



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

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

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS**

March 12, 2020

1:15 p.m., Conference Room 229

In consideration of
Governor's Message 504

Submitted for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, Kenneth S. Hara

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Kenneth S. Hara to serve as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Major General Hara previously held the positions of Deputy Adjutant of the Department of Defense and as commanding general of the Hawai'i Army National Guard. He has been a dual status commander on several occasions, most recently in support of the Kilauea volcanic eruption and Hurricane Lane in 2018 and has deployed numerous times locally and internationally.

Major General Hara holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Services from Hawai'i Pacific University and a Master of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. His awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman Badge, Army Aviator Badge, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Army Achievement Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

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

Mahalo for your consideration.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

**Thursday, March 12, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 504
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
KENNETH S. HARA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 504 nominating Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of the Defense, for a term to expire at noon on December 5, 2022.

Brigadier General Hara has extensive leadership and disaster response experience throughout his military career. In addition to serving as the Adjutant General for the past year, he has served through three deployments as the commander of the 2nd Battalion 299 Infantry to Baghdad, in support of Iraqi Freedom; the deputy commander of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in Kuwait; and as the commander of the Operations Coordination Center-Regional Command South, Security Forces Assistance Advisory Team, Kandahar, Afghanistan.

In addition to his federal deployments General Hara served with the 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry following Hurricane Iniki on Kauai; as the Task Force KOA commander following an earthquake that struck Hawaii Island in 2006; and more recently as the Dual Status Commander of Joint Task Force 50 in support of the Kilauea volcanic eruption and Hurricane Lane response on Hawaii Island in 2018. His deployments and steady rise through the ranks on familiarity with the Hawaii Department of Defense ensure that he will be an asset to meeting the mission of the Department of Defense.

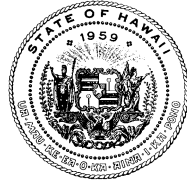
Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Governor's Message 504, nominating Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM504
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the
Department of Defense , Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to
expire at noon on 12-05-2022.**

SENATOR CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: March 21, 2020

Room Number: 229

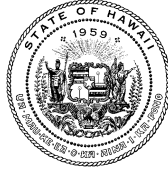
1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of
2 Brigadier General Kenneth Hara as Adjutant General for the Hawaii Department of Defense.
3 BG Hara's distinguished professional military career speaks for itself, and ranges from infantry
4 deployments in combat zones to natural disaster relief and humanitarian missions. DOH
5 interfaces with the Department of Defense as part of incident command and response and BG
6 Hara has established constructive working relationships with key department staff. DOH has
7 confidence in BH Hara's professionalism, leadership, and dedication to the protection and well-
8 being of the residents and resources of the State of Hawaii.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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

11

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO
COMPTROLLER
AUDREY HIDANO
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
AUDREY HIDANO, DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020, 1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 504

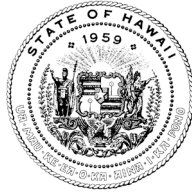
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **KENNETH S. HARA** FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 504. I strongly support the nomination of **BRIGADIER GENERAL HARA** to the position of Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Brigadier General Hara has served as Deputy Adjutant General since January 2018. He also has been serving as the Commander of the Hawaii National Guard since February 2018. Previously, General Hara has been involved in numerous Federal mobilizations and State missions in support of local authorities.

He holds a Master of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College and a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Human Services from the Hawaii Pacific University. Brigadier General Hara's educational background and experience makes him an ideal candidate to serve as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

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



OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

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

Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 12, 2020

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 504
Gubernatorial Nominee Kenneth S. Hara

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee:

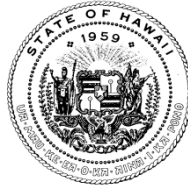
I am testifying in strong support of Kenneth S. Hara, nominee for Adjutant General, Department of Defense, State of Hawaii. General Hara previously served as Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii since 2015, overseeing most of the department's major operations, initiatives, and projects. His recent commands included serving as the commanding general of the Hawaii Army National Guard, and as Deputy Chief of Staff, Army National Guard, Operations G3, Eighth United States Army Korea, Camp Humphreys, South Korea.

He has held many positions of increasing authority at every command level throughout his 30-plus-year career in the Hawaii National Guard, receiving many military awards and commendations. He has distinguished himself through exceptional service during three combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He is well-respected by his peers, subordinates, and superiors.

General Hara has applied his broad military experiences to planning and supporting National Guard domestic operations, responding to disasters that included earthquakes, hurricanes, and the most recent volcanic eruption on Hawaii Island, where he coordinated National Guard, military, state, county, and federal agency activities.

I strongly urge the committee to favorably consider General Hara's nomination, as he brings a proven record of achievements and leadership to the Adjutant General position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this nominee.



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 12, 2020
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

G.M. 504

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Military and Intergovernmental Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of General Kenneth Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD).

Brigadier General Hara received his BA from Hawaii Pacific University. In 1987 he was commissioned by the Hawaii Army National Guard Officer Candidate School.

As the former Deputy Adjutant General with the DOD we worked closely with him especially in times of crisis. The DOT believes his years of professional experience will serve the DOD well, especially when faced with serious situations that call for an emergency response. DOD must ensure that the state's entire emergency response network is a well-oiled machine and are well coordinated with one another.

We work and will continue to work with DOD on mitigation and preparedness to lessen the impact of future disasters. These efforts are all-hazard to help us take action on all types of disaster. General Hara's experience shows that he understands Hawaii's vulnerabilities and the great responsibility to safeguard us from these threats.

We are confident of General Hara's leadership and, as such, we unequivocally support his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI
DIRECTOR

ANNE EUSTAQUIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

www.labor.hawaii.gov

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

Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

March 9, 2020

To: The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair,
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and
Military Affairs

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020
Time: 1:15 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

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

**Re: G.M. No. 504 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant
General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, 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 504, Gubernatorial Nominee, Kenneth S. Hara, as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DoD).

Brigadier General Hara has demonstrated that he has the leadership and experience to lead the DoD. As the Adjutant General, General Hara oversees the training and readiness of 5,500 soldiers and airmen of the Hawaii National Guard, and serves as the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency as well as the Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor. General Hara's service as the Deputy Adjutant General and extensive service in the Hawaii National Guard show his commitment to the State and his ability to prepare for and address natural disasters and emergencies.

I urge you to confirm General Hara to serve as the Adjutant General of the DoD 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 General Hara.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

ROBERT YU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

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

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

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
AND
ROBERT YU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 504

Thursday, March 12, 2020
1:15 p.m.
Room 229

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KENNETH S. HARA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

We strongly support the appointment of Major General Kenneth Hara to the position of Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD).

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.

Major General Hara 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.

Major General Hara has been serving as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense since December 2019 and in various capacities in the Army. Prior to that, he served as the Deputy Adjutant General since January 2019. His work experience and knowledge of DOD will benefit the department and the State; therefore, we support confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RYKER WADA
DIRECTOR

ANDREW T. GARRETT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

March 9, 2020

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

For Hearing on Thursday, March 12, 2020
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 229

By

RYKER WADA
DIRECTOR

Governor's Message 504: Submitting for the consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair Wakai and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

I submit this testimony in **Strong Support** of the confirmation of General Kenneth Hara as Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD). I have had the opportunity to work with General Hara over the past two years in his capacity as Deputy Adjutant General of the DOD. I have found him to be a dedicated, knowledgeable and well-prepared individual who is well suited for this position.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 504 and Kenneth S. Hara.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
JOSH GREEN M.D.
LT. GOVERNOR



RONA M. SUZUKI
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION
DAMIEN A. ELEFANTE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
P.O. BOX 259
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone: (808) 587-1540 / Fax: (808) 587-1560
Email: Tax.Directors.Office@hawaii.gov

To: The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair;
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and
Military Affairs

From: Rona M. Suzuki, Director
Department of Taxation

Re: **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 504
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020
Time: 1:15 P.M.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

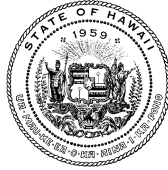
The Department of Taxation (Department) strongly supports GM 504 and the confirmation of Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Major General Hara has served in numerous positions of increased authority and responsibility since his commissioning in 1987. He has received multiple accolades throughout his career in military service. Having served as Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense since October 2015, he already has in depth knowledge and familiarity with the issues facing the Department of Defense and, therefore, is uniquely able to create and to provide effective leadership for the team.

I personally worked with Major General Hara on issues through the Military Affairs Council (MAC). He is well-respected by the MAC and community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM 504 and the confirmation of Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO
COMPTROLLER
AUDREY HIDANO
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

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

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, VETERANS, & MILITARY AFFAIRS

THURSDAY MARCH 12, 2020, 1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 504
SUBMITTING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, KENNETH S. HARA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 504. I support the nomination of Mr. Kenneth Hara to the position of Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

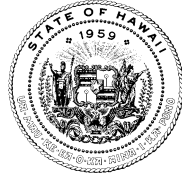
Brigadier General Kenneth S. Hara has served as the State of Hawaii Adjutant General since January 1, 2018. He is also the commander of the Hawaii National Guard. General Hara has served in multiple leadership roles during his distinguished military career.

General Hara's experience as a military leader and his commitment to the service of our country makes him an ideal candidate to continue to serve as the State of Hawaii Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
HEARING ON MARCH 12, 2020 AT 1:15PM IN CR 229

IN SUPPORT OF

GM504

for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of
Defense,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **KENNETH S. HARA**,
for a term to expire 12-05-2022

March 11, 2020

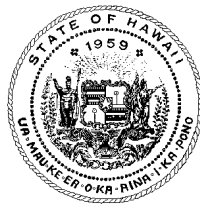
Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee:

It is an honor to provide this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD).

General Hara's years of assignments both in Hawaii and deployed, show his sense of responsibility, especially in times of challenge. Currently, he serves as Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. He has been deployed three times: to Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan. In Hawaii, he has served on Kauai following the devastation of Hurricane Iniki, directed Guard Domestic Operations after an earthquake struck West Hawaii, and was Commander of the Joint Task Force response to both the Kilauea eruption, and Hurricane Lane. In 2018, he did double-duty when assigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army National Guard, Operations G3, Eighth United States Army Korea. He is most qualified and we commend his service.

We respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination, and we thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

NOLAN P. ESPINDA
DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook
Deputy Director
Administration

Shari L. Kimoto
Deputy Director
Corrections

Renee R. Sonobe Hong
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 504,
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE KENNETH S. HARA.

by
Nolan P. Espinda, Director
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 12, 2020; 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** the nomination of Brigadier General Kenneth Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD).

Since January 2018, General Hara has served as Assistant Adjutant General as well as commander of the Hawaii National Guard; dual-hatted since February 2018, and currently serves as Deputy Adjutant General. He has been deployed extensively, in both Federal mobilizations and on several State emergency missions, and has been duly recognized with numerous Decorations and Merits. PSD also notes General Hara's promotions to positions of increased authority and responsibility as evidence of his strong capabilities.

The Department respectfully urges General Hara's confirmation as Adjutant General.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Governor's Message 504

**Consideration and Confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of
Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee Kenneth S. Hara**

Thursday, March 12, 2020
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Scott Seu
President and CEO
Hawaiian Electric

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee:

My name is Scott Seu and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. in support of General Hara's nomination as Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense.

I have had the opportunity to engage with General Hara for the last few years on resilience and security issues and have been impressed with his leadership and commitment to strengthening our communities. Hawaiian Electric operates critical energy infrastructure for 95% of the State's population, and close coordination with and support from our emergency management and homeland security agencies is central to our ability to withstand natural and human-caused hazards. General Hara is an excellent communicator, inclusive in his style, and very mindful of the importance of partnering with key stakeholders.

Accordingly, I strongly support General Hara's nomination as described in GM 504. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 10, 2020

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Re: GM 504-Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, General Kenneth Hara

My name is Gary Yabuta and I am the Executive Director for the Office of the National Drug Control Policy, Hawaii High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA). It is with great honor that I express my support for confirmation of Kenneth Hara for the position of State of Hawaii, Adjutant General.

Hawaii is among 33 HIDTA regions throughout our Nation, and the mission of each HIDTA region is to facilitate and enhance local, state and federal law enforcement efforts to dismantle and disrupt drug organizations, enterprises and operations.

Before becoming the Hawaii HIDTA Executive Director, I was the Chief of Police for the Maui Police Department until I retired on July 31, 2014. As the Chief of Police, I was a Hawaii HIDTA Executive Board Member and I became an acquaintance and then a law enforcement partner with General Hara when was the Deputy Adjutant General.

In my opinion, there is no one better suited than Kenneth Hara for the position of Adjutant General. He is ethically and professionally sound, and he is dedicated to this community, Hawaii, and Country. His military achievements commitment to the HIDTA Program are beyond distinction. This blend of military and criminal justice leadership will catapult his opportunity to provide essential services relating to civil defense and civil order, and he will safeguard us all against natural catastrophes and terrorism.

Sincerely,

Gary Yabuta
Executive Director
Hawaii HIDTA



Catalyst for a better Hawai'i



Constance H. Lau
President and CEO

March 10, 2020

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee:

It is my pleasure to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of Major General Ken Hara as The Adjutant General (TAG) for the State of Hawaii. As President & CEO of Hawaiian Electric Industries and Chair of the Military Affairs Council (MAC) of the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, I have enjoyed working with Ken in his capacity as the Deputy Adjutant General, and more recently as the TAG-nominee. He understands the issues important to both the military and the Hawaii National Guard, and the intersection of the two, such as training, fuel, mobilization and deployment. He is a valued ex-officio member of the MAC.

In particular, Ken and I work together with INDOPACOM and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to increase the cybersecurity and resilience of our island state. It is imperative that we all work together. Ken understands the interdependency, and the need to grow the state's capacity, in partnership with the federal agencies and the critical infrastructure sectors to help ensure a more cyber secure community. There is much to be done.

I am most supportive of MG Ken Hara for confirmation as The Adjutant General, and COL Steve Logan as Deputy Adjutant General.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Constance Lau



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 1:15 P.M.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

**RE: GM 504, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant
General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, Kenneth S.
Hara, for a term to expire at noon on 12/05/2022**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** the confirmation of General Kenneth S. Hara's nomination as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Additionally, the Hawaii Military Affairs Council (MAC) was established in 1985 as part of the Chamber, and advocates on behalf of Hawaii's military, and is comprised of business leaders and retired U.S. flag and general officers. The MAC works to support Hawaii's location as a strategic U.S. headquarters in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

General Hara has served in the military for over 30 years and has held numerous positions of increased authority and responsibility, ultimately leading to his current position as the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense. He served most recently as the commanding general of the Hawaii Army National Guard. In 2012, he deployed for the third time as the commander of the Operations Coordination Center—Regional Command South, Security Forces Advisory Team, Kandahar, Afghanistan. Locally, he has served as the Dual Status Commander of Joint Task Force-50 in support of the Kilauea volcanic eruption and Hurricane Lane responses in 2018.

General Hara is duly qualified for the position and we believe he will make a positive contribution to the Department of Defense based on his extensive experience. His knowledge and understanding of the industry will serve the Department of Defense well.

We are confident that he will execute his duties with integrity, fairness, and with a collaborative approach as demonstrated through his military service. We respectfully request your favorable consideration of his nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/8/2020 8:26:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lon Paresa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I firmly support MG Ken Hara as the State Adjutant General. Mahalo.

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 3:19:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:23:20 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David A. Bramlett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha:

I provide my strongest endorsement of Kenneth Hara to be the State Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. I have known Kenny for several years and can vouch for his leadership, professionalism, and character. He has taken on crucial positions in the State's Army National Guard as well as assuming key duties in the active Army's structure. In every instance he has excelled and has more than validated his potential for higher rank and even more important positions.

Given the demands of the position of State Adjutant General and the future challenge for the State, we need Kenny Hara in place as our Adjutant General.

Please confirm him.

Mahalo.

David A. Bramlett, General, US Army (Ret)

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 10:10:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Paresa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I enthusiastically support the confirmation of MG Kenneth S. Hara appointment to be the State of Hawaii's Adjutant General. I have known and worked with MG Hara over the past dozen or so years while I was serving as the Senior Civilian at the US Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District and, more recently, as a private sector engineer working for Burns & McDonnell and as a member of the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Council. I have found Ken to be a consummate professional, a caring and thoughtful Leader and highly effective in every job he held during our relationship. Notably and most recently, his leadership of Joint Task Force 5-0 was a key factor in that initiative's success. His calm demeanor amongst the chaos of active volcano activity within an existing community in Puna helped those affected deal with the shock of losing property and possessions in an effective manner. The success of this mission was, in no small part, due to the Leadership of MG Hara. Further, MG Hara's personal experiences deployed in combat zones in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan will greatly help our citizen warriors of our Air and Army Guard Units be prepared for any contingency, be it a local disaster or helping our Nation by deploying to a war zone. In summary, MG Kenneth Hara is, in my opinion, eminently qualified to serve as Hawaii's next Adjutant General and we, as citizens of Hawaii, are very fortunate he is willing to serve in that capacity to keep Hawaii safe. I humbly request your support in confirming MG Hara to be our next Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii. Mahalo!

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:21:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neal Mitsuyoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Individual Testimony for GM504, Confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA.

Presentation to the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

By Neal S. Mitsuyoshi, P.E.,M.B.A.

March 12, 2020

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I am Neal S. Mitsuyoshi and I submit testimony in SUPPORT of GM 504 for MG Hara's confirmation as the Adjutant General, Department of Defense.

I am a Colonel in the Hawaii Army National who is a combat veteran with 29 years of service in all three components (Active Duty, US Army Reserves and the Army National Guard (HIARNG)), and has held positions in the private and public sectors as a Chief Engineer, Contracting Officer, Brigade Commander and Chief of Staff. I appreciate this opportunity to provide written testimony in support of GM505, in confirmation of MG Kenneth Hara as Adjutant General for the Department of Defense. I have known MG Hara for over 20 years in the HIARNG and have served with him on multiple combat deployments, as well as in support of State emergencies, as his Deputy Title-32 Commander during the 2018 lava disaster on the island of Hawaii. He has always displayed the most important characteristics as an officer of integrity, genuine care for his people and selfless service for the betterment of the organization. MG Hara is a leader with the intellectual capacity, personal courage, and experience and expertise to ensure the interests and readiness of the National Guard, as well as the security and safety of the State of Hawaii are prioritized and protected. I have can say from personal experience that the State is luck to have him on their team.

I strongly support GM504 and MG Hara's continued service and leadership as our Adjutant General. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Kaimana Hila

Testimony before the Senate Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee

Relating to the Nomination of Ken Hara & Stephen Logan March 12 at 1:15 am

Aloha Mr. Chairman and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee,

My name is Jennifer Sabas, owner of Kaimana Hila and a consultant to the Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. I am pleased to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of MG Ken Hara for the position of Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii, together with Deputy Adjutant General Steven Logan.

Hawaii is a critical element of our nation's security posture in the Pacific region. We are home to senior commands of all the military services, and to the INDOPACOM. It is imperative that the State of Hawaii's senior military officers are respected and able to work hand in hand with our U.S. military on matters of national security, as well as matters of partnership with the State of Hawaii. The joint preparation and response to the COVID-19 is just the most recent example of the criticality of such a partnership.

Ken Hara and Steve Logan come from a long and proud line of Hawaii National Guardsmen, who have served our state and nation proudly. MG Hara's leadership of the members of the Hawaii Guard, as well as his understanding of the importance of open dialogue and sensitivity to community concerns make fit for the opportunities and challenges ahead. Whether the issue relates to training, cyber, F22s and tankers, space mission, or army assets, MG Hara is knowledgeable and respected in Hawaii and DC.

I recommend MG Hara and COL Logan fully and without reservation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:39:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roy Yee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kenneth S. Hara has served as the Assistant AG for past few years and has gained valuable knowledge of the issues that affect the State Department of Defense. In addition, he has reached out to non government organizations that insures that there is coordination and mutual understanding of these issues. The State would be very fortunate to have him serve as our State Adjutant General.

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 10:38:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

In steadfast support of General Hara who is held in high esteem within the military and national guard community. As a former guardsman and veteran, I urge committee members to confirm General Hara as the Hawaii State Adjutant General.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:20:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roger Pukahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support the confirmation of Major General Kenneth Hara. He has displayed a genuine concern to the citizens of Hawaii. As the Deputy Adjutant General, his leadership, knowledge and experience provided the State of Hawaii Department of Defense with the ability to rapidly respond to State emergencies which included by not limited to hurricanes and storms, flooding, wildland fires, and more recently the lava flows in Puna. He is the right person for the job. His interaction between military, civil and federal entities provide the Hawaii Department of Defense with a leader that can synchronize efforts and efficiently support the citizens of Hawaii.

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair Wakai and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the nomination of Major General Kenneth Hara for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

My name is Troy C. Cullen, and I am a member of the Honolulu City & County Neighborhood Board #34. I am also a member of the Hawaii Air National Guard. I am testifying in strong support of Governor's Message 504, Gubernatorial Nominee, Major General Kenneth Hara for Adjutant General.

Major General Kenneth Hara has demonstrated the leadership and experience to serve as The Adjutant General for the state of Hawaii. In all of his previous positions, Major General Hara has served with honor and distinction. As the prior Deputy Adjutant General, he has previously been exposed to the current issues facing our state and nation. The knowledge and capability that Major General Hara will bring into this position will be vital to the safety and protection of our community.

Thus, I urge you to confirm Major General Hara to serve as The Adjutant General so he may provide excellent leadership and service to our wonderful state and nation.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Major General Kenneth Hara.

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TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE (GM) 504
RELATING TO KENNETH S. HARA AS ADJUTANT GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE

PRESENTATION TO:
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

BY

MOSES KAOIWI JR.

March 12, 2020

Good morning Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs.

I am Moses Kaiwi Jr. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **Strong Support** of Major General (MG) Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense.

I've known and worked with MG Hara for 32 years as a member of the Hawaii National Guard. He has held key developmental positions and performed in an exemplary manner during his career in the Hawaii National Guard.

As the Dual Status Commander for National Guard Civil Support Operations MG Hara was critical to the success of mitigating the effects of the Leilani Estates Lava eruption in the County of Hawaii. His selfless service and commitment to the State of Hawaii was also evident in Hawaii National Guard's preparation for Hurricane Lane in 2018.

His leadership and experience in command positions and his most recent experience as the Deputy Adjutant General proves that he is the best person for this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of MG Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense.

Moses Kaiwi Jr.: moses.kaiwi@hawaii.gov; 808-844-6005

Governor's Message 504: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense , Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

My name is Galen Yoshimoto, a 36 year member of the Hawai'i Air National Guard who retired in 2005. I worked fulltime for the Guard for 23 years. After retiring, I worked in the state Department of Defense for eleven years. I served as a staff member for the Adjutant General and later in the Public Information section at Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency.

I am providing written testimony in **support** of Kenneth S. Hara's nomination to continue as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

General Hara continues to build a record of achievements in his military service. Early in his military career, senior leaders recognized his leadership and management skills. As he rose in rank, His assignments have been to key leadership and staff positions; excelling at each assignment.

General Hara is a combat veteran. His deployments include Iraq (2005), Kuwait (2008) and Afghanistan (2012). In Afghanistan, he served as the commander of the Operations Coordination Center - Regional Command South, Security Forces Assistance Advisory Team.

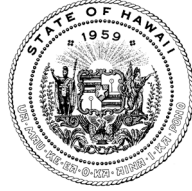
In 2018, General Hara became "dual-hatted" as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army National Guard, Operations (G3), Eighth United States Army Korea, Camp Humphreys, South Korea. His leadership has led to improved interactions between the U.S. Army, the Korean military and the National Guard. This assignment concluded when he became the Adjutant General.

In Hawai'i, he has activated for state emergencies many times in his career. His first major disaster response was the Hurricane Iniki in 1992. Most recently, he was the Dual Status Commander of Joint Task Force 50 (JTF 50). As the JTF 50 commander, he effectively directed the support to the Kilauea eruption and Hurricane Lane response in 2018.

I have known Kenneth Hara for many years. The Hawai'i Army and Air National Guard, the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency, the Office of Veterans Service and the Youth Challenge Academy will all continue to benefit from his leadership and management skills.

I urge committee members to recommend Senate confirmation on the nomination of Major General Kenneth Hara, allowing him to continue his service as the Adjutant General, State Department of Defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Major General Hara's nomination.



LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday March 12, 2020, 1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

**Testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 504, Submitting for
consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of
Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA,
for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022**

TO THE HONORABLE CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR
TO THE HONORABLE GLENN WAKAI, VICE CHAIR
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). On behalf of DCCA and in my personal capacity, I am writing to express my **strong support** of the appointment of KENNETH S. HARA to serve as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, for a term to expire on December 5, 2022.

Over the last five years, I have had the opportunity to work with General Hara, in his service as the Adjutant General and the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. I have observed him to be collaborative on matters that crossed jurisdictions with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and note that Brigadier General Hara takes initiative, is thoughtful in his approach, and has demonstrated he possesses the experience, skills, and temperament needed to lead the Department of Defense.

I firmly believe Brigadier General Hara will continue to be a valued and highly productive member of Governor Ige's cabinet, and respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination as Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Testimony of Catherine P. Awakuni Colón
G.M. 504
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 504. I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have.



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

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

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Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Thursday, March 12, 2020
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
GM 504
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Adjutant General of the
Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee,
KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the Committee.

I **support** the appointment of **Kenneth S. Hara** to serve as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Brigadier General Hara has over three decades of service in the armed forces where he collaborated and led organizations in his many leadership positions. In his current role of Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawai'i, Department of Defense and Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Brigadier General Hara has had to assist in numerous natural disasters within the State and work in partnership with multiple teams on each island in addition to his work as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army National Guard, in South Korea. He is strategic and tactical and has a knowledge base command presence. I trust him unconditionally to lead Hawai'i's National Guard and our State in serving the people of Hawai'i.

For these reasons, I urge his confirmation for Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LATE



MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

THOMAS L. TRAVIS
ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

PHONE (808) 733-4300
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GM 504

PRESENTATION TO
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

THOMAS L. TRAVIS
ADMINISTRATOR, HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (HI-EMA)

MARCH 12, 2020

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am Thomas Travis, Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of GM504 and the confirmation of Major General Kenneth Hara as the Director of the Department of Defense and the Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

I urge the committee to recommend approval to the rest of the Senate on this nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong **SUPPORT** of GM504.

Thomas L. Travis: Thomas.l.travis@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
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TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
MARCH 12, 2020
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

Governor's Message NO. 504

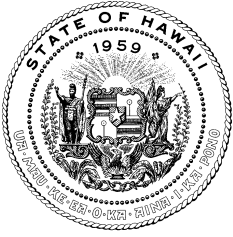
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM504. Major General Hara has a long and distinguished record of serving both his nation and the State of Hawaii. In 1992, after Hurricane Iniki, General Hara assisted with the relief effort as an officer of the 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry. He conducted civil support operations after the 2006 earthquake on the Big Island. Most recently, General Hara served as the Dual Status Commander of Joint Task Force 50 in support of the Kilauea volcanic eruption and Hurricane Lane responses in 2018. During the State's most turbulent times, General Hara has demonstrated sound leadership. The Department is in strong support of the nomination of Kenneth S. Hara as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5TH Floor, Honolulu, HI 96813 | energy.hawaii.gov



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER
(808) 587-3807

Statement of
SCOTT J. GLENN
Chief Energy Officer, Hawaii State Energy Office

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 12, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 504
Submitting for consideration as Adjutant General of the Department of Defense,
Gubernatorial Nominee,
KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire on December 5, 2022
(Written Testimony Only)

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee, I am writing in support of the appointment of Kenneth S. Hara to serve as Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Brigadier General Hara has over three decades of service in the armed forces where he gained valuable experience honing his leadership skills. As Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense and Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Brigadier General Hara has assisted in numerous natural disasters within the State and worked with numerous teams on each island in addition to his work as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army National Guard, in South Korea. His strategic and tactical knowledge are assets that will serve Hawaii's National Guard and our State well.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



March 11, 2020

TO: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

FROM: Ronald P. Han Jr.
Colonel, USAF (Ret)
95-204 Hoailona Place
Mililani, HI 96789

SUBJECT: GM 504 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Adjutant
General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, MAJOR
GENERAL (MG) KENNETH S. HARA, for a term to expire 12-5-2022.

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I would like to express my wholehearted **support** to MG Kenneth Hara for his confirmation as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. I have known MG Hara for over 15 years and served with him in uniform and as a member of the State Department of Defense. He is a bold and decisive leader who has the right business acumen to lead large organizations with diverse missions. His proven track record of excellence and team play and collaboration in the State DOD Joint Forces Headquarters reflected his keen ability to deal with natural disasters across the State and to respond to real world contingencies around the globe simultaneously. He is well accustomed and poised to take on the most difficult of tasks and missions. I believe what sets him apart from his peers is his passion for helping others and the positive way he treats all he comes into contact with.

I have also personally worked with MG Hara on several important Veteran initiatives and have found him to be compassionate about helping our Veterans seek better care and services. Under his leadership, the 50th Commemoration Committee for the Vietnam Conflict, the WWI Centennial Committee, the first State Veterans Summit and the 75th Anniversary of the End of WWII have garnered high accolades for planning and executing events that have honored Veterans and their families across the State. MG Hara and his wife Myoung attend and are supportive of all of our Veteran events. I am confident he will continue to excel and serve our military members, our Veterans and their loved ones in shaping our future as the Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

LATE

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF GM 504, NOMINATION OF MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
TO SERVE AS ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

HAWAII STATE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing on March 12, 2020

1:15 pm

Conference Room 229

Aloha Chairman Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Honorable Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs. I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Major General Kenneth Hara to serve as Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, State of Hawaii.

My name is Noelani Kalipi and I am a resident of Hawaii Island. I am a veteran, having served on active duty in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps from 1995-1998. I worked as a Military Legislative Assistant for U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka, staffing him with his role on the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, and I also served as the Democratic Staff Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs from 2005-2006. My work in these positions afforded me with many opportunities to interact with military leaders. I can honestly say that MG Hara is one of the best military leaders I have had the privilege to work with.

I have witnessed MG Hara's ability to successfully connect with Hawaii residents from diverse communities and backgrounds, whether in response to emergency situations such as the Puna lava flow or Hurricane Lane, or in proactive outreach to help residents to better understand the role of the Hawaii Army National Guard. This innate skill is extremely valuable in providing stability and gaining public trust in all situations, especially emergencies.

General Hara is a quick thinker who is strategic, experienced, and reliable. He has a comprehensive understanding of the needs and capacities of Hawaii's diverse communities and he works well with officials and policymakers at all levels of government. He is well respected by his soldiers and his colleagues and is a "go-to" when things need to get done — as evidenced by the multiple positions and deployments he has had during his esteemed military career.

Whether dealing with a health risk such as COVID-19, a natural disaster, or future planning related to military training ranges and facilities, General Hara is someone who will provide decision makers with valuable strategy and insight to assist in making the best decisions for the people of Hawaii. He is someone that will be a valuable asset to you and to the people of Hawaii, and I respectfully request that you support his nomination.

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 11:33:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jodie Tamie Tomonaga Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator Nishihara a me Senator Wakai,

My name is Jodie Kimura and I am a childhood classmate of appointee Kenneth S. Hara. I humbly urge you to support the confirmation of General Hara as our State of Hawai'i Adjutant General of Department of Defense.

For the past 6 years, General Hara has led the State of Hawai'i as its Deputy Adjutant General. He is highly regarded by our Hawai'i county, your City of Honolulu, and our state officials, all of whom rely on his valuable input. He has also represented our state in building and maintaining relationships with government and military members from other states and from other countries. Closer to home, he has been the face and voice of calm through our recent hurricanes, floods, false missile alert, and volcanic eruptions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of his gubernatorial nomination.

LATE

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 8:12:25 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanne Vares-Lum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Committe Chair and Members,

I am writing to attest to the character and capability of Major General Ken Hara.

I have had the the opportunity to serve side by side with Ken over the past several decades in the Hawaii National Guard on deployment to Iraq and in Hawaii planning and responding to natural disasters in our state.

Ken has the experience, expertise and committment to lead the Hawaii National Guard, Emergency Management and Homeland Security. He has been lead to multiple, significant events in the State of Hawaii.

Being a Hilo boy, he understands the complexities and unique nature of the Hawaiian Islands that sit at the crossroads of the Pacific.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony.

Very Respectfully,

Suzanne Puanani Vares-Lum, Kaneohe, HI

GM-504

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 11:37:30 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2020 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracy Miyoko Taniguchi Yamasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Officials:

I am writing in support of my personal long time friend, General Kenneth Hara.

I have known him all my life and can confidently say that he is a man of integrity, wisdom, discernment, compassion, kindness, and sound character. I would place my life in his hands.

I urge you to confirm him as Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. It is the right thing to do for Hawaii. Thank you.

Tracy M. Taniguchi Yamasaki, Psy.D.