

Testimony of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Tuesday, May 12, 2020
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 565, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BYRON HANSEN,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2023**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kedin Kleinhans, and I am the Executive Officer of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Mr. Byron Hansen's reappointment to the Board as a public member.

Mr. Hansen has served on the Board as a public member since August 18, 2015, and he has attended all of the scheduled meetings since his appointment. For many years, Mr. Hansen was a senior executive of the Bank of Hawaii and was primarily responsible for the maintenance and growth of the bank's commercial auto and indirect lending portfolios.

The Board strongly believes that Mr. Hansen's interest in serving on the Board, experience in banking and financing, and evident desire to contribute to the profession will continue to enhance the Board's effectiveness. His reappointment will ensure continuity of the Board's efforts to update its licensing rules and to effectively oversee the motor vehicle industry in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



John Uekawa, President
Dave Roll, Executive Director

HADA TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT
of GM565

Relating to the Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Byron Hansen
To Serve as a Public Member of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board
for a term to expire 6-30-2023

Presented to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
at the Public Hearing, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020
Conference Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

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

The members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association (HADA), Hawaii's franchised new car dealers, appreciate the opportunity to offer **strong support** for the confirmation of Mr. Byron Hansen to serve as an public member of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board (MVILB), for a term to expire 6-30-2020.

Mr. Hansen has been a strong and contributing member of the MVILB, and is eminently qualified to serve another term. His extensive background with the motor vehicle industry includes:

- 4 years as a partner in a Honda Motorcycle dealership in Portland Oregon
- 18 years as a manufacturers representative with Volkswagen of America
- 28 years at Bank of Hawaii, initially with the automobile leasing department, and later in a role managing oversight of auto dealer indirect lending, and management of the bank's Dealer Commercial Finance Division.

Mr. Hansen has lived in Hawaii since 1968, has been married 56 years, and has 3 children, 7 grand children, and 3 great grand children

Active in the community, he attends St John Vianney church and currently serves a lead usher for the parish, and is in his 2nd four-year term on the Church finance Council. He also serves on the SJV safety committee.

The members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association consider it a privilege to offer our strong support and our highest recommendation for the confirmation of Mr. Hansen as a public member of the MVILB.

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Rolf

For the Members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association

May 8, 2020

To: State of Hawaii Licensing Board

Re: Byron Hansen

I am writing in strong support of the reappointment of Byron Hansen to the State's Licensing Board.

Byron is well-versed in all aspects of the automobile industry and I have had the pleasure of working with him since 1991. At that time I was hired by Bank of Hawaii as the Manager of the Dealer Center handling all of the dealer contracts for the Bank. As of January 2018, I retired from Bank of Hawaii as a Senior Vice President and Regional Manager of the Hawaii Region on the Island of Hawaii after 27 years.

During my 27 years I have known Byron to be of the highest integrity and thoroughly knowledgeable of the automobile industry. Byron also possesses the remarkable quality of bringing people together to achieve consensus in a very non-confrontational manner.

If you have any questions for me I can be reached by cell phone at (808)987-0287 or by email at art@arttaniguchi.com.

Sincerely,

Art Taniguchi
1332 Launa Street
Hilo, HI 96720

- (1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board?
I was asked by retiring board member if I would be willing serve filling his vacancy on the Motor Vehicle Licensing Board. Since I had recently retired I would have the time and it is an industry that holds interest for me.
Additionally I feel everyone has a duty to serve the public if called.
- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board?
Since this will be my second term I see how important it is that the public is protected from those who would violate Hawaii Statutes. My responsibility is to review changes and complaints that would impact the publics protection.
- (3) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.
Industry knowledge: My entire employment history has been related to the motor vehicle Industry.
My skills come from being a dealer, then working for an automobile manufacturer, followed by working for Bank of Hawaii for 28 years in primarily auto related lending.
- (4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?
First and foremost attend each board meeting to ensure a quorum is met.
Second to offer my industry knowledge in making board decisions.
- (5) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board.
Industry Experience: Knowledge of this industry and how it functions.
Consumer: As a veteran consumer I know what is fair and what legal means are needed to protect the less seasoned consumer.
Consumer Lending Experience: Knowledge of banking regulations and dealer financing practices.
- (6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board member.
Industry Knowledge, I am able to see the consumer's view, and the industry operational impacts that may be involved.
Having completed one term on this board it has given me experience on governmental procedures and the functioning of this board.
My banking background has given the experience to identify areas that may come before the board that could adversely affect consumer protection.
- (7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?
My industry experience could possibly be considered a conflict however, my role as consumer at this time leads me to protect that interest even more.

Respectfully Submitted: Byron Hansen