considered an expert on its programs, policies and fiscal management to name a few. In his capacity, Bob guided the NAHASDA 5 Year Plan and implementation of NHHBG, had direct oversight of the Homestead Services Division, which managed admissions and occupancy and was instrumental in creating the department's Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) for new homebuyers.

As the former Executive Director of the State's Housing Agency (formerly known as

*E Ola nō Lāna'ī*

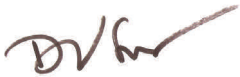
**LIFE, HEALTH, and WELL-BEING FOR LĀNA'Ī**

HCDCH), Mr. Hall is also experienced in low-income housing development, property management, crime prevention through neighborhood watch and youth programs and overall financial and fiscal management. Mr. Hall was key in developing Hawaii public housing's first tenant neighborhood watch program, which received a national award from HUD.

Without a doubt, Mr. Hall is an exceptional candidate and without question should be confirmed, as he will serve our community on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority with integrity, commitment, and focus.

Therefore, I kindly request that the Committee SUPPORT and confirm Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. Mahalo,

With Aloha,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D V Shaw', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Diana M V Shaw, PhD, MPH, MBA, FACMPE  
Executive Director

**GM-750**

Submitted on: 4/17/2019 2:18:35 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/22/2019 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gary R Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Honorable Senator Stanley Chang,

I am writing in support of Mr. Robert Hall for a position on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Authority. I feel that his extensive background and experience with the Hawaii Housing Authority and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands will be a tremendous asset to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Shimabukuro

Statement of  
**Mary Alice Evans**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

Monday, April 22, 2019  
1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 423

in consideration of  
**GM 750**  
**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the**  
**Hawaii Public Housing Authority, gubernatorial Nominee,**  
**ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 6-30-2022.**

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

I respectfully urge your **support** for the confirmation of Robert Hall to serve on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

I have known Bobby Hall for many years as he worked for DHHL and later HPHA. His experience with affordable housing projects is extensive and his knowledge of Hawaii's communities is that of a life-long kama'aina. His continued service on the HPHA board will bring valuable perspectives.

I respectfully urge you to recommend advice and consent to the nomination of Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

**LATE**

Testimony for Public Hearing  
Committee on Housing

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, gubernatorial nominee, ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.  
Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

April 22, 2019

Aloha Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee on Housing,

I am writing to show my strong support for Mr. Robert Hall to be confirmed to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. I believe Mr. Hall would be a great fit to serve on the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board and am writing to express my full support.

It has been an honor to work with Mr. Hall for nearly a decade and feel confident expressing my full support for his confirmation. Mr. Hall has served in executive management positions for 25 of the 33 years while being employed with the State of Hawaii government until he retired in 2011. He last served as Deputy Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, where he worked for over 15 years and can be considered an expert on its programs, policies and fiscal management to name a few. In his capacity, Bob guided the NAHASDA 5 Year Plan and implementation of NHHBG, had direct oversight of the Homestead Services Division, which managed admissions and occupancy and was instrumental in creating the department's Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) for new homebuyers.

As the former Executive Director of the State's Housing Agency (formerly known as HCDCH), Mr. Hall is also experienced in low-income housing development, property management, crime prevention through neighborhood watch and youth programs and overall financial and fiscal management. Mr. Hall was key in developing Hawaii public housing's first tenant neighborhood watch program, which received a national award from HUD.

Without a doubt, Mr. Hall is an exceptional candidate and without question should be confirmed, as he will serve our community on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority with integrity, commitment, and focus.

Therefore, I kindly request that the Committee SUPPORT and confirm Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

Mahalo,

*Tamar deFries*

Tamar deFries

**LATE**

**GM-750**

Submitted on: 4/22/2019 9:52:36 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/22/2019 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
George Benda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I personally know Bobby Hall to be a solid citizen, intelligent, thoughtful, caring, and diligent. He will make an excellent member of the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and deserves your vote of confirmation.



April 22, 2019

**LATE**

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair  
The Honorable Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair  
Committee on Housing  
Hawai'i State Senate  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 423  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: **GM 750 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.**

Aloha e Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, and members of the Committee on Housing:

It is a privilege to offer my strongest support of Mr. Robert Hall's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. I have worked closely with him over the past fifteen years and I attest that his extensive experience in housing development, policy, and administration, and public service make him the best qualified candidate for this appointment.

I first met Mr. Hall in 2005, when we worked together at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. As a colleague, he was responsive, diligent, and thorough. As a mentor, he was, and continues to be, supportive, considerate, and constructive. In the field of housing and home ownership, I found Mr. Hall to be an unmatched resource who understood all facets of public housing and public finance for housing development. His resume and career achievements, which include over a decade of service at the authority, speak for themselves. There is no question that Mr. Hall will be a tremendous asset for the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony. I ask that your committee advise and consent to Mr. Hall's nomination.

Mahalo nui loa,



Dreana Kalili  
Via E-mail: dreanalee@yahoo.com