STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1718

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 1 3 2021

RE:	GOV.	MSG.	NOS.	548,
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	553,	554,	555	

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2021 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, and 555, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD

LAJUAINE SUISO, for a term to expire 06-30-2021;
LAJUAINE SUISO, for a term to expire 06-30-2025;
CHAD FARIAS, for a term to expire 06-30-2024;
ALAN OSHIMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2021;
ALAN OSHIMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2025;
BETTINA MEHNERT, for a term to expire 06-30-2024;
HAROLD EDWARDS, for a term to expire 06-30-2021; and
HAROLD EDWARDS, for a term to expire 06-30-2025,

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begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal histories, resumes, and statements submitted by LaJuaine Suiso, Chad Farias, Alan Oshima, Bettina Mehnert, and Harold Edwards for service on the School Facilities Board.

LAJUAINE SUISO

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nominations for the appointment and reappointment of LaJuaine Suiso from the Governor; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Transportation; and three individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Ms. Suiso's expertise, experience, and belief in and commitment to the community and education make her a valuable asset to the School Facilities Board. Ms. Suiso has devoted more than two decades to education in various roles including as a teacher, career consultant, and program director. Ms. Suiso has dedicated herself to creating more opportunities for students in the community she grew up in and continues to live. Your Committee further finds that Ms. Suiso developed Seariders Productions as a creative outlet for students at Waianae high school, which introduced a multitude of students to the world of multi-media. As a result of Ms. Suiso's efforts, Seariders Productions developed state of the art studio facilities and has received numerous awards. Ms. Suiso has also contributed to many organizations with different areas of concentrations that have made an impact throughout the State. Your Committee therefore recommends that Ms. Suiso be appointed to the School Facilities Board based on her knowledge, vision, commitment, and dedication to education.

CHAD FARIAS

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Chad Farias from the Governor, Department of Education, Department of Transportation, Honoka'a Elementary School, Ka'u High and Pahala Elementary School, and fourteen individuals.



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Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Farias' decision-making skills, experience, fresh perspective, and commitment make him a valuable asset to the School Facilities Board. Mr. Farias has twenty-eight years of experience working in various roles in education including as a teacher, counselor, activities coordinator, vice-principal, principal, athletics coach, and complex area superintendent. As the Complex Area Superintendent for Ka'u, Kea'au, and Pohoa, Mr. Farias implemented the State Strategic Plan and brought stability through natural disasters and continued operation of schools in that complex area. Mr. Farias also volunteered to be the Complex Area Superintendent for Hilo and Waiakea while he was the Complex Area Superintendent for Ka'u, Kea'au, and Pohoa, and successfully managed the two complexes simultaneously. Your Committee therefore recommends that Ms. Farias be appointed to the School Facilities Board based on his positive mindset, knowledge, experience, and dedication to the keiki.

ALAN OSHIMA

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nominations for the appointment and reappointment of Alan Oshima from the Governor; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Transportation; and six individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Oshima's professional background, as well as his dedication and commitment to the interests of Hawaii's public school students, make him a valuable asset to the School Facilities Board. Mr. Oshima retired as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaiian Electric Company. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Oshima has an extensive history of service with organizations and bodies devoted to the benefit of Hawaii's public schools and students, including Hawaii 3Rs, Hawaii Institute of Public Affairs, and the Governor's Every Student Succeeds Act Team. Mr. Oshima has been recognized by numerous professional and community organizations for his leadership and volunteerism. Your Committee therefore recommends that Mr. Oshima be appointed to the School Facilities Board based on his professional background, as well as his dedication and commitment to the interests of Hawaii's public school students.



BETTINA MEHNERT

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Bettina Mehnert from the Governor; Department of Transportation; Architects Hawaii Ltd.; and three individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Ms. Mehnert's education, experience, vision, and leadership skills make her a valuable asset to the School Facilities Board. Ms. Mehnert is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Architects Hawaii Ltd. and is a visionary and leader in the evolution and innovation in Hawaii's architectural sector. Ms. Mehnert blends information technology solutions, firm culture, client cultivation, and community service as inseparable filaments of professional leadership. Taking community service beyond the annual donation and fundraiser template, Ms. Mehnert instituted a one percent pro bono program by which her architectural firm annually donates one percent of its billable hours to a worthy project. Your Committee therefore recommends that Ms. Mehnert be appointed to the School Facilities Board based on her strong leadership history, creative and innovative thinking, and commitment to the community.

HAROLD EDWARDS

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nominations for the appointment and reappointment of Harold Edwards from the Governor and Department of Transportation.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Edwards' education, experience, and commitment to the community make him a valuable asset to the School Facilities Board. Mr. Edwards is the President and Chief Executive Officer of ITC Water Management, Inc., which is involved with design-build water infrastructure construction. Mr. Edwards was a senior vice president at Moloka'i Properties, Ltd. for twelve years and was responsible for real estate activities, which included planning, entitlement, design, construction, sale, and warranty. As a Development Director for the Hawaii Community Development Authority, Mr. Edwards implemented the Authority's affordable housing development program. Your Committee therefore recommends that Mr. Edwards be appointed to the School Facilities Board based on his development experience, expertise in water systems, ability to manage projects and meet goals, and strong leadership skills.



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As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that are attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominees, has found the nominees to be qualified for the positions to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Education,

MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:*	Committee I	Referral:		Date:	1	
GM 548	EDU			02	/24/2	2021
The Committee is rec	onsidering its	decision				
The Recommendation is:						
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent 2340 2345						
Members		Aye	Aye	(WR)	Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		/				
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)		1				
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.			<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		/	L			
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GM 549	EDU	<u></u>		04	2412	
The Committee is rec	onsidering its	decision				
The Recommendation is:						
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent 2340 2345						
Members		Aye	Aye	(WR)	Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		/				
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)		1				
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Governor's Message No.:* GM 550	Committee F EDU	Referral:		Date:	124/2	-021
The Committee is rec	onsidering its	decision				
The Recommendation is:						
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent 2340						
Members		Ауе	Aye	(WR)	Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		/				
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)		1				
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.		/				
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GM551	EDU			02/24	12021
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The Recommendation is:					
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent 2340 2345					
Members		Ауе	Aye (V	VR) Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		1			
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GM 552	EDU		_	02	124/2	2021	
The Committee is rec	considering its	decision					
The Recommendation is:							
Advise and Consent 2340							
Members		Aye	Aye	(WR)	Nay	Excused	
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		1					
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)							
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				/			
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011995	EDU			161641	2021	
The Committee is rec	onsidering its o	decision				
The Recommendation is:						
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent						
Members		Aye	Aye (W	R) Nay	Excused	
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		/				
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)		1				
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.		/				
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Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:*	Committee F	Referral:		Date:	1	
GM 554	EDU			02/24	2021	
The Committee is re-	considering its	decision				
The Recommendation is:						
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent 2340 2345						
Members		Aye	Aye (\	WR) Nay	Excused	
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		/				
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)		1				
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Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:*	Committee Ref	erral:	Date):		
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The Committee is rec	onsidering its de	cision				
The Recommendation is:		-				
Advise and Consent Not Advise and Consent 2340 2345						
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused	
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)		/				
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