

**Testimony of the Board of Electricians and Plumbers**

**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. 521, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS AND PLUMBERS,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JASON TAKARA,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2022**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lei Ana Green, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Electricians and Plumbers (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Mr. Jason Takara's appointment to the Board as a public member.

Mr. Takara was appointed to the Board on an interim basis on November 6, 2019, and he attended the only scheduled meeting on February 4, 2020, since his appointment.

Mr. Takara is currently a life safety consultant for the Department of Health, after having served 25 years in the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) and retiring as captain in 2013. As part of the HFD Fire Prevention Bureau, Mr. Takara oversaw the review of new building plans to ensure compliance with laws, ordinances, and administrative rules for public safety.

With his extensive background in building inspections and fire safety, Mr. Takara understands the need to regulate electrical and plumbing professionals and will offer the Board valuable contributions of insight and involvement. In addition, as the former chairperson of the Hawaii State Fire Council Fire Prevention Committee, Mr. Takara is familiar with the role that administrative agencies serve in the regulatory process.

The Board believes it will benefit greatly from Mr. Takara's knowledge and experience.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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# PLUMBERS AND FITTERS LOCAL 675 UNITED ASSOCIATION



March 4, 2020

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Committee Chair  
The Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Committee Vice Chair  
The Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
State Capitol Conference Room 229  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

Re: GM No. 521- Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Electricians and Plumbers, Gubernatorial Nominee, JASON TAKARA, for a term to expire 06-30-2022  
Notice of Hearing: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 9:30 am

Aloha Chair, Vice-Chair, Committee Members;

Chartered in 1919, the Plumbers and Fitters UA, Local 675 is one of the oldest organized labor unions in Hawai'i and one of three 'licensed' skilled-construction trades, steeped in a rich history as one of Hawai'i's construction-industry pioneers.

On behalf of Local 675 and its hard-working members and their families, we would like to thank the Committee Chair, Vice Chair and members for this opportunity to provide comments in SUPPORT of GM No. 521 submitting for consideration and confirmation, Gubernatorial Nominee JASON TAKARA to the Board of Electricians and Plumbers, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.

Mr. Takara has served in the Honolulu Fire Department for 25 years, 14 of which included serving as Fire Captain and Supervisor in various areas within the department including training and research, fire code compliance and enforcement, inspections, investigations, education and safety. Mr. Takara currently serves as a member of the City and County of Honolulu's Building Board of Appeals. Local 675 supports Mr. Takara's appointment to the E&P Board and believes his years of public supervisory experience with the Honolulu Fire Department as well as his years of service on the Building Board of Appeals will provide sound decision-making and balance to this policy-making body.

For these reasons we encourage your favorable consideration of GM No. 521 and confirmation of JASON TAKARA. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

GM No. 521 E&P Board Jason Takara 03.04.20

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*"UA Skilled Craftsmen — No Ka Oi"*





January 14, 2020  
20A-001

Via email: [CPCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:CPCtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Chair, Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection and  
Health Committee  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania St. # 231  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Statement before the  
HAWAII STATE SENATE COMMERCE,  
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH COMMITTEE**

RE: Nomination of Jason C. Takara  
to serve as member Electricians and Plumbers Board with the  
Hawaii state Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Dear Senator Baker and Committee Members:

My name is Cheryl Palesh, and I hereby offer testimony on behalf of Jason C. Takara, who has been nominated to serve as a member of the Electricians and Plumbers Board with the Hawaii state Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). Currently, I am a Vice President in the firm of Belt Collins Hawaii LLC, which provides planning, civil engineering and landscape architectural design services to the City, State, Federal government and private clients throughout Hawaii and the Pacific. I also serve as chairman of the City and County of Honolulu Building Board of Appeals. It is in this latter capacity that I have had the privilege and pleasure to know Jason C. Takara, who serves as a member of the Building Board of Appeals with me.

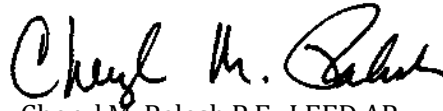
I wish to express my support of Jason C. Takara to serve as a member of the DCCA Electricians and Plumbers Board. Mr. Takara and I have served together on the Building Board of Appeals since June 2014. As chairman I appreciate his commitment to attend hearings, showing up punctually and giving adequate notice if he cannot attend a hearing. During testimonies before the Board, he is attentive, listens to the statements being made and asks insightful questions. In the closed session deliberations following the testimonies, he expresses his opinion and provides clear and concise explanations of his position and reasoning that went into it. He is knowledgeable on electrical, mechanical and fire protection construction and has a good understanding of the code and design requirements. On some of the cases, Mr. Takara has been a key board member with insights into the code requirements and his input has been important in helping the board understand the issues and deliberating the case.

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair,  
January 14, 2020 / 20A-001  
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I strongly support the nomination of Jason C. Takara to serve as member of the Electricians and Plumbers Board with the DCCA. If you have any questions regarding my testimony, please contact me directly at 846-3330.

Very truly yours,

BELT COLLINS HAWAII LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl M. Palesh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cheryl M. Palesh P.E., LEED AP  
Vice President / Director of Engineering

CMP:hp