



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR

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

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Wednesday, March 4, 2020  
9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:  
G.M. 516, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
HAWAII HURRICANE RELIEF FUND,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SCOTT EBELL,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2023**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Colin Hayashida, and I am the Insurance Commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Insurance Division. The Department supports the confirmation of Mr. Scott Ebell to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund (Board).

Mr. Ebell has almost 40 years of military and leadership experience in Hawaii. He has served as chief of staff for the State's Department of Defense since September 2017. Notably, during his employment, he established a global All-Hazards Emergency Management program by partnering with federal, state, and local emergency management organizations to obtain mutual aid agreements for the acquisition of resources to eliminate or mitigate risks.

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Given his extensive career and professional experience, Mr. Ebell will be a valuable resource for disaster preparedness and resiliency, as well as an excellent candidate to serve on the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Aloha Senator Baker,

I am privileged to endorse Governor Ige's nomination of Mr. Scott Ebell to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund, and do so wholeheartedly. Scott is a consummate professional whose intellectual mettle, keen analytical skills, poised communications, and high emotional intelligence make him an ideal candidate to best fulfill the responsibilities of this important board.

In his role as Chief of Staff to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Scott is a key senior leader within our 720-person organization with a worldwide mission that is humanitarian at its core. I have worked closely with him over the last two and a half years and trust him explicitly, often assigning him the most challenging tasks which he readily embraces and institutes first-rate solutions. What really sets Scott apart from other leaders are his "can do" spirit, teamwork, and selflessness, attributes that will be of great benefit to the Board of Directors. Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

With respect,  
Kelly McKeague

Kelly McKeague, SES-3  
Director, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency  
Major General, U.S. Air Force (Retired)  
Damien, 1977

Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise

Aloha Senator Baker,

I have the honor to endorse Governor Ige's nomination of Mr. Scott Ebell to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund. Scott is a caring professional with a servant's heart who also possess the analytical and organizational skills to make him an ideal candidate to serve on this important board.

Scott serves as the Chief of Staff for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, a 720-person organization dispersed worldwide to conduct our humanitarian mission. I have had the privilege of working closely with Scott over the past two and a half years and can personally attest to his integrity, reliability, teamwork, and selflessness. Our Agency and myself personally have benefitted greatly from Scott's leadership skills. He has shown a unique ability to get our diverse group of individuals to think and work like one team, with trust and transparency. Scott developed Agency policies and procedures through careful analysis and sound judgment to achieve buy-in from all personnel to succeed. I believe the Board of Directors would benefit greatly with Scott on the team.

With Respect,

Dr. Thomas S. Hoffman DO, MBA  
Agency Surgeon  
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

**CHAIR**

SCOTT EBELL  
 Chief of Staff  
 Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

**VICE CHAIR**

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From: Christopher J Conklin, Executive Director, Honolulu - Pacific Federal Executive Board

To: Whom is May Concern

Subj: **Testimony for Scott Ebell HHRF GM516**

1. I am extremely pleased to offer testimony in support of Mr. Scott Ebell's nomination to serve as a volunteer on the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund Board of Directors. Mr. Ebell currently serves as a federal government employee as the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Chief of Staff. In support of the Director he provides executive leadership and synchronization of global strategies, policies, plans, programs, operations, budgets and governance structures that enable DPAA to provide families and the nation with the fullest possible accounting of missing US personnel from past conflicts. I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Ebell for over two years, first as Vice Chair and recently as Chair of our Executive Committee. The Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board (HPFEB) is composed of Hawaii's senior leaders in the federal government, and the Executive Committee serves to steer the board in helping federal agencies collaborate across the broad spectrum of government, including at the federal, state and local levels. In this leadership role, Mr. Ebell has worked diligently to increase the visibility and prestige of the Board, leverage opportunities for federal agencies to collaborate on common issues, and has provided insight and perspective which has helped the HPFEB greatly improve processes, procedures and professionalism. Mr. Ebell clearly possesses a "servant's heart" and this is displayed daily in his efforts both in his primary position, as Chair of the HPFEB and in his local community.
2. Mr. Ebell is a veteran of the United States Army and has served in various senior positions in the civil service with the Army, Marine Corps and Navy. In many of these positions, he was brought in as a "fixer" to help organizations improve mission performance, or to implement change. In this role, he has a broad understanding of organizational, finance, logistics and cultural issues – he asks tough questions, implements responsible change, and has an exceptional ability to get people onboard and motivated to move an organization forward. With this broad experience, commitment to his community and his fellow citizens, and judgement, Mr. Ebell is a great choice for any board or steering committee in government or the private sector. The Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund Board of Directors, in my opinion, could do no better than to have Mr. Ebell serve as a member.

Christopher J. Conklin  
 Executive Director

Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board

**William M. Boland**  
45-555 Kea'ahala Road  
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(808) 436-7507

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,  
And Members of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: Testimony for Scott Ebell HHRF GM 516

March 2, 2020

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

Please accept my strongest possible personal and professional recommendation for Mr. Scott Ebell to serve as a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund. I have had the pleasure to work closely with Scott since September of 2017 when he became the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Chief of Staff where he provides executive leadership and synchronization of global strategies, policies, plans, programs, operations, budgets and governance structures in support of DPAA's global mission to locate, recover, and identify missing US personnel from past conflicts.

As the Deputy General Counsel for DPAA I work closely with Scott every day. Scott is without question exceptionally dedicated to serving our country and community. Scott's dedication to both is demonstrated by the enthusiasm he brings to our Agency and by his additional volunteer service as the Chair of Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board Executive Committee. He is someone who clearly seeks opportunities to bring his many talents to bear on challenging issues for the betterment of the organizations and the people he supports.

I have had the opportunity to watch Scott manage very difficult financial and personnel issues encountered by our Agency. In all cases, Scott is completely prepared to confront the issue. He researches the background on the issues at hand, carefully maintains historically relevant information, and always remains professional and calm in his department while rendering sound decisions and making informed and well-reasoned recommendations.

As a retired Navy Judge Advocate and former commanding officer, with twenty-four years of active duty service, I have worked with and for many talented senior leaders in diverse settings. Based on my past experience in uniform and my current General Counsel experience, I can say without reservation that Scott is the type of leader who should succeed in any environment. He is always prepared, always a gentleman, and always completely trustworthy.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

W. M. BOLAND  
Captain, Judge Advocate General's Corps  
U.S. Navy, Retired