



Research Corporation  
of the University of Hawai'i

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
May 14, 2020

By  
Dr. Sylvia Yuen, Executive Director  
The Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH)

**GM 794– Ken Hayashida**  
**Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Ken Hayashida's nomination to the RCUH Board of Directors. Mr. Hayashida will represent the business sector on the board.

Mr. Hayashida is the founder, president and principal structural engineer of Kai Hawaii, Inc. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Hawai'i and master's degree from Stanford University. He has performed work for various Hawai'i counties and state agencies, federal agencies, Palau, American Samoa, and private developers. Kai Hawaii received the NAIOP 2019 Engineering Firm of the Year award.

In addition to success in the business world, Mr. Hayashida has been an active and contributing community member. He served on the State Civil Defense Earthquake Advisory Committee, Honolulu Planning Commission, and numerous non-profit agencies, including the Lanakila Pacific Board and Japanese Cultural Center Board. He also served on the University of Hawai'i Alumni Association and the UH College of Engineering's Dean's Council and Alumni Association.

Mr. Hayashida is respected in the business community, and the University of Hawaii and many community groups appreciate the time and effort he has diligently devoted to their causes. He has the vision, knowledge, and personal qualities that will be an asset to the RCUH Board of Directors. I believe RCUH will be fortunate to have Mr. Hayashida on its Board, endorse his nomination, and respectfully urge you to approve his nomination.

**GM-794**

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 12:41:08 PM

Testimony for HRE on 5/14/2020 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan S. Okimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**AKINAKA & ASSOCIATES, LTD.**  
Consulting Civil Engineers

Testimony of  
Ken C. Kawahara

Before the Committee on  
Higher Education

Thursday, May 14, 2020  
3:00 P.M.

State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813  
Conference Room 229

In consideration of  
GM 794  
APPOINTMENT OF KEN K. HAYASHIDA

Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Kidani and Honorable Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

I respectfully testify in support of the consideration and confirmation of Ken K. Hayashida to Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai`i.

Mr. Hayashida has led KAI Hawaii Inc. as its President since its inception in 1995. In addition to leading this successful structural engineering firm, he has and continues to be active in professional engineering societies as well as the community. He has served as Chair, President, National Director and other officer positions in various organizations and would bring a wealth of experience to the RCUH Board. Mr. Hayashida was awarded the University of Hawai`i, College of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award in 2013.

I am confident that Mr. Hayashida will make significant contributions to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai`i and strongly support his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Take care.

Ken C. Kawahara, P.E.



UNIVERSITY  
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College of Engineering

**BRENNON T. MORIOKA**  
DEAN

May 12, 2020

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Honorable Members of the Committee on Higher Education  
Hawai'i State Senate  
Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**Re: Governor's Message No. 794 appointing Ken Hayashida to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members Keith-Agaran, Kahale, and Fevella,

I would like to express my **support** for GM 794 relating to Mr. Ken Hayashida's consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i.

I have known Mr. Hayashida for well over two decades and have worked with him in multiple capacities and regarding numerous initiatives, and not just related to engineering. I have always known Ken to be hard working, fair, and knowledgeable about the tasks at hand. He has familiarity with both government processes as well as private best practices, has a wide network of relationships that would be of benefit to the University, and is committed to the well-being of Hawai'i. He has been a long-time supporter of the University, especially for the College of Engineering and the athletics programs, and has demonstrated his passion for the University through his dedication and time in volunteering for our many causes.

The RCUH is going through a transition of its own with new leadership and Ken is someone who has the experience to help provide support for a transitioning organization. I believe he is a qualified nominee and would humbly ask for your favorable consideration of his nomination to this position.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Morioka".

Brennon T. Morioka, PhD, PE  
Dean

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