

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 417, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 586-8630 Web: <http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/>

February 24, 2021

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 225

From: Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director
Hawaii Workforce Development Council

Re: GM 601 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ken Loui, for a term to expire at 06-30-2024.

Good afternoon Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in strong support of Mr. Ken Loui's confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2024. Mr. Loui would fill a slot reserved for a business executive member on the Council.

The WDC is responsible for the administrative oversight and implementation of a federally mandated initiative, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA). Additionally, the WDC assists the Administration develop and update statewide comprehensive, strategic workforce development plans and actions to align and streamline the public workforce development system for continuous improvement and accountability. It supports employment opportunities for employers and employees through direct services at the American Job Centers throughout the State.

Mr. Loui is Vice President and Group Manager of Pacific Marine & Supply Company. He has been a business executive with companies in the construction and marine industries over the past 10 years. He has a very good understanding of the knowledge and skills needed for Hawaii's workforce in these industries. He spent time abroad in Germany and has seen first-hand how well planned and implemented trade-related training programs are to the success of their society and economy.

Mr. Loui's background aligns well with the WIOA programs to improve opportunities for residents in skilled trades, and development of credentials and licensing for well paid jobs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Mr. Loui's nomination to the WDC.

ALAN S. HAYASHI
207-4 Kawaihae Street
Honolulu, Hawaii

February 24, 2021

To: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

From: Alan S. Hayashi, Vice Chair
Workforce Development Council

RE: GM 594 thru GM 605 **Gubernatorial Nominees:** Charles Shima / Jason Brand / Kira Higa / Ian Kitajima / Brian Tatsumura / Cary Miyashiro / Ken Loui / April Chun Acquavella / Brian Lee / Jason Bradshaw, to the Workforce Development Council for varying terms to expire June 30, 2023 to June 30, 2025

Hearing: Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

POSITION: Strong Support for GM 594 thru GM 605

Good afternoon Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts, I am Alan Hayashi, Vice Chair of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in strong support of ALL ABOVE LISTED NOMINEES for confirmation to the WDC for varying terms to expire on June 30, 2023 thru June 30, 2025. The Nominees would fill slots reserved for designated sectors on the Council.

The WDC is an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and is responsible for advising the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for employers and employees. The WDC is the State Workforce Development Board for purposes of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. The WDC assists the Governor in developing and updating comprehensive, strategic workforce development plans and oversees publicly funded workforce investment activities in the state.

All Nominees are well qualified and leaders in their respective organizations and sectors. We on the WDC Board feel fortunate to have such diverse talent willing to join the effort to provide job opportunities and skills training for our community

In this critical year, WDC has been implementing the Hawaii WIOA Unified State Plan. The plan covers the six core formula grant programs authorized under WIOA and outlines the state's vision and strategy for carrying out activities under each program. The WIOA plan is a Federal requirement in order for Hawaii to receive the bulk of federal funding for the State's primary job training and placement activities.

I respectfully urge you to confirm all submitted Nominees as members of the Workforce Development Council where they will be valuable assets to the deliberations of the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

February 22, 2021

To: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

From: Brian Wong

RE: GM 661 Gubernatorial Nominee Beth Whitehead to the Workforce Development Council
for a term to expire June 30, 2025
Hearing: Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

POSITION: Strong Support

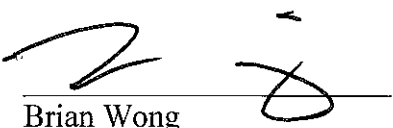
Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts, I am Brian Wong, testifying in **strong support** of Mr. Ken Loui's confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2025. Mr. Loui would fill a slot reserved for a private sector business member on the Council.

Ken Loui is Vice President and Group Manager for Pacific Marine & Supply Corporation where he oversees two of its largest subsidiaries, Pacific Shipyards International and HSI Mechanical. Pacific Marine is a local kamaaina company that was started and has been in business here in Hawaii for over 75 years and has evolved and expanded to be not only a premier ship repair company but also specialty contracting and engineering services.

Born and raised in Hawaii and with over 30 years of work in the local engineering and construction industry, Mr. Loui understands the needs and benefits of a well-trained and educated workforce. He worked previously as an engineer and analyst for the United States Air Force before moving back to the islands and has supervised many public and private construction contracts, first as a project manager, then as the president of a native Hawaiian-owned small business entity. The Department of Defense (DoD) work in Hawaii has been one of the few bright spots during the coronavirus pandemic and Mr. Loui's expertise and knowledge of defense spending will benefit the Workforce Development Council as it anticipates the needs of and plans for our future workforce in this industry.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Mr. Loui as a member of the Workforce Development Council where he would be a valuable asset to the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.


Brian Wong

GM-601

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 6:15:12 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Buelsing	Individual	Support	No

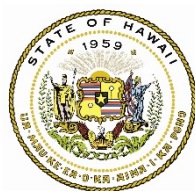
Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of Mr. Ken Loui's confirmation to the Workforce Development Council as a representative of the private sector.

I work with Mr. Loui at Pacific Marine & Supply Co., Ltd. and can attest that his experience and qualifications would make him a valuable addition to the Council.

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February 24, 2021

To: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

From: Wren Wescoatt
7 Generation Consulting

RE: GM 661 Gubernatorial Nominee Beth Whitehead to the Workforce Development Council
for a term to expire June 30, 2025
Hearing: Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

POSITION: Strong Support

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts, I am Wren Wescoatt, Owner and Principal of 7 Generation Consulting, testifying in strong support of Mr. Ken Loui's confirmation to the WDC.

With over 30 years of work in the local engineering and construction industry, Mr. Loui understands the needs and benefits of a well-trained and educated workforce. He worked his way up through the ranks as an engineer, project manager, director and president of several of the top engineering and construction firms in Hawaii. As a former engineer and analyst for the United States Air Force and now head of Pacific Shipyards, Mr. Loui has extensive knowledge of Department of Defense (DoD) work in Hawaii. His expertise in local construction and federal work will prove a huge benefit to the Workforce Development Council as plans for Hawaii's future workforce in this industry.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Mr. Loui as a member of the Workforce Development Council where he would be a valuable asset to the WDC.

Mahalo,

Wren Wescoatt
Principal
7 Generation Consulting



February 23, 2021

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair,
and Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

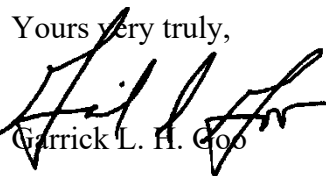
Re: GM 601 -- Gubernatorial Nominee Ken Loui to the Workforce
Development Council for a term to expire June 30, 2024
Hearing: Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 3:00 p.m

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, the Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., and the
Honorable Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts:

I am very pleased to submit my testimony in very strong support of the
confirmation of Ken Loui to the Workforce Development Council as a private sector business
member.

Having worked closely with Mr. Loui on a number of matters for Pacific
Marine and Pacific Shipyards International, as well as for matters that he has dealt with in his
prior professional positions, I can attest that Ken's considerable breadth and knowledge of the
local engineering, construction, maritime, and government/defense industries are wholly
unique and unmatched in our community. Together with his well-honed management acumen,
with always a steady hand on the tiller and unwaveringly measured demeanor, I believe that
Ken would be an invaluable contributor and resource for the WDC. He fully understands the
needs of our Hawaii workforce over a variety of industries that are vital to our State, from
both a local and national perspective. As we move forward together in an increasingly
dynamic economy that continues to be shaped by our adaptation to changing opportunities
and concerns for our economy, and especially with the strain created by the pandemic, I can
confidently state to the Committee that having a uniquely qualified individual in Ken Loui as
a member of the WDC will contribute greatly to the insight and mission of the WDC.

I very respectfully urge that you and your colleagues confirm Ken Loui as a
member of the Workforce Development Council. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you
would like me to amplify my comments.

Yours very truly,

Garrick L. H. Goo