

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN DIRECTOR

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

Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Wednesday, May 13, 2020
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

On the following measure:
G.M. 691, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MAURICE TORIGOE,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024

## WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the confirmation of Mr. Maurice Torigoe's appointment to the Contractors License Board as a licensee member.

Mr. Torigoe has been a licensed journeyman plumber for 34 years and a licensed plumbing contractor (C-37) in Hawaii since June 22, 1986. Both his licenses are current, active, and in good standing. Mr. Torigoe is the president and responsible managing employee of M. Torigoe Plumbing, Inc.

Mr. Torigoe has a history of public service, having served two terms on the Board of Electricians and Plumbers (EP) from 2005 to 2013 as an industry member. He

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attended 48 out of 52 meetings that were held during his appointment. During his tenure on the EP, he actively served on the Applications Review Committee and the Plumbers Exam Committee, and he served as vice chairperson for the last two years of his term.

Mr. Torigoe is aware of the time and preparation that service on the Contractors License Board requires, and he is committed to giving his time and effort to attend and participate on the Board. The Department believes that Mr. Torigoe's interest in serving on the Contractors License Board and over five decades of experience in the profession will greatly enhance the Board's effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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May 8, 2020

TO: HONORABLE SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF GM 691: CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE

CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MAURICE

TORIGOE, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024

Hearing

DATE: Wednesday, May 13, 2020

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Leslie Isemoto, President of Isemoto Contracting Co., Ltd. I support GM691; Maurice Torigoe, confirmation to the Contractors License Board.

I have known Mr. Torigoe as the past president of the Oahu Contractors Association, and a licensed plumbing contractor. He is fair, open and professional in his business and the Oahu Contractor Association matters.

Mr. Torigoe experience and knowledge will provide diversity on the Contractors License Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support of GM691.

Sincerely,

Leslie Isemoto, President

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# M. TORIGOE PLUMBING, INC.

1616 KAHAI STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819 PHONE (808) 841-4417 OR 841-4537 FAX (808) 841-4849

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?
  To give back to the construction industry. (51 years)
- What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?
   To listen to all situations and to come up with good solutions and to uphold the integrity of the Board.
- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer? By being fair to both consumer and contractor.
- (4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a 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.

Working in the construction industry for 51 years, as a plumbing contractor for 35 years, I have experience working on high rise, commercial and residential bldgs. Oahu Contractors Association Board member ABC Board member.

- (5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service? To do my duty to the fullest.
- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board. My good judgement of people, the ability to say NO and my leadership abilities. Uphold the integrity of the Board.
- Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.
   Being on the Board of Electricians and Plumbers during my two terms (2005-2009 and 2009-2013.

(8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest? Yes, I would recluse myself from voting on the issue.



### M. TORIGOE PLUMBING, INC.

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May 8, 2020

Worked for Climate Hawaii in 1969-1971. In 1971-1977 I worked at R.G. Higashi Plumbing. Worked for Nakashima and Associates, mechanical engineer 1977-1978. Keenan Pipe and Supply in 1978-1981. Plumbing Specialites in 1981-1985. I started M. Torigoe Plumbing in 1985 to present. I Served on the Board of Electricians and Plumbers in 2005-2013. Plumbing has been my whole life and would like to give back to the industry.

Yours Truly,