

GM-570

Submitted on: 3/7/2022 9:20:33 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/11/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin S. N. Mew	Testifying for HIDOE: Kaiser High School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support on GM570, to consider Gubernatorial nominee and current HTSB Chair Branden Kawazoe for Reappointment to the HTSB for another term, to expire on June 30, 2024. My support is without hesitation. As a three-term appointee on the HTSB and a 41 year public school educator, I attest that Mr. Kawazoe ensures that the HTSB does its part to provide Hawaii's schools with HTSB-licensed or permitted teachers, counselors and librarians. The state of Hawaii and our great country entrusts its keiki o ka aina to be educated by licensed professionals. Mr. Kawazoe takes his role seriously. He has the balcony view understanding between licensure processes, state approved preparation programs, board policies and the legislative processes. During my last two terms, Mr. Kawazoe sat on the HTSB Hearings Panel, which I served as the hearings officer. His analyses of our cases demonstrated his absolute support and enforcement of relevant HRS, Policy, Code of Ethics and program standards. My selfish reason for supporting Mr. Kawazoe's reappointment is the unfinished business as my term expired: The HTSB was pursuing allegations of systemic fraud in the application process where HTSB licenses were issued. Mr. Kawazoe's leadership is commendable, and he raises the bar of those around him. Loopholes are being closed in a legally defensible manner. Board Action is being taken on questionable licenses through the hearings process.

In full support for reappointment of Branden Kawazoe to the HTSB.

Attested: Justin S. N. Mew

Head of School/Principal. Henry J. Kaiser High School. HTSB Board Member (2012-2021). HIDOE Teacher, State Educational Specialist, School Administrator (1981 to present). Hawaii Middle School Principal of the Year (2010). University of Hawaii-Manoa College of Education Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus (2020).

GM-570

Submitted on: 3/10/2022 2:11:23 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/11/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Kitagawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of Branden Kawazoe as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. Knowing Branden on a personal level, he cares about students having highly qualified and trained educators in the classroom. He knows the youth are our future, which is why he's so dedicated and committed to being part of the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board. He is also extremely passionate about advocating for students and encouraging them towards their goals and aspirations. Branden is diligent and dedicated, directing his time towards youth through coaching, counseling, and summer director opportunities.