



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 551 & 552
Submitted for consideration and confirmation as a member of the School Facilities
Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alan Oshima

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and committee members:

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

Mr. Oshima is a product of Hawai'i public schools before earning a degree in business administration from Northwestern University and a law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

Mr. Oshima retired from Hawaiian Electric after serving as the president and chief executive officer. While there he restructured its processes to become more nimble and built an employee culture that readily adapts to change.

For many years, Mr. Oshima has spent his personal time and expense in support of improving the public education experience for our students. As a Commissioner representing Hawai'i on the Education Commission of the States, he has national reach to assist with the transformation to 21st century schools. He understands that our aging public school facilities can be updated and, in the process, make efficient use of land resources to help fund it.

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.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
MIKE MCCARTNEY
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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
GM551 and GM552
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the School Facilities Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAN OSHIMA,
for a term to expire 6-30-2021, and a term to expire on 6-30-2025.

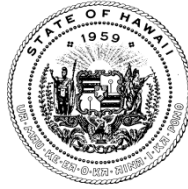
Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and members of the Committee.

I am writing in **support** of Alan Oshima, to serve on the School Facilities Board.

Alan has been an integral partner in the development of the COVID-19 economic recovery action plan for the State of Hawaii where he provided guidance, leadership and collaboration with business and government sectors. His experience in the leadership role at Hawaiian Electric demonstrated his ability to transform and reorganize a culture that looked towards a more energy efficient utility. As a practicing attorney he used his skills to serve non-profits and educational institutions and has worked to improve public education. Alan has the skills, leadership traits and forward thinking to lead the School Facilities Board to a future that is visionary and transformative to our public education.

I strongly support the confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Alan Oshima, to the School Facilities Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 24, 2021
3:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

G.M. 551 & GM 552
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the School Facilities Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAN OSHIMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2021 and
06-30-2025.

Senate Committee on Education

As the Administration's lead for setting up the School Facilities Agency (SFA), the Department of Transportation (DOT), Highways Division, **supports** the appointment of Alan Oshima as a Board member of the SFA.

Mr. Oshima was appointed by Governor Ige to lead Hawaii's economic and community recovery, resiliency efforts based on his experience, long-standing reputation, and for his dedication to leadership and volunteerism with community organizations. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Oshima was the Senior Executive Advisor of the Hawaiian Electric Company Inc (HECO). While at HECO, he accelerated a company-wide transformation initiative that reorganized its focus and built an employee culture that readily adapts to change. Mr. Oshima will bring valuable experience and expertise as an SFA Board member.

The SFA will provide the state a significant opportunity to support students and teachers with new facilities and resources. Mr. Oshima's passion and experience will be tremendous assets to the board.

For these reasons, the DOT requests your favorable consideration for the nomination of Alan Oshima as an SFA Board member.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

February 18, 2021
Via email

The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair
State Senate
Committee on Education

Dear Senator Kidani and Education Committee Members:

GM 551 and 552 – Alan Oshima
GM 548 and 549 – LaJuaine Suiso (Candy)

This letter is to support the gubernatorial nominations of Alan Oshima and Candy Suiso to the School Facilities Board.

- LaJuaine Candy Suiso – As a teacher at Waianae High School for many years and a recent retiree of the state DOE, Mrs. Suiso represents the user's end in a broken system. A school like Waianae High, which sits on beautiful oceanfront property, is especially prone to outdoor elements like salt air. Yet, there is not a lot of preventive maintenance measures used to protect the buildings from damage. For example, a measure that could help to avert long term and expensive repair and maintenance problems is painting, but it has been nearly 20 years since the school's facilities were painted.
- Alan Oshima – Mr. Oshima has been on the Hawaii 3R's board of directors since the organization's beginning in 2001 and has served as the board chair for at least the past 10 years. As a result, Mr. Oshima is well aware of the many challenges that affect the repair and maintenance of Hawaii's public school facilities. That knowledge will be valuable in identifying the needed solutions to improve the current operational and system processes, so that Hawaii's schools can hopefully reach a point where quick and decisive action can mean fewer costly repairs. The success of Hawaii 3R's over the past two decades is a direct result of a motivated and passionate board of directors who, like Mr. Oshima, have generously and selflessly volunteered their time to serve and help in this arena. I am certain that Mr. Oshima will bring this same level of passion and commitment to the School Facilities Board.

The DOE's current system of R&M does not take a proactive stance, but instead demonstrates a track record of "emergency repairs" which often wind up costing the department more money and is unnecessarily larger in scope than it should be.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this.

Very truly yours,
Kalouena Komeiji

GM-551

Submitted on: 2/18/2021 4:55:18 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/24/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth T. Uemura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair, Senate Education Committee

Honorable Donna Merchado-Kim, Vice-Chair, Senate Education Committee

I am submitting testimony in support of Alan Oshima's Gubernatorial nomination to the School Facilities Board for a term to expire June 30, 2021.

I have known Alan both personally and professionally for over 50 years and can attest to his strong moral character and his passion for public service. He possess the experience to be a major contributor in defining the proper path for the School Facilities Agency to be successful. He is well respected in the community as the person you want to discuss issues with and if you want things done.

I am very happy to support Alan's nomination to the School Facilities Board.

Aloha,

Kenneth T. Uemura

**Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

**Testimony in Support of Alan Oshima
GM551 and GM552**

Good afternoon, Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim,

I am Jeanne Schultz Afuvai of Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs and I am testifying in support of Alan Oshima as the gubernatorial nominee to the School Facility Board.

I have known Alan for over 40 years. We first met when we were young, loaned executives to Aloha United Way from our respective companies. I remember Alan as a principled, ethical and motivated person with high ideals and lots of integrity. I always tell people that over the years, in all his various positions, Alan has never lost those traits.

Years later, Alan was asked to join the HIPA Board of Directors and the members voted him in as the Chair. That was a monumental decision and one that is culminating here today. Alan has always been passionate about Hawaii's public schools. He and his entire family are products of our public school system. Alan's idea was that public school facilities should reflect the level of excellence that we must expect from all our students – public and private.

This effort began in 2008 – almost 13 years ago. So much has happened since then. Ups and downs ~ deciding if we really wanted to keep pushing this huge ball up the steep hill. And, always Alan would say, “we have to do this for the kids”.

National organizations took notice of Alan's dream – school facilities that would give our young people the same competitive edge that private school children received. School facilities that would allow teachers and principals to utilize the latest teaching methods to energize and engage the students.

We found that the best schools were designed AFTER understanding how a child's mind works. NOT expecting a child's mind to fit a pre-conceived or cooking cutter model from the assembly line era.

We finally settled on a name for this effort – 21st Century schools and here we are 21 years into the 21st Century and its coming to fruition.

A big Mahalo goes to you, Senator Kidani for always keeping your eye on the prize. We now have Act 155 and Act 72 to make 21st Century Schools a reality. Alan Oshima will continue to be instrumental in making the School Facility Agency a reality.

Thank you for the time and for your consideration.

SUPPORT LETTER FOR ALAN M. OSHIMA
School Facilities Agency Board
GM 551, 552

February 19, 2021

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani
Chair, Education Committee
Hawaii State Senate, State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Senator Kidani:

Mr. Alan Oshima is highly qualified to serve as a member of the School Facilities Agency Board. He is a staunch supporter of public education and is committed to exploring creative solutions to provide exciting 21st century learning environments for our haumana.

Mr. Oshima is grounded in his belief and confidence in Hawaii's public education. As a public school alumnus and father of public school graduates, it is not unusual to hear him speak proudly of Hawaii's schools and its promise for our state's future. He keeps abreast of the latest research and practices in education and understands the issues and advances of education as a commissioner of the Educational Commissioners of States (ECS) for the past eight years. Prior to the global pandemic, he, with other Hawaii commissioners was planning a forum for educators, business, legislators, and other community members to share trends and future-focused education information learned from ECS.

As a former principal, the schools are most grateful to Hawaii 3Rs and Board Chairman Oshima for the more than 500 repair, remodeling, and restoring projects at public schools across the state. This has resulted in a savings to the state of over \$40 million in repair and maintenance costs. A critical component of Hawaii 3R's work is community "sweat equity" and occasionally we see Mr. Oshima in our schools volunteering to landscape, paint, and perform other work to help provide better, safer learning environments for students.

Above all, Mr. Oshima communicates a viable vision for the School Facility Agency. He sees beyond school facilities where students engage in learning experiences that enrich their lives and ensure their well-being. He proposes an innovative, creative concept of using valuable unused and underutilized land on public school sites to generate funds for the renovation of schools. This idea is an ideal response to our economy's diminishing revenues due to today's global pandemic. Mr. Oshima's impressive vision promotes the infrastructure of our schools to meet the challenges of 21st century learning.

The confirmation of Mr. Oshima to serve as a member of the School Facilities Agency Board will afford public schools the benefit of his thoughtfulness, commitment and talent to create learning environments for the 21st century. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,
/s/ Carmielita A. Minami

Carmielita A. Minami, PhD

Testimony in support of GM 551 and GM 552

Chairperson Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, my name is Joan Lee Husted, the retired Executive Director of the Hawaii State Teachers Association, I am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alan Oshima to the School Facilities Board.

Both as Executive Director and Commissioner on the Education Commission of the States, I have worked with Alan. He is deeply knowledgeable of the workings of the State as well as the Hawaii State Department of Education. In working with Alan have learned that he has three passions related to education. One, he cares about Hawaii public education. Two, he believes that Hawaii's public-school students deserve the best in facilities, teachers, and resources. Thirdly, Alan is committed to working ensure that the best happens for public education.

To accomplish his objectives, Alan thinks outside the box. An example is his strong support of the 21st Century law established in 2013 as a pilot to make creative use of school property for the benefit of the schools. Also, as a Commissioner, he arranged for the Hawaii commissioners to visit local Colorado schools to explore some of their innovations. He networked with other state commissioners throughout the United States to surface the best of their thinking and to share the inventive activities going on in Hawaii.

I am always amazed how much he knows about Hawaii's public schools. I am constantly learning from him even though I have spent more than 50 years working in public education. The merger of his knowledge of education and facilities is the perfect qualities for a member of the School Facilities Board. I strongly encourage the Committee on Education to confirm his appointment..

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony and if I can answer any questions, I am happy to do so.

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Governor's Messages 551 and 552
Consideration and Confirmation to the School Facilities Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAN OSHIMA,
for a term to expire 06-30-2021 and 06-30-2025**

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Scott W.H. Seu

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and Committee members,

My name is Scott Seu and I am submitting testimony **in support of Governor's Messages (GM) 551 and (GM) 552**, in consideration and confirmation of Alan Oshima, to the School Facilities Board.

Alan has proven himself to be fair, dedicated, and a passionate leader, with a strong sense of service to the people of Hawaii. I've worked closely with Alan since he became president of Hawaiian Electric in 2014, and I've witnessed firsthand his enthusiasm, commitment, and desire to constructively and collaboratively find solutions that serve the interest of Hawaii's people.

As a proud graduate of Farrington High School, Alan has lived the school's motto: "Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve." His wife, Jo Ann Oshima, was a public school teacher, and both their children were proud graduates of Roosevelt High School.

Alan is a true believer in public education, and he has been a leading advocate for public schools in Hawaii. Alan chairs Hawai'i 3R's, a nonprofit organization that facilitates public-private partnerships to repair, restore and remodel Hawai'i's public schools. As a former director of the Hawai'i Institute of Public Affairs, he helped lead an

initiative to form a public school land trust to rebuild and upgrade school facilities across the state.

Alan has served as one of the six Hawai'i commissioners on the Education Commission of the States and as a member of the Governor's Team on Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Alan is also a longtime volunteer and former chairman of the board for the YMCA of Honolulu, and previously served on the board of advisors for The Learning Coalition.

Alan has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Hawai'i State Bar Association Pro Bono Service Award. He was also recognized by the Hawai'i Institute of Public Affairs and the Public Schools of Hawai'i Foundation for leadership and commitment to improving public education in Hawai'i. Alan was named the 2017 Inspirational Leader of the Year by the Center for Tomorrow's Leaders and was a 2019 honoree of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i and the University of California Hastings College of Law.

In sum, I can think of no one more passionate about public education and qualified to sit on the School Facilities Board than Alan.

Accordingly, I support GMs 551 and 552. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.