

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII

HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi

Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Thursday, April 14, 2022

1:00 PM – Videoconference – Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 773

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert Hall, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Honorable Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Governor's Message (GM) 773, to consider and confirm Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA), for a term to expire June 30, 2026.

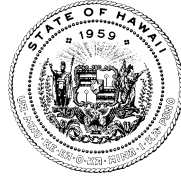
Since becoming the HPHA Board Chairman, Mr. Hall has provided leadership, support, dedication, and care to the State's often overlooked and under-served low-income populations. Mr. Hall has many years of public service experience as a former employee of the Hawaii Housing Authority (HHA), Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH), and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and uses this experience to provide policy guidance that delivers hope and a better quality of life for all HPHA Public Housing and Rental Assistance program families.

The HPHA Board needs directors with a variety of life experiences and professional expertise in order to effectively fulfill its role as a policy guide for the Agency. Mr. Hall's knowledge and experience will continue to make him a great asset to the HPHA Board of Directors, and I am honored to be working alongside him.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Housing with the Agency's position regarding GM 773. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the nomination and confirmation of Mr. Hall to the HPHA Board of Directors.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
HEARING ON APRIL 14, 2022 AT 1:00 PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

IN SUPPORT OF

GM773

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **ROBERT HALL**,
for a term to expire 06-30-2026

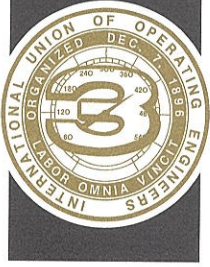
April 14, 2022

Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA).

Mr. Hall currently serves as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the HPHA. He brings with him 25 years of executive-level manager experience leading public agencies, specifically State Housing and Hawaiian Home Lands. This makes him a valuable resource on the HPHA that helps to provide Hawaii residents with affordable housing and shelter.

We respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination, and thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

2181 LAUWILIWILI STREET, KAPOLEI, HI 96707 • (808) 845-7871 • FAX (808) 682-0906

Jurisdiction: Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah, Hawaii, and the Mid-Pacific Islands

April 11, 2022

Senate Committee on Housing
Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
Honorable Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Housing

RE: SUPPORT OF GM 773 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT HALL, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2026.

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, and Members of the Committee,

Hawaii Operating Engineers Local 3 **supports GM 773** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Our organization has had the opportunity to work with Mr. Hall on many occasions. Mr. Hall brings a wealth of knowledge and decades of experience in construction management, development, financing, and most importantly, government leadership. His years of experience at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, the Housing & Community Development Corporation, and the Hawaii Housing Authority, gives him insight, perspective, and detailed experiences, that will of benefit to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the citizens the organization serves.

We feel that Mr. Hall is more than qualified to be a member of the board and we look forward to your consideration and positive confirmation of Mr. Hall. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support Bobby Hall's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Sincerely,


Analeseanoa Tuiasosopo
District Representative - Hawaii
Operating Engineers Local 3

HAWAII OPERATING ENGINEERS INDUSTRY STABILIZATION FUND



Affiliated AFL-CIO
OPEIU - 3 - AFL-CIO (3)

*Uniting our strengths and working together
for a better tomorrow.*

April 11, 2022

Senate Committee on Housing

Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair

Honorable Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair

Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Housing

RE: SUPPORT OF GM 773 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT HALL, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2026.

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Brandon Ili. I am the Executive Director, for the Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund (HOEISF). Our organization is a Labor-Management fund representing 3000 unionized members in heavy engineering site work and 500 general contractors specializing in heavy site work, paving, and vertical construction.

HOEISF **supports GM 773** the consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Our organization has had the opportunity to work with Mr. Hall on many occasions. Through his work at Pueo Development LLC, we have had the opportunity to lobby the state legislature for needed financing to ensure affordable housing projects can be produced in Maui. We have recently had the opportunity to work with Mr. Hall in his current position as chair of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. (HPHA)

We feel that Mr. Hall is more than qualified to be a member of the board and we look forward to your consideration and positive confirmation of Mr. Hall. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support Bobby Hall's nomination to the Board of Directors of the HPHA.

Sincerely,

Brandon Ili

Executive Director

Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund



MUTUAL HOUSING
ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

"Building our communities with respect, integrity, and aloha..."

Kekaulike Courtyards ♦ Ko'oloa'ula ♦ Lihu'e Court Townhomes ♦ Palolo Homes

April 6, 2022

The Honorable Stanley Chang
and the Members of the Senate Committee on Housing
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street; Room 423
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Chang and Committee Members:

Subject: Letter of Support for Robert J. Hall – HPHA Board of Director

The Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i, Inc. ("Mutual Housing") strongly supports the nomination of Robert J. Hall ("Bob Hall") to serve on the board of directors for the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority ("HPHA"). Mutual Housing is a local non-profit organization that develops, owns, and self-manages low-income rental housing for families in Hawai'i and we have over worked with Bob Hall for over two decades.

Back in the early 2000s, Mutual Housing privatized Palolo Homes which was the State of Hawai'i's first transfer of public housing. This privatization relieved the State of the financial and managerial burden of this very troubled property, and Bob was the State's champion as he skillfully navigated numerous and complex federal and state regulatory requirements and was instrumental in securing Project-Based Section 8 for the property. Palolo Homes was lauded by former HUD Secretary Shaun Donavon as a private-public partnership model for the nation in the privatization and revitalization of public housing.

Bob has capably led the HPHA board during the challenging impacts of the pandemic. His experience and extensive knowledge in the delivery and oversight of affordable housing in Hawai'i was developed from his past roles within the Hawai'i Housing Authority and the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawai'i. Moreover, we have witnessed Bob's care for and his ability to communicate with the people we all serve, and his demonstrated ability to listen and understand is a tremendous asset to the HPHA board.

We are fully confident that Bob can continue to provide the wisdom and leadership that HPHA needs at this challenging time to help the State address the dire need for affordable shelter. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

David M. Nakamura
Executive Director

LĀNA`I COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

P. O. Box 630142
Lāna`i City, HI 96763-0142



Phone: 808-565-6919
Fax: 808-565-9111
dshaw@lanaicommunityhealthcenter.org

The Community is our Patient -- men, women, children, uninsured, insured!

Testimony for Public Hearing
Committee on Housing Submitting for consideration and confirmation to
the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **ROBERT HALL**, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

April 13, 2022

Aloha Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee on Housing,

Mr. Hall has demonstrated outstanding leadership, passion to meet Hawai`i Public Housing Authority's mandate/mission, and commitment to serve the public, as a HPHA Director; and therefore, I am writing to show my strong support for Mr. Robert Hall to be confirmed to the Board of Directors of the Hawai`i Public Housing Authority.

It has been an honor to work with Mr. Hall for more than a decade and I feel more than confident expressing my full support for his confirmation. Mr. Hall has served in executive management positions for 25 of the 33 years while being employed with the State of Hawai`i government until he retired in 2011. He last served as Deputy Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, where he worked for over 15 years and can be considered an expert on its programs, policies and fiscal management to name a few. In his capacity, Mr. Hall guided the NAHASDA 5 Year Plan and implementation of NHHBG, had direct oversight of the Homestead Services Division, which managed admissions and occupancy and was instrumental in creating the department's Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) for new homebuyers.

As the former Executive Director of the State's Housing Agency (formerly known as HCDCH), Mr. Hall is also experienced in low-income housing development, property management, crime prevention through neighborhood watch and youth programs and overall financial and fiscal management. Mr. Hall was key in developing Hawaii public housing's first tenant

E Ola nō Lāna`i
LIFE, HEALTH, and WELL-BEING FOR LĀNA`I

neighborhood watch program, which received a national award from HUD.

Without a doubt, Mr. Hall is an exceptional candidate and without question should be confirmed, as he will continue to serve our community on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority with integrity, commitment, and focus. Therefore, I kindly request that the Committee SUPPORT and confirm Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

With Aloha,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D V Shaw', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Diana M V Shaw, PhD, MPH, MBA, FACMPE
Executive Director

GM-773

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 10:08:00 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Saafiga Foster	Testifying for Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Bobby Hall for consideration and confirmation to the Board of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

GM-773

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 9:51:17 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Yamasaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am honored to put my support on Robert Hall to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board (HPHA). I have known Mr. Hall for over 10+years through various business ventures, and can attest to his honest character, business acumen, and understanding of housing issues in Hawaii.

I believe he will serve the State very well in his capacity as a Board Member of the HPHA.

With warm regards,

Glenn Yamasaki

Kihei, Maui, Hawaii

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
The Honorable Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair
Committee on Housing
Hawai'i State Senate
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 225 & Videoconference
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: **GM 773 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.**

Aloha e Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, and members of the Committee on Housing:

It is a privilege to offer my strongest support of Mr. Robert Hall's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. I have worked closely with him over the past fifteen years and I attest that his extensive experience in housing development, policy, and administration, and public service make him the best qualified candidate for this appointment.

I first met Mr. Hall in 2005, when we worked together at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. As a colleague, he was responsive, diligent, and thorough. As a mentor, he was, and continues to be, supportive, considerate, and constructive. In the field of housing and home ownership, I found Mr. Hall to be an unmatched resource who understood all facets of public housing and public finance for housing development. His resume and career achievements, which include over a decade of service at the authority, speak for themselves. Since his appointment to the board in 2019, Mr. Hall and his experience have been incredible assets for the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, and we should expect no different for the next four years.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony. I ask that your committee advise and consent to Mr. Hall's nomination.

Mahalo nui loa,



Dreana Kalili
Via E-mail: dreanalee@yahoo.com

GM-773

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 7:43:09 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Aruda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of Mr. Robert Hall on GM773.

GM-773

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 4:34:51 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danette Nakooka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Support

Robert Hall

Board of Directors Hawai'i Public Housing Authority

GM773 - Thursday, April 14, 2022

April 13, 2022

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,

And Members of the Senate

Thirty-First State Legislature

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

My name is Danette Nakooka. I am testifying in favor of Mr. Robert Hall and supporting his nomination to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of Directors. Expiration Date: 6/30/26.

I've known Mr. Hall for about ten years. I have been privileged to observe him directly, educate, guide and encourage independence in young adults to become self-sustaining in their direction. Always hopeful that they will contribute to their community as they progress in the future.

Mr. Hall makes uncomfortable, comfortable through his wisdom and humbleness. He always keeps everyone focused on what is essential and keeps everyone looking for future possibilities. He is very organized, connected, listens well to others' concerns, and responds. Mr. Hall's contribution to guiding community leaders, the aging, and younger community sharing through experiences.

Mr.Hall's dedication, respect, attentiveness, empathy, and willingness to share with others to improve lifestyle through knowledge.

For this reason and much more I have not talked about, I highly support Mr. Robert Hall's nomination to, Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. Expiration Date: 6/30/2026.

Respectfully,

Danette Nakooka

Testimony for Public Hearing
Committee on Housing Submitting for consideration and confirmation to
the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee,
ROBERT HALL, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

April 13, 2022

Aloha Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee on Housing,

Mr. Hall has demonstrated outstanding leadership, passion to meet Hawai'i Public Housing Authority's mandate/mission, and commitment to serve the public, as a HPHA Director; and therefore, I am writing to show my strong support for Mr. Robert Hall to be confirmed to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

It has been an honor to work with Mr. Hall for more than a decade and I feel more than confident expressing my full support for his confirmation. Mr. Hall has served in executive management positions for 25 of the 33 years while being employed with the State of Hawai'i government until he retired in 2011. He last served as Deputy Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, where he worked for over 15 years and can be considered an expert on its programs, policies and fiscal management to name a few. In his capacity, Mr. Hall guided the NAHASDA 5 Year Plan and implementation of NHHBG, had direct oversight of the Homestead Services Division, which managed admissions and occupancy and was instrumental in creating the department's Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) for new homebuyers.

As the former Executive Director of the State's Housing Agency (formerly known as HCDCH), Mr. Hall is also experienced in low-income housing development, property management, crime prevention through neighborhood watch and youth programs and overall financial and fiscal management. Mr. Hall was key in developing Hawaii public housing's first tenant neighborhood watch program, which received a national award from HUD.

Without a doubt, Mr. Hall is an exceptional candidate and without question should be confirmed, as he will continue to serve our community on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority with integrity, commitment, and focus. Therefore, I kindly request that the Committee SUPPORT and confirm Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

Mahalo,

Tamar deFries

Tamar deFries

April 13, 2022

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President
And Members of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

We are gratefully honored to submit for your consideration, Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

While his employ with the Department of Hawaiian Homes, Mr. Hall was a significant component in providing key details in spearheading us with constructing our home in the Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead in Kula, Maui. His active compassion, not only with me and my family, but to all those lessees who did attend DHHL informational meetings, will never be forgotten.

My family and I believe in Mr. Hall's sincere devotion to all residents throughout the State of Hawaii. We trust Mr. Hall will serve the residents of the State of Hawaii in our best interest. Please consider Mr. Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Sincerely yours,



Jo-Addie Brown, Co-Lessee
Waiohuli Hawaiian Homesteaders Association



HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADERS ASSOCIATION INC.

P.O. Box 698 Kula, Hawai'i 96790-0698

April 13, 2022

Senate Committee on Housing
Re: GM 773

Aloha Chairman Chang and Committee Members,

I am Perry O. Artates, President of our Waiohuli Hawaiian Homesteaders Association Inc. on the island of Maui, submitting written testimony in "Strong Support" for Mr. Robert Hall to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Mr. Hall demonstrated his devotion towards self sustainability, economic development, and mentoring our next generation within this community. His talents is abundant wherever his volunteer work takes him, along with the Aloha in his heart to share with others...Mahalo for your consideration.

I am,

Perry O. Artates
President
Waiohuli Hawaiian Homesteaders Association Inc.

April 13, 2022

TO: The Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Chair
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Mililani B. Trask, Hawai'i Island Trustee
Board of Trustees at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

SUBJECT: G.M. 773 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, ROBERT HALL, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-
2026.

Hearing: April 14, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
CR 225 & Videoconference, State Capitol

Aloha Legislators,

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for Mr. Robert Hall to serve as a Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Mr. Hall has an extensive background in affordable housing solutions in Hawai'i.

His accomplishments include:

- Deployed over \$100 million of leveraged financing to develop 5 projects in Hawai'i: Waimānalo Community Economic and Employment Training Center, Moloka'i Community Health Center, West Hawai'i Community Health Center, Lāna'i Community Health Center and La'i'ōpua Community Center.
- Developed the initial concept and scope for DHHL's Homeowner Assistance Program (HOAP), which assists native Hawaiian families to become successful homeowners.
- Directed the development of DHHL's beneficiary consultation policy to facilitate community engagement with DHHL and informed decision-making by the Hawaiian Homes Commission.
- Established a 15-year development budget for approximately 10,000 homestead units for DHHL.

- Refocused DHHL to assess, amend and establish Administrative Rules that properly address and guide its current policies, procedures, and programs (an effort, which includes beneficiary input and guidance, that provides program clarity and avert future challenges against the Trust)
- Secured 305 Section 8 project-based vouchers to enable the conversion of Pālolo Public Housing from State to private (complimented by capital improvements to the facilities, this effort resulted in a reduction to the State's housing annual deficits and improved the quality of life for residing public housing families)
- Created the first Sports Fest program in public housing, enabling an alternative for friendly sports competition while building community pride for all residents.
- Formed the first public housing Neighborhood Watch Program at Mayor Wright Homes (this concept expanded in other public housing communities in urban Honolulu, paving the way for programs like Weed-N-Seed and Community Policing)
- Received a national award for drug prevention from U.S. Housing and Urban Development in 1989, one of only 24 in the nation, for establishment of the Neighborhood Watch Program in Mayor Wright Homes.

I have known and worked with Mr. Hall on many of these projects and his background has greatly assisted our Hawaiian Homes Lessees and waitlisted 'ohana.

GM-773

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 7:39:11 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Piltz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Chang and Committee Members:

RE: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert Hall, for a term to expire 6-30-2026

I stand in strong support of the nomination of Robert Hall to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for a term to expire 6-30-2026.

Mr. Hall has many years of experience in both the public and private sectors, especially in the area of housing. For as long as I have known Mr. Hall, he has been a strong advocate for housing, thinking outside of the box in his pursuit of solutions that address the state's housing issues. He is a creative leader and looks for innovative ways to bring community leaders together to problem solve.

In addition to his work with government agencies, he has helped create award winning programs that foster community relations and neighborhood pride. You should see him when he takes the stage, the pride and humbleness that he projects speaks volumes to many of our disenfranchised! I look forward to further working with Mr. Hall in his position as a Board of a Director to the Hawaii Housing Authority and urge you to strongly support Mr. Robert Hall.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

GM-773

Submitted on: 4/14/2022 9:18:19 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doreen Canto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: