



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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

**GM-552**

Submitted on: 2/18/2021 5:01:20 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kenneth T. Uemura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair, Senate Education Committee

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

I have submitted testimony under GM 551 supporting Alan Oshima's Gubernatorial nomination for School Facilities Board and I stand by the testimony for GM 552.

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 – 21<sup>st</sup> Century schools and here we are 21 years into the 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.



## 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

**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.