



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of
David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai'i
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 24, 2021
3:00 p.m., Conference Room 229

In consideration of
Governor's Message 548 & 549
Submitted for consideration and confirmation as a member of the School Facilities
Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, LaJuaine Suiso

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of LaJuaine Suiso to serve as a member of the School Facilities Board.

Ms. Suiso earned a Bachelors in Liberal Arts from the University of Northern Iowa and Masters in Education from Chaminade University of Honolulu.

Her experience as the Director of Development for Kauhale O Wai'anae, will be invaluable to the School Facilities Agency as it works with communities to best plan and develop capital improvement projects. Ms. Suiso has more than two decades of experience in the classroom and from 2003 to 2020 was the program director for Searider Productions at Wai'anae High School where she was responsible for fundraising and public relations.

I'm confident that Lajuaine Suiso's breadth of education and experience will benefit the School Facilities Board as well as the students of Hawai'i.

This administration is committed to transforming the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Testimony in Support of GM 548 and GM549

Chairperson Kidani and Vice Chair Kim, my name is Joan Lee Husted, and I am the retired Executive Director of the Hawaii State Teachers Association. I am testifying in support of the appointment of Lajuaine (Candy) Suiso to the School Facilities Board.

Perhaps no one can match the influence that Candy has had on Hawaii public education. Almost every secondary school and some elementary have media programs and their creation can be directly traced to the Waianae High School Sea Rider program. Subsequently, there have spinoffs with Washington Middle Schools recording studio being the latest example. Ms. Suiso's media program students have won almost every national and international student media awards.

Candy's ability to persuade, cajole, direct, plan and envision is perhaps unmatched in the Department of Education. I believe that she will bring those skills to the Board. It is exciting to consider the future of school facilities with Alan Oshima, Bettina Mehnert and Candy Suiso working together on the Board.

I strongly urge the Committee to confirm Lajuaine Suiso as a board member of the School Facilities Board. Thank you giving me the opportunity to testify.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

3:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of

GM548 and GM549

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the School Facilities Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, LAJUAINÉ SUIO,
for a term to expire 6-30-2021, and a term to expire 6-30-2025.**

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and members of the Committee.

I am writing in **support** of Lajuaine 'Candy' Suiso, to serve on the School Facilities Board. There is no stronger candidate for the School Facilities Board that has the expertise, experience, vision and belief in the possibilities that education can have on students than Candy. Her professional career has been devoted to bettering students in the community she grew up in and continues to live. The development of a creative outlet called Seariders Productions introduced a multitude of high school students to the world of multi-media that expanded to include communities throughout the State of Hawai'i and the nation. Along with her contributions to education, she has also given to many organizations with different areas of concentrations that have made an impact throughout the Hawaiian Islands. Candy's belief and commitment to the community and education will help shape the future of education in Hawai'i and she will be a great asset to the Board.

I strongly support the confirmation of gubernatorial candidate, Lajuaine 'Candy' Suiso, to the School Facilities Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.