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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE
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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2021

The Honorable Donna M. Kim
Chair
Committee on Higher Education
Hawaii State Senate
415 S. Beretania Street Room 218
Honolulu HI 96813

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support for **Diane S.L. Paloma, PhD** as Regent for the Honolulu seat of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I have known Dr. Paloma since 2012 in her capacity as the former director of the Native Hawaiian Health Program with the Queen's Health Systems.

In our respective roles, Dr. Paloma and I have been striving together to improve the health and well-being of the people of Hawaii. Her decades of dedication to the Native Hawaiian community through healthcare continues in her current capacity and ability to lead nursing home operations with a specific effort on providing care to the most vulnerable.

Dr. Paloma also carries these values into her personal life and toward her community at large. She contributes much of her time to civic engagement and community events. Further, she displays relentless commitment to the advancement of Native Hawaiians in Hawaii. These connections to her community are deeply grounded in Hawaiian culture, rooting her with the indigenous foundations of our kupuna.

Through the years, Dr. Paloma has become someone I can rely on for sound advice. She brings patience, collaboration and confidence to those around her. She leads with fairness, openness, and a passion for our community that extends the uniqueness and sincerity of aloha. Therefore, it is with great honor that I submit written testimony in strong support of Dr. Diane Paloma to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Me ka ha'aha'a

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kaiali'i Kahele'.

Kaiali'i Kahele
Member of Congress

From: [Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi](#)
To: [Sen. Donna Mercado Kim](#)
Subject: UH Regents Candidate
Date: Monday, April 12, 2021 3:26:52 PM

Aloha Senator,

I wanted to add my strong support to Diane Paloma's confirmation to the UH Board of Regents. I've known Diane for years and think she would make an excellent addition to the board. Her heart is in the right place and the state would honestly be lucky to have someone with her talent in such a position.

Scot Z. Matayoshi

Hawai'i State Representative - District 49

Kaneohe | Maunawili | Olomana

(808) 586-8470


OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai
Legislative Testimony

GM786

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DIANE
PALOMA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2026

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Ho‘ona‘auao Kulanui
Senate Committee on Higher Education

‘Apelila 14, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Lumi 229

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** GM786, which would confirm Dr. Diane Paloma for a first term on the Board of Regents (BOR) of the University of Hawai‘i (UH), as the City and County of Honolulu representative.

Dr. Paloma has demonstrated a deep dedication to Native Hawaiian health, and through her work has consistently strived to apply Native Hawaiian cultural values and perspectives as a means to strengthen institutional policies and programs. Most notably, her career includes experience from the John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Queen’s Health Systems as the Director of Native Hawaiian Health, and currently, the first CEO of the Lunalilo Home Trust, where she works to mālama our kūpuna while implementing an extensive strategic plan to carry out the vision of King Lunalilo. In these roles and throughout her professional endeavors, Dr. Paloma has supported the successful development of programs and approaches that embody Maui Ola, or the holistic Kānaka ‘Ōiwi mentality of health and healthy development throughout all stages of life. Dr. Paloma has accordingly demonstrated the deepest passion for improving the conditions of Native Hawaiians beyond the Western understanding of “physical” health, including by uplifting the Kānaka mentality of wholesome well-being in the development of policies, programs, and institutions.

OHA is confident that, if confirmed, Dr. Paloma’s insight and expertise will be of great value to the UH BOR, including through her ability to apply Native Hawaiian values and cultural concepts to strengthen the University system, and enrich the experiences of all of its students, faculty, and staff.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM786, to confirm Dr. Paloma’s appointment to the BOR of UH. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Imanaka Asato
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

April 12, 2021

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on
Higher Education
Thirty-first Legislature, Regular Session 2021

RE: Governor's Message No. 786
Hearing Date: April 14, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Kim and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 786 for confirmation of Diane Paloma to the Board of Regents for the University of Hawaii.

Diane is an accomplished Native Hawaiian executive with a wealth of experience. She currently serves as the CEO for The King Lunalilo Trust and Home. In this position she has displayed exceptional management skills in the health and livelihood of our kupuna, as well as being charged with overseeing investments for the trust. During her time as CEO she has designed and implemented an extensive strategic plan to revitalize the home and better serve the trust beneficiaries. Her professional background demonstrates a keen ability to operate to the mission of her organization while at the same time managing strategic growth. Diane is also highly educated, having earned her Ph.D in healthcare administration as well as an MBA, which is key for the board tasked with managing our state's largest university.

On a personal note, I've known Diane and her family for several years. Diane is a person of great integrity and determination to achieve success in whatever role she takes on. I believe Diane has the vision, experience and leadership needed to lead the University of Hawaii through the next decade - she will indeed be an asset to the Board of Regents and in helping the university achieve its mission. For these reasons, I strongly urge the committee to pass Governor's Message No. 786.

Mahalo,

Michael L. Iosua, Partner
Imanaka Asato, LLLC



KE ONE O KĀKUHIHEWA

O'ahu Council of the
Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Via Video

Ke Kapikala Moku'āina

415 South Beretānia Street

BENTON KEALII PANG, PH.D.
HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB OF
HONOLULU
PELEKIKENA

JACOB KA'ŌMAKAOKALĀ AKI-
KING KAMEHAMEHA HCC
HOPE PELEKIKENA

GEORGIANA NAVARRO-
MĀKAHA HCC
HOPE PELEKIKENA 'ELUA

LEATRICE KAUAHI-HCC OF
HONOLULU
PU'UKŪ

ROTH PUAHALA -KING
KAMEHAMEHA HCC
PELEKIKENA IHO NEI

TERI LOO-KO'OLAUPOKO HCC
KĀKAU 'ŌLELO

CHRISTINE "CHRISSEY" ANJO-
PEARL HARBOR HCC
HOLE KĀKAU 'ŌLELO

'AHAHUI SIWILA HAWAI'I O
KAPOLEI
KALA HOLDEN

ALI'I PAUAHI HCC
KEHAULANI LUM

'EWA-PU'U'LOA HCC
MARLEEN KAU'I SERRAO

HCC OF HONOLULU
ANITA NAONE

KAILUA HCC
MAPUANA DE SILVA

KALIHI-PĀLAMA HCC
JUANITA BROWN
KAWAMOTO

KING KAMEHAMEHA HCC
LETANI PELTIER

KO'OLAULO'A HCC
RANAE "TESSIE"
FONOIMOANA

KO'OLAUPOKO HCC
ROCKY KALUHIWA

LUALUALEI HCC
SHIRLINE HO

MĀKAHA HCC
LUANN LANKFORD-
FABORITO

MAUNALUA HCC
ROSE KITTY SIMONDS

NA LANI 'EHA HCC
R. KELANI RAMOS

NĀNĀIKAPONO HCC
JAYCINE HICKS

PAPAKŌLE'A HCC
KEALII LUM

PEARL HARBOR HCC
ANTOINETTE LEE

PRINCE KŪHIŌ HCC
A. MAKANA PARIS

PRINCESS KAHANU HCC
DREANA KALILI

PRINCESS KAI'ULANI HCC
RUSTY RODENHURST

QUEEN EMMA HCC
RAWLETTE P. KRAUT

HCC OF WĀHIAWA
NOELANI DEVINCENT

HCC OF WAIALUA
MAKALAPUA CASSON-
FISHER

WAI'ANAE HCC
CYNTHIA ENRIQUEZ

WAIKI'I HCC
DWYNN KAMAI

HCC OF WAIMĀNALO
LOUANNA KAIO

Re: GM 786: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE PALOMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Aloha Luna Ho'omalua Donna Mercado Kim, Hope Luna Ho'omalua Michelle Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education,

Ke One O Kākuhihewa **SUPPORTS** Dr. Diane Paloma to the Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Dr. Diane Paloma is a long-standing member of the Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu and chair for our Health Committee (Kōmike Mālama Ola).

Diane is a recognized community leader, CEO to the King Lunalilo Trust and Lunalilo Home and serves on the Board of Directors to the University of Hawai'i Foundation. She would be an excellent member to Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Ke One O Kākuhihewa is in strong support of her gubernatorial nomination.

Ke One O Kākuhihewa is a native Hawaiian council made up of 24 civic clubs on the island of O'ahu. Our oldest member, Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu was established by Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole on December 7, 1918.

Sincerely,

Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Higher Education
Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
April 14, 2021

GM 786 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dr. Diane Paloma

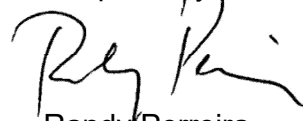
The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Dr. Diane Paloma to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i and respectfully requests your favorable consideration to confirm her appointment.

Dr. Paloma is the first-ever Chief Executive Officer of the King Lunalilo Trust and Lunalilo Home where she is entrusted with overseeing investments, home operations, residential and respite care, adult day care, and meals-to-go-programs for our kupuna. Her educational background – she is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and earned a B.S. in Physiological Science from the University of California, Los Angeles, an M.B.A. from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and a Doctorate in Philosophy from Capella University, coupled with her community leadership roles – her service on the University of Hawaii Foundation Board of Directors, Partners in Development Foundation, Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum Board, and the Bishop Museum Advisory Council, among many others, makes Dr. Paloma a well-rounded candidate with deep community ties. Additionally, Dr. Paloma is familiar with the University of Hawai'i system, having previously served as the Director of Management Affairs for the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, and on the Kapi'olani Community College Chancellor Search Advisory Committee and the JABSOM Faculty Senate. We firmly believe that as a Regent, Dr. Paloma will have the advantage to hit the ground running.

On a personal note, I first met Diane when I was appointed a Trustee of the Queens Health Systems. Shortly thereafter, I was privileged to be selected to join Diane as she established the Native Hawaiian Health Program at Queen's. During the years that I worked with her, I personally witnessed how Diane developed the Hawaiian health programs, faced adversity and skepticism, and grew into a stronger leader. I'm honored to consider her a close friend. Not only is Diane incredibly knowledgeable and hardworking, but she possesses a genuine warmth that exudes the aloha spirit. Above all else, Diane has an immense level of integrity – a quality that is needed in government now, more than ever – and I fully trust that she will be an honorable public servant and exceptional asset to the Board of Regents.

For these reasons, the HGEA offers our unequivocal and unqualified support on the confirmation of Dr. Diane Paloma to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,


Randy Perreira
Executive Director



HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
A S S O C I A T I O N

Testimony of
Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

Senate Committee on Higher Education
Governor's Message Number 786

Chair Kim and members of the Committee, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's largest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers — advocates on behalf of our members, the local tourism industry, and the greater community. The University of Hawai'i's Board of Regents plays an outsize role in shaping policy that can and will impact the local community in myriad ways.

Diane Paloma, PhD, MBA would bring a highly qualified and diverse background to her duties as a member of the UH Board of Regents. Currently serving as The King Lunalilo Trust and Home's chief executive, she has held past positions in public health including with HMSA, at the John A. Burns School of Medicine where she worked in a then brand-new department focused on the health and wellness of Native Hawaiians, and at The Queen's Medical Center where she spent more than a decade.

Diane has also committed herself to her continued personal and professional growth. She is a past member of the Pacific Century Fellows which was created to bring together and mentor the next generation of our community's leaders. In my time working with Diane as a Fellow, she was outstanding in every way, and I am highly confident that she will excel in this new path of her endeavors should she be confirmed.

For these reasons, HLTA supports Governor's Message Number 786.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony.



The Committee on Higher Education
Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 3:00 PM, Video Conference Room 229

RE: **GM 786 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents Of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE PALOMA, for a term To expire 06-30-2026**

Attention: Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee

The University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA) appreciates the opportunity to submit written testimony in **strong support of GM 786, the appointment of Dr. Diane Paloma**, a highly distinguished candidate, to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents (BOR).

I have personally and professionally known Dr. Paloma for over twenty years, with my first interactions when we began our professional careers with the Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA). In all my interactions with Dr. Paloma, she has demonstrated a thoughtful, strategic, and level headed demeanor in her analysis of any situation or circumstance.

She was raised with strong Hawaiian values; cultivated at Kamehameha Schools and through her passion and love of Hawaiian cultural practices, including the art of hula. This background provides her with a unique lens and perspective to employ in her decision making.

Dr. Paloma's career path, moving into progressive roles of responsibility, has led her to become the first Chief Executive Officer of the The King William Charles Lunalilo Trust, a role well suited for her both educational and professional experience, and more importantly, as the person she is.

Dr. Paloma's personal and professional experience will be a valued asset in her role on the BOR, in helping to carry out the Mission, Vision, and Goals of the University of Hawai'i. Her career path has also led her to an active role as a faculty member at JABSOM, a much needed perspective for the BOR at this critical juncture.

Mahalo for the opportunity to **strongly support GM 786 and the appointment of Dr. Paloma** to the BOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian L. Fern
Executive Director, University of Hawaii
Professional Assembly

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/10/2021 9:08:03 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerris Hedges	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kim and members of the Senate Higher Education Committee,

This personal testimony is in support of the confirmation of Diane Paloma to the UH Board of Regents. Ms. Paloma has previously served as a faculty member of the John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health and in a number of important community leadership roles. She is highly regarded as a leader in the Native Hawaiian community and can help the university achieve its destiny as a place of Hawaiian learning.

Her collaborative and other strong interpersonal traits will serve her well as a member (and future leader) on the UH Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Jerris R. Hedges, MD, MS, MMM

Professor & Dean, John A. Burns School of Medicine

April 12, 2021

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members Senate Committee on Higher Education

Fr: Laurel Johnston

Re: GM 786 - Diane Paloma
Board of Regents
University of Hawai'i System

Please accept my personal testimony in SUPPORT of the nomination of Diane Paloma to the Board of Regents - University of Hawai'i System.

I have known Diane as a healthcare professional for many years. I have watched her dedication to growing her career in healthcare, and particularly her focus on native Hawaiian health disparities and programs to address them. Diane's decision to accept the role of executive director of Lunalilo Home, an institution that offers long-term care to our native Hawaiian kupuna, proves her commitment to native Hawaiian healthcare.

In addition to her healthcare career, I know Diane to be a devoted student of hula and olelo Hawaii. She has encouraged and mentored her children in both, ensuring that they remain connected to their native Hawaiian culture and roots.

Diane's professional background of caring for people while also practicing her native Hawaiian culture are important qualities that will enhance the Board's oversight responsibilities in support of academic excellence within the entire University of Hawai'i System.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony in support of Diane Paloma's nomination.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/11/2021 9:20:16 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alice Adele Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support confirmation of Diane Paloma to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I have known Diane (and her husband Jason) as neighbors for about 18 years, when she was a newlywed, and now I consider myself to be a hanai auntie to their three daughters. Dr. Paloma is a supporter of public education, she is a friendly and unassuming person. She is a good listener. I believe she would provide valuable input to decisions that come before the Board of Regents.

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

GM 786

NOMINATION OF DIANE PALOMA

**Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

April 14, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

I SUPPORT the nomination of Diane S.L. Paloma, Ph.D., to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Dr. Paloma is a servant leader, having dedicated her professional career to serving our island community in addressing the health care needs and disparities of underserved populations, and in particular, of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

In her capacities at HMSA, the University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine, and the Queen's Medical Center, she has advocated for increased access to health care, prevention, and education through grants providing direct services and outreach, collaborating with the community and organizations, and instituting relevant institutional programs.

Dr. Paloma is a change agent, having accepted the kuleana of caring for our kupuna at the King Lunalilo Trust and Home as its first Chief Executive Officer. Despite limited resources, Dr. Paloma has sought to expand care for our kupuna through creative and innovative ways, establishing farm-to-table and senior day care programs. Through their fortitude and tireless efforts, Dr. Paloma and her team maintained a safe, healthy, and caring environment for our kupuna to continue to thrive in despite being physically distanced from loved ones during this pandemic.

With her experience in working for mission driven ali'i organizations and a collaborative spirit in finding solutions to address challenging community issues, Dr. Paloma will bring compassion, humility, and a community-oriented perspective to the Board of Regents as it formulates policy to carry the University of Hawai'i forward for the next generation.

Her professional career and her community involvement demonstrate that the community and its needs are first and foremost in her mind. She is the kind of leader Hawai'i needs and the kind of Regent who will serve the University of Hawai'i well.

Mahalo for your time and careful consideration of this matter.

Kekaha K.P. Spencer
Ph.D. Student
College of Education
University of Hawai'i-Mānoa

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 11:13:40 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Reichhardt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Diane Paloma is a brilliant mind and would make a strong member of the Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 11:16:15 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin K. Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide my unwavering support for Dr. Diane Paloma's appointment to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. Dr. Paloma is a servant leader of the highest regard. As demonstrated by her service to the Hawaiian community in the field of health care and her grounding as a lifelong 'olapa, mother, and partner, Dr. Paloma is uniquely situated for this position as a University of Hawai'i Regent. The leadership she will bring to the Board of Regents is critical - she is a person who is strongly connected to our communities, understands unequal systems, thinks critically and creatively, and knows how to work well with others even through adversity.

As a faculty member at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, scholar of higher education, and lifelong friend of Dr. Paloma, I feel confident her presence on the Board of Regents will help to bridge the chasm that has continued to grow over the last 13 years I've been at Mānoa between our System leadership and our campus communities. Leadership feels out of touch with our campuses and I know Dr. Paloma is committed to bringing stakeholders together to move us forward.

Mahalo a nui,

Erin Kahunawaika'ala Wright

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 1:38:45 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Walden Au	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate committee on Higher Education. I am writing to express my strong support of Diane Paloma in your committee's consideration of her appointment to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. While her professional accomplishments speak to her acumen and abilities, she has spent her life tirelessly putting the needs of the community first. I wholeheartedly believe that she will help guide the University with a voice of compassion and one that always looks at the bigger picture while protecting those who are not heard.

I appreciate your consideration of this testimony and my strong support of Ms. Paloma's appointment to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. Mahalo.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 4:36:38 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Maii Sakuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Kim and Vice Chair Kidani,

I submit testimony in support for Ms. Diane Paloma as a Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Ms. Paloma's long history of service in education and Native Hawaiian health and cultural practices make her an ideal candidate for the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Christine Maii Sakuda

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 8:03:19 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jill Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Diane Paloma for this position.

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

GM 786

NOMINATION OF DIANE PALOMA

**Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

April 14, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

I STRONGLY SUPPORT the nomination of Diane S.L. Paloma, M.B.A., Ph.D., to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Dr. Paloma is a servant leader, having dedicated her professional career to serving our island community in addressing the health care needs and disparities of underserved populations, and in particular, of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. In her capacities at HMSA, the University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine, and the Queen's Medical Center, she has advocated for increased access to health care, prevention, and education through grants providing direct services and outreach, collaborating with the community and organizations, and instituting relevant institutional programs.

Dr. Paloma is a change agent, having accepted the kuleana of caring for our kupuna at the King Lunalilo Trust and Home as its first Chief Executive Officer. Despite limited resources, Dr. Paloma has sought to expand care for our kupuna through creative and innovative ways, establishing farm-to-table and senior day care programs. Through their fortitude and tireless efforts, Dr. Paloma and her team maintained a safe, healthy, and caring environment for our kupuna to continue to thrive in despite being physically distanced from loved ones during this pandemic.

With her experience in working for mission driven ali'i organizations and a collaborative spirit in finding solutions to address challenging community issues, Dr. Paloma will bring compassion, humility, and a community-focused perspective to the Board of Regents as it formulates policy to carry the University of Hawai'i forward for the next generation. Her professional career and her numerous community involvement demonstrate that the community and its needs are first and foremost in her mind. This is the kind of leader Hawai'i needs and the kind of Regent that will serve the University of Hawai'i well.

Mahalo for your time and careful consideration of this matter.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 8:32:00 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Serena La	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Diane Paloma for UH Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 8:32:41 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support Dr. Diane Paloma for the UH Board of Regents. Thank you.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 8:59:52 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Takatsugi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Dr. Diane Paloma for the UH Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 8:59:55 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanne Makalena Takatsugi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Dr. Diane Paloma's nomination to the UH Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 9:06:44 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chad Takatsugi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Dr. Diane Paloma for the UH Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 9:22:38 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Naomi Okinaga	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Dr. Diane Paloma for the UH Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 9:36:49 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachael Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Dr. Diane Paloma for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i (UH). As her resume highlights, she brings a deep commitment to the well-being of Native Hawaiians, seniors, and local communities.

Dr. Paloma's professional experience and expertise—coupled with her integrity, compassion, and centeredness—will be assets to guiding the UH system in ways that benefit its students, faculty, and staff. Indeed, all our communities are better with a vibrant statewide university system. Thank you for your serious consideration of Dr. Paloma's nomination.

Jeannine Johnson
5648 Pia Street
Honolulu, HI 96821
Phone: (808) 395-1000 (w)
Email: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com

April 12, 2021

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Re: [GM 786](#) - Nomination of Diane S.L. Paloma for UH Board of Regents
Hearing: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 3 pm

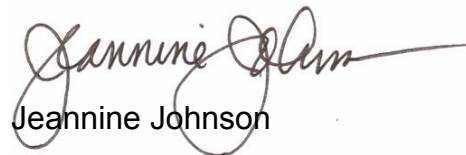
Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Honorable Committee Members:

This letter is written in support of the nomination of Dr. Diane S.L. Paloma for the University of Hawai'i's Board of Regents.

I have been fortunate to work with Diane since 2008 and privileged to witness the rise in her career as well as her dedication to education when she held down a full-time job, had her third child and obtained her Doctorate in Philosophy, all at the same time. Diane has taught me that education is a key social determinant of health and should be a part of a multi-faceted strategy for community empowerment. And that is our kuleana to give back in order to shape a vibrant and thriving community in which to live.

Mahalo for this opportunity to highly recommend Dr. Paloma for the University of Hawai'i's Board of Regents.

'O au iho nō me ka mahalo,



Jeannine Johnson

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 9:46:24 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please accept my support for Dr. Diane Paloma. I'll let others describe her leadership, educational qualifications and service to the community. As someone who has known Dr. Paloma and her family for 25 years, I'll speak personally about her values. She is guided by a strong moral compass which is needed now as the U.H. navigates rough seas. There are many difficult and often polarizing issues ahead, but I'm confident Dr. Paloma can traverse these uncertain times with a strong intellect, community-centered values and pure heart.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/12/2021 10:01:12 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon Nouchi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and the Committee on Higher Education,

I write this testimony in very strong support of Diane Paloma for consideration and appointment to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

I know Diane to be a forward-thinker, a principled person of the highest ethical standards, and, most importantly, a next-generation leader who is dedicated to serve the Native Hawaiian IÄ• hui and all of Hawai'i's residents.

Her resume and accolades speak volumes of Diane's involvement in our large but tightly-interwoven island community. She melds a practical sense of no-nonsense humility with impressive achievements and credentials. Diane is a leader others desire to follow and emulate; she supports her community and, in kind, our community supports and respects her.

I humbly offer these words in support of my esteemed colleague and hoa, Diane Paloma. She will continue serve the interests of Hawai'i as a resilient, akamai innovator, and help to shepherd the University of Hawai'i system through the current pandemic struggle and into positive post-pandemic future. E ola!

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Jon Y. Nouchi

Testimony of Ernie Kaau' moana Wilson

Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

In consideration of GM786

Diane Paloma

Gubernatorial Nominee to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents

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

I am submitting my letter of recommendation to you and ask that you approve and confirm the appointment of Dr. Diane S. L. Paloma to serve on the Board of Regents (BOR) for the University of Hawai'i System.

Although I have not had the opportunity to work with or get to know Dr. Paloma previously, my review of her leadership experiences both within and outside of the workplace, and the challenges that she overcame in her professional and personal life peaked my interest. Relying upon my own 60 plus years of leadership and management experience, as well as, by studying and speaking with Diane about her lifetime experiences, I determined that she was a person that would be of great benefit to the BOR. Her native intelligence, introspectiveness, task-driven focus, and perseverance in the face of adversity coupled with an innate understanding of and compassion for people, an ability to earn as well as trust others, and a desire to serve and kokua the people of Hawaii in the spirit of Aloha would serve her well as a Regent.

These are the kind of attributes that we need in a Regent to serve the 10-campus system of the University of Hawai'i' with all of the complexities that come along with a diverse institution of this nature.

Lastly, Dr. Paloma would be the only female on the BOR except for the current Student Regent whose term expires next year. I am glad that Diane is willing to serve, and again strongly recommend that you approve and confirm her appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input and recommendation!

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Ernie Kaau' moana Wilson

Senator Brickwood M. Galuteria (Ret.)
1288 Kapiolani Boulevard #4103
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

April 12, 2021

TESTIMONY FOR DR. DIANE PALOMA FOR UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, BOARD OF REGENTS

Re: GM 786 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE PALOMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Aloha Chair Kim and the members of the Senate,

It is with much aloha and enthusiasm that I provide testimony in support of **Diane S.L. Paloma, PhD** as Regent for the Honolulu seat of the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. I have known Dr. Paloma for many years and have worked with her, more recently, in her capacity as CEO of Lunalilo Home.

In all our respective roles, we strive to improve the health and well-being of all the people of Hawai'i. Through the industry of kupuna (elder) caregiving, Dr. Paloma provides the leadership functions of the organization and, more specifically, intersects with our current initiative, Kupuna Power, which began during my tenure as a Senate colleague. Chair Kim, you supported Kupuna Power. Today, Dr. Paloma, Lunalilo Home and Kupuna Power have found synergy and support each other. Moreover, her tenacity for the healthcare industry is shown in an ability to lead a nursing care home operation with a specific lens to the most destitute and infirmed. Important to note that this doesn't only apply toward business outcomes. Dr. Paloma carries this into her personal life and toward her community at large. I have found her commitment to Hawaii relentless toward the advancement of Kupuna care in Hawai'i. What raises her abilities to connect is her deeply grounded Hawaiian culture that roots her with the indigenous foundations of our kupuna. This balance between western business and mea kanaka 'oiwi are exactly what a mana wahine should embrace. She brings new conversations in business while recognizing the legacy of our ancestors.

Dr. Paloma also contributes much of her time toward civic engagement and community events. As a daughter, sister, wife and mother, she does this with extreme pride and teaches her children and family the value of community contributions. She bridges her Hawaiian core values with the work that she does in the community every time. Dr. Paloma is the role model we all seek to find in balancing work and family. I have seen patience, collaboration and confidence that extends to those around her.

Most importantly, she leads with aloha.

Thus, I support Dr. Diane Paloma in her continued service to the community and ask for your consideration in confirming her nomination to a seat on the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

Sincerely,



Brickwood Galuteria
Kupuna Power
Hawaii State Senator, Ret.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/13/2021 12:00:54 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephany Vaioleti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! I have had the pleasure of knowing Diane for a few years now and find her to be a smart, visionary, empathetic, culturally sensitive, and authentic leader in her various roles throughout her career. I know she will represent the interests of the the UH system to the best of her ability. I fully support her confirmation without reservations.

Mahalo,

Stephany Vaioleti

SUPPORT TESTIMONY

April 14, 2021

GM786 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, DIANE PALOMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Senate Committee on Higher Education
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Hearing: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

Aloha a welina mai nei e nā kau kānāwai:

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** the Governor's nomination (GM 786) of Dr. Diane S. Leinani Paloma to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i (UH) for a term to expire June 30, 2026.

Dr. Diane Paloma is the perfect choice for this nomination, and I commend the advancement of her confirmation. Dr. Paloma has substantial experience in the areas of board governance, management, audit, finance, facilities, research, and fiduciary duties required of all Regents. She possesses the requisite example of integrity, inquiry, service, and conduct where "Regents create a positive climate when they act with integrity, efficiency and transparency." She is a skilled community leader and educator who possesses advanced knowledge to serve and lead various standing committees of the Board and who is "accountable to the community for the quality, integrity and financial stability of the university system."

I have served alongside Dr. Paloma on numerous boards, commissions, task forces, and advisory groups for more than a decade and can attest to her character, skills, and exemplary qualifications. I currently serve as her Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair on the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF). APIAHF is the oldest and largest health advocacy organization working with Asian American and Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander communities across the nation, in the US Territories, and with the US-affiliated Pacific jurisdictions. I also co-chair the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement's Native Hawaiian Health Caucus with Dr. Paloma to enhance the cultural, economic, political, and community development of Native Hawaiians and Hawai'i.

Further, I am a proud graduate and faculty member of the University of Hawai'i. Dr. Paloma is the embodiment of Regent who is led by the values of Hawai'i and possesses the strong moral character I hope to see lead our system's critical charge across all 10 campuses through the next five years. With leaders like Dr. Paloma, I will have greater confidence in the general management and control of the Board of Regents, pursuant to Article X, Hawai'i State Constitution, and Chapter 304A, Hawai'i Revised Statutes. The board has exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university. Dr. Paloma will indeed help UH change lives through higher education and continue to work to increase its ability to become a Hawaiian place of learning.

Dr. Diane S. Leinani Paloma will continue to be an invaluable asset to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i as it carries out its increasingly important kuleana. I urge you to support GM 786 and confirm Dr. Paloma to the Board of Regents.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Respectfully, me ka `oia`i`o.

Dr. L. Kealoha Fox

2nd Congressional District • Senate District 18 • House District 39

GM 786

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/13/2021 1:36:06 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I have known Diane Paloma for over twenty-years both professionally and socially. She is an extremely capable and well educated native Hawaiian women with the energy and ability to bring a unique indigenous viewpoint to the UH Board of Regents. I strongly support her confirmation to the UH Board of Regents.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/13/2021 2:36:52 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MaryLou Foley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Dr. Diane Paloma as a Board of Regent of the University of Hawaii.

Currently the Chief Executive Officer for The King Lunalilo Trust and Home, Diane is a leader in Native Hawaiian Health issues through her previous work at Queens Health Systems and other community organizations. She is actively involved with the Bishop Museum Association Council Board and other cultural initiatives. Dr. Paloma understands the importance of meaningful education and integrating the needs of the community.

Dr. Paloma's leadership roles in various community organizations would provide a unique view of critical issues for the growth of the University of Hawaii system.

GM-786

Submitted on: 4/13/2021 2:55:28 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/14/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalani L. Kaanaana	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, e Chair Kim, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee on Higher Education,

I am writing in **strong support** of Dr. Diane Paloma's nomination to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working alongside Dr. Paloma while I was at the Queen's Health Systems and other community activities. I have always known her as someone who takes their kuleana seriously, prepares well, and executes with passion and vigor. As a principled leader, I know and trust Dr. Paloma is well suited to meet the challenges that face the University and our community at large. I am proud to stand in support of Dr. Paloma and respectfully ask the committee to confirm her nomination.

Mahalo,

Kalani L. Kaanaana