



**HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SUSAN TODANI  
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of  
**CRAIG NAKAMOTO**  
**Interim Executive Director**  
Hawaii Community Development Authority

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Friday, March 4, 2022  
3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

In consideration of

**GM 556**  
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Community  
Development Authority (Heeia District), Gubernatorial Nominee,  
JO ANN LEONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and members of the Committee. The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports GM 556**, that confirms Jo Ann Leong as a Heeia District member of the HCDA board.

Ms. Leong has served on the board for several years. By her commitment to attend and actively participate in the deliberations of the Authority, she serves as an example of one who is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the Heeia district.

As Director Emeritus of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and Professor in the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawaii Manoa, Ms. Leong also brings her educational background to her role as a board member.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.



*Ko`olau Foundation*

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March 1, 2022

To: Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair  
And Members  
Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

From: Mahealani Cypher  
Ko`olau Foundation

Re: GM556 – Supporting JoAnn Leong Nomination to HCDA He`eia District Seat

Aloha Chair Wakai and Committee Members:

The Ko`olau Foundation offers its strong support for the re-appointment of Dr. JoAnn Leong to serve in a He`eia District seat on the Hawai`i Community Development Authority.

We have known Dr. Leong for many years, since her career as a scientist and administrator for the Hawai`i Institute of Marine Biology on Moku o Lo`e. We have always found her to be an intelligent, thoughtful and deliberative person, with high principles and a keen understanding of our community's needs. During her earlier term with the Authority, she attended meetings faithfully and participated when needed to improve the understanding of activities and actions in the He`eia district property.

We are pleased that Dr. Leong has been re-appointed to the HCDA and urge your concurrence and support for this appointment.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of our mana`o.



## KO'OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

February 21, 2022

To: Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair and Members  
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

Subject: Support for Jo-Ann Leong – Hawaii Community Development Authority-  
He`eia

Aloha Senator Wakai and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, I am very pleased to offer our full support for the appointment of Dr. Jo-Ann Leong to be reappointed to a He`eia seat on the Hawaii Community Development Authority for the new term which begins July 1, 2022.

Dr. Leong has been a highly valued representative for He`eia on the HCDA board for many reasons. She brings a unique understanding of the resources of the He`eia ahupa`a developed in her years as a scientist and administrator for the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. During that time and since her retirement she gives generously of her time and skills to a variety of community organizations including our Civic Club. She understands the workings of the academic, public and private sectors and is a highly effective advocate with all of them.

Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club would be very grateful for your positive consideration of her reappointment to the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Me Kealoha pumehana,

LEIALOHA KALUHIWA

President

*The Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is one of the largest in the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs nationwide. Ko'olaupoko HCC is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians and providing leadership and scholarships. Its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are "Hawaiian at heart."*