



TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
April 13, 2021, 3:00 p.m.

GM697 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RESEARCH CORPORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DAVID KARL, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2025

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of David Karl's nomination to the RCUH Board of Directors. Dr. Karl is the UH System Research Faculty Member Appointee and joined the RCUH Board on a one-year term in June 2020.

Dr. Karl received his B.A. from State University College at Buffalo, M.S. from Florida State University, and Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego. He joined the University of Hawai'i (UH) in 1978 as an assistant professor of oceanography, and served on the council that helped establish UH's School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) in July 1988. Dr. Karl also co-founded the Hawai'i Ocean Time-series (HOT) program and worked closely with RCUH to open the Center for Microbial Oceanography: Research and Education (C-MORE), where he serves as co-director. His familiarity with RCUH's policies and operations provides unique insights that fosters rich discussions among board members.

Throughout his tenure at UH, Dr. Karl has been principal investigator (PI) on more than 80 grants, which have brought in more than \$100 million in funding, and is consistently on UH's list of top 50 PIs. He also participated in more than 70 oceanographic cruises around the world and spent more than 1,000 days at sea. Between seeking funding and managing research projects, Dr. Karl volunteers on selection committees for the National Academy of Sciences and American Geophysical Union, and is a member of the American Society for Microbiology (and Hawaii Branch), The Oceanography Society, the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, and the National Society for Sigma Xi (and Hawaii Branch).

His institutional knowledge and perspective as a researcher is extremely valuable to the RCUH Board of Directors, especially as the corporation moves forward with a new strategic plan. RCUH is extremely fortunate to have someone of Dr. Karl's stature serve on its Board of Directors and I respectfully urge you to approve his re-appointment.

Sincerely,

Leonard R. Gouveia, Jr.
Executive Director