



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

GM698 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RESEARCH CORPORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KEN HAYASHIDA, 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 Ken Hayashida's nomination to the RCUH Board of Directors. Mr. Hayashida is the Business Sector Appointee and joined the RCUH Board on a one-year term in June 2020.

Mr. Hayashida received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Hawai'i (UH) and his M.S. in Civil Engineering from Stanford University. After working at several engineering firms, he founded KAI Hawaii in 1995 and grew it from a one-man business to a leading structural engineering firm with 40-plus full-time employees. This type of vision and business acumen is an asset to the RCUH Board of Directors and will be especially helpful as the corporation forms a new strategic plan for the next five years.

As President of KAI Hawaii, Mr. Hayashida oversees all building and infrastructure projects and has worked with various counties, state and federal agencies, and private developers. He has designed highways and bridges, public facilities, commercial office buildings, condominiums, and much more—local projects include the High Technology Development Corporation Office Facility (Phase I – Entrepreneur's Sandbox), Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (Phase II and III), and UH Manoa's Hawaii Hall Renovation. With more than 35 years of experience, Mr. Hayashida has been distinguished with the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Engineer of the Year Award, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's Celebration of Leadership and Achievement Award, and the UH College of Engineering's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mr. Hayashida places a high value on community service and currently volunteers on the board of directors for the Engineering Alumni Association of the University of Hawaii (EAAUH). He has also served as past President and National Director of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii and served two terms for the State of Hawaii Board of Registration of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects.

As a respected member of the business community, Mr. Hayashida's guidance will help RCUH further its mission of supporting research, development, and training in Hawai'i. I strongly endorse Mr. Hayashida's reappointment to the RCUH Board of Directors and respectfully encourage the committee to approve his reappointment.

Sincerely,

Leonard R. Gouveia, Jr.
Executive Director



AKINAKA & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
Consulting Civil Engineers

Testimony of
Ken C. Kawahara

Before the Committee on
Higher Education

Tuesday, April 13, 2021
3:00 pm
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

In consideration of
GM 698
APPOINTMENT OF KEN K. HAYASHIDA

Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Kidani and Honorable Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

I respectfully testify in support of the consideration and confirmation of Ken Y. Hayashida to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii.

Mr. Hayashida has led KAI Hawaii Inc. as its President since its inception in 1995. In addition to leading this successful structural engineering firm, he has and continues to be active in professional engineering societies as well as the community. He has served as Chair, President, National Director and other office positions in various organizations and would bring a wealth of experience to the RCUH Board. Mr. Hayashida was awarded the University of Hawaii, College of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award in 2013.

I am confident that Mr. Hayashida will continue to make significant contributions to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii and strongly support his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Ken C. Kawahara, P.E.



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

College of Engineering

BRENNON T. MORIOKA
DEAN

April 9, 2021

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Honorable Members of the Committee on Higher Education
Hawai'i State Senate
Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Governor's Message No. 698 appointing Ken Hayashida to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members Keith-Agaran, Wakai, and Fevella,

I would like to express my **support** for GM 698 relating to Mr. Ken Hayashida's consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i.

I have known Mr. Hayashida for well over two decades and have worked with him in multiple capacities and regarding numerous initiatives, both professionally and personally, and not just related to engineering. I have always known Ken to be hard working, fair, and knowledgeable about the tasks at hand. He has familiarity with both government processes as well as private best practices, has a wide network of business and community relationships that would be of benefit to the University, and is committed to the well-being of Hawai'i. He has been a long-time supporter of the University, especially for the College of Engineering and the athletic programs, and has demonstrated his passion and commitment for the University through his dedication and time in volunteering for our many causes, including serving on our College's Dean's Council for nearly 15 years.

The RCUH has been going through a transition of its own with new leadership and I am confident that Ken is someone who has the experience to help provide support for a transitioning organization. I believe he is a qualified nominee and would humbly ask for your favorable consideration of his nomination to this position.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "BM".

Brennon T. Morioka, PhD, PE
Dean

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