

Manuwai Peters, Ed.D.  
PO Box 12041  
Honolulu, HI 86828

April 10, 2022

Aloha Chair Kidani and Senate Education Committee:

I am in full support of Governor Ige's appointment of Ambassador Lauren Kahea Moriarty to the Hawai'i Board of Education. The Ambassador is highly qualified to serve as a member of the Hawai'i Board of Education. The Ambassador possess a record of excellence and public service as evidenced in the documents she has submitted to the public record for this appointment. Her ability to communicate and negotiate for positive outcomes is a hallmark of her work in both her public and personal lives

So her record speaks for itself but today, I am here today to give a personal perspective as both a classroom educator for over 22 years in the Hawai'i DOE and my familial relationship with the Ambassador. I am her first cousin.

One thing I want to share is the high standard she holds for herself and others. These standards are the building blocks of integrity and accountability. I credit her father, my uncle and her mother Aunty Joan, for instilling this as they were all about integrity- and were fond of this saying- "Integrity- hard to come and easy to lose" So as my cousin, she was always about integrity.

At family gatherings, Lauren had this protocol that I would later understand and appreciate. When the Big Peters would arrive at a party, Lauren would enter by saying aloha to all the elders in the room- our grandparents, honihoni all the kupuna, then all the aunts and uncles. She would take the most valuable of commodities- time- to start and hold a conversation with them. Us little Peters weren't quite so bold. We clumped together and tried to stay out of sight. In hindsight, this was amazing act on her part and it demonstrated her understanding that we need to talk to the elders for they hold knowledge and history. It also showed great respect. This is who Lauren is. I learned much from her modeling that behavior.

After that, Lauren would then make her rounds to check in on us, The Little Peters' the cousins'. Even if we had a friend over, they got the treatment too. She would go one on one and ask a few questions- and it was always about school! She would ask about our grades or what project we were working on. And she always seemed to have some knowledge of the topic.

There was no escaping it! No one really likes to face that moment of self assessing our progress and taking that hard look at our own actions and progress. Its hard, uncomfortable. So we often don't do it. In a way, I wish my parents did more of this- but they were piloting the ship- both working, mom was actually a teacher in the DOE, 5 kids. And so it goes, sometimes the ship's captain and the crew keep sailing without checking progress or the course. But this cousin, our

elder cousin Lauren was like the Harbor Master- whenever we came to port e.g. the family gathering, she would check if this ship was seaworthy, followed regulations, did we do the paperwork? Today, of course, I realize how those small check ups were her way of keeping us accountable to ourselves, and to our families. She was helping us to build our integrity.

The DOE is of course, a very big ship. And big ships cannot course correct or change sail plans on a dime, or on their own. There needs to be all hands on deck approach. But still, this ship needs guidance- they need officers on duty at the harbor to check the sea worthiness of the vessel.

This is why I think Ambassador Moriarty is the appointee we need right now for the BOE. Just as she kept us as her cousins accountable and helped us to bolster our own integrity, so too will she strive to keep the Department accountable to its mission to the students, teachers, and its employees, and yes, to taxpayers. School boards are going through challenging times. It was always hard and the pandemic has amplified the need for solid leadership- not just education is at stake, but lives and livelihoods are too! The pandemic has shown us just how critical public education is to an entire community. It always was, and always will be but now we see it in real time.

I humbly ask the Senate Education Committee to support Governor Ige's appointment and confirm Ambassador Moriarty to the Hawai'i State Board of Education. Not because she's my cousin who has been a beacon of leadership, excellence, and compassion for our entire family, but because she has the skills, desire, and time to keep the Department accountable and to make our public school system better.

I respectfully submit this testimony to the public record in full support of Ambassador Lauren Kahea Moriarty to the Hawai'i Board of Education.

Mahalo,

Manuwai Peters, Ed.D.  
Kailia, O'ahu & Kalama'ula, Molokai

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 1:09:27 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Comments	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

LAUREN MORIARTY - Board of Education

Aloha and get ready for your opportunity to participate in making our public schools, great public schools for all of Hawaii's keiki. Be prepared for long hours. Prior to every meeting you will need to put aside some personal time to read the minutes and ALL written testimonies. During the meetings you will be actively listening to oral testimonies from your constituents. It is important to know that your Board membership comes with high expectations from the public. Part of this includes holding the Department of Education accountable. Be ready to ask questions for clarity from all presenters on the agenda. It is a very important job you are undertaking with its ups and downs. Thank you for accepting the nomination.

- Community Oriented
- Ability to streamline
- Strategic Vision

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 10:35:12 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Peters-Nguyen	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

April 9, 2022

Senate Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Education Committee:

*Aloha mai and mahalo* for this opportunity to provide testimony on **GM803**. As the first US Ambassador of Native Hawaiian ancestry, Lauren Moriarty brings both a global and a strong local perspective on Hawaii’s education system. With longstanding experience serving on a school board as well as boards delivering educational programs here in Hawaii, Lauren will be an effective member of the BOE, helping to define successful educational pathways for our *Keiki*.

Particularly at this critical juncture as the next Superintendent of the Department of Education will be selected, it is critical to have experienced, knowledgeable and visionary members on the BOE.

Her passion for education and willingness to work hard to see all perspectives of complex issues are why I urge you to confirm this candidate without delay. Mahalo for your consideration.

Me ka ha’aha’a,

Diane Peters-Nguyen

April 10, 2022

Senator Michelle Kidani  
Chair, Senate Education Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM803 – Lauren Moriarty Member, Board of Education

Dear Senator Kidani and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

I am writing in strong support of Lauren Moriarty to serve as a member of the Board of Education. My name is Mana Moriarty, and I am Lauren's son and a Deputy Attorney General with the State of Hawaii. I am also a witness to her tremendous work ethic and kuleana, which she brings to every board and classroom, including the social studies class she taught at Castle High School.

Colleagues and friends who have served with her on her boards will attest to the impact she has had. Recently, she helped navigate The Asia Foundation through gut-searing questions about the dangers their Afghan national employees faced during and after the U.S. military exit from Afghanistan. And she helped re-imagine the future of what has been the Foundation's largest program.

At the root of her impact are her preparation and her level of caring, which are second to none. She prepares in advance of every board meeting. She pores over background readings until she comes up with questions that will catalyze thought and discussion. Her board colleagues are always aligned and working toward a common goal. And her former students and mentees are inspired to address challenges head-on.

The Board of Education will benefit from her service, her global perspective, and her love of education. She will ask the hard questions, and will keep asking, "What is best for the students?" She is an excellent choice for the Board. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mana Moriarty



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org  
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro  
Executive Director

April 13, 2022

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

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

**HawaiiKidsCAN supports GM803**, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAUREN MORIARTY, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

The Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) is a critical organization for public education in Hawaii, with significant responsibilities that include the selection of a new state superintendent for the Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE), the approval of a new strategic plan, and oversight of the DOE to ensure students are recovering from learning loss exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the magnitude of issues facing the public education system, BOE members should be able to critically review data presented by the DOE, set a policy agenda that the DOE, legislature, and community partners can rally around, and look holistically at how schools are preparing kids for great careers and lives in Hawaii.

We support the nomination of Lauren Moriarty, as we believe she has a truly unique background that will bring a fresh perspective to the BOE, with expertise in global youth leadership. HawaiiKidsCAN was proud to work with her as part of Youth Action Alliance Hawaii, a collaborative youth leadership program that also included local organizations Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) and Ceeds of Peace. Ms. Moriarty seems to care deeply about Hawaii's students, and we believe she'll make a strong addition.

Mahalo for your consideration,

David Miyashiro  
Founding Executive Director  
HawaiiKidsCAN

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education  
Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 3:00 p.m.  
Via videoconference; Conf. Room 229**

**GM 803 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, LAUREN MORIARTY, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.**

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and members of the Committee on Education,

I am in **strong support** of GM803, the gubernatorial nomination of Lauren Moriarty to the Board of Education.

I have known Lauren Moriarty for six years through my work as the Executive Director at the Pacific & Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) where she serves as a Vice President on our Board of Governors. PAAC is a Hawai'i serving nonprofit organization which provides global education opportunities to high school students. Ms. Moriarty is a highly engaged board member who regularly contributes her time, expertise, and knowledge to the organization and the students we serve. She takes her role in our organization very seriously, is highly respected by her peers, and is 110% dedicated to our mission.

I have learned a great deal from Ms. Moriarty, especially in the areas of strategic and critical thinking. She has led the PAAC board through a strategic planning process resulting in expanded reach of PAAC programs statewide. She often provides relevant and useful feedback to the board, my staff team, and myself; all with the intention to improve.

Ms. Moriarty has a passion for education and it shows through her dedication to our organization, and many others both at home and abroad that advance education. She often is asked to speak at high school program events not only because she is an expert in the topic, but because she understands how to communicate with and engage students. Further evidence of her enthusiasm for education is that after her career as a U.S. diplomat, she pursued and earned a Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary Education level degree.

I consider myself fortunate to work very closely with and to learn from Ms. Moriarty. She is an inspiration to me and many students who have met her and heard her speak.

I strongly urge you to consider and confirm this nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,  
Niki Shishido  
Executive Director  
Pacific & Asian Affairs Council



**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 5:06:29 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tim Kochis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Lauren Moriarty for the past six years as a fellow member of the Board of Trustees of The Asia Foundation (Headquartered in San Francisco and operating as a development NGO in 19 countries in Asia and the Pacific Islands). During that time, Lauren has served as a member of the organization's Investment Committee and as Chair of it's centrally important Program Review Committee. I serve as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and I have worked closely with her and have been in awe of her great intelligence, strong strategic focus, and tenacity. She asks the right questions, holds her colleagues and the organization's staff to the highest standards of performance, and always does so with a gentle demeanor that inspires respect and co-operation.

Lauren is committed to the strategic success of every effort to which she devotes her very considerable talents. With her vast experience in government, development, and education, she will be a superb contributor to excellence in strategy setting ... and accountability ... for the Hawai'i Board of Education. Without reservation, I strongly recommend Lauren Moriarty to the Senate's confirmation.

Respectfully,

Tim Kochis, Chairman, The Asia Foundation



**Chaminade  
University**  
OF HONOLULU

Testimony Presented to the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Wednesday, April 13, 2022  
3:00 pm

GM 803  
Advise and Consent, Nominee Lauren Kahea Moriarty  
to the Board of Education

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and Members of the Committee,

I am Lynn Babington, President of Chaminade University. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of GM 803**.

I would like to support the nomination of Ambassador Lauren Kahea Moriarty to the Board of Education. I have worked with Lauren on the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council's Board of Governors and find her to be dedicated and knowledgeable about education and international affairs. She served as a foreign service officer and ambassador for over 25 years, focusing on East, Southeast and South Asia. Her background and experience gives her unique insight in to the diverse cultures of the students in our public school system. She served on the boards of the International School of Beijing and the Taipei Youth Program Association. She was Dean of Academics for the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies. She is the first U.S. Ambassador of Native Hawaiian ancestry.

On a personal note, Chaminade is proud to claim Ambassador Moriarty as an alumna. She received a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Secondary Education level social studies in 2018. She was also the keynote speaker for our December 2015 Commencement, "Dare to Do."

It is without hesitation and with great pleasure that I support Ambassador Lauren Moriarty's nomination to be a member of the Board of Education. Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Lynn Babington, PhD  
President



April 13, 2022

**Senate Committee on Education**

Chair Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair Sen. Donna Mercado Kim and Committee Members  
Public Hearing, April 13, 2022, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 229, State Capitol

**TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM F. ANONSEN**  
**IN SUPPORT OF G.M. 803**  
**GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE LAUREN MORIARTY**  
**TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

My name is William F. Anonsen, the Managing Partner/Principal of The Maritime Group and a Member of the Consular Corps of Hawaii. I would like to express my personal unequivocal support for the consideration and confirmation of Gubernatorial nominee Lauren Moriarty to the Board of Education.

In my capacity as a member of the Consular Corps of Hawaii, I have found her to be a dedicated individual who consistently performs her professional and civic responsibilities with a sense of commitment, pride, and duty. She has the professional educational and leadership credentials, coupled with her years of experience and personal attributes that make her an outstanding nominee which she has consistently demonstrated by her years of dedicated service to our multi-island community.

Lauren Moriarty is a leader in our community and a team player who works well with all people and is an excellent facilitator. She has demonstrated on various occasions her strong analytical skills, and her ability to remain committed to her principals, always with the highest degree of ethics and diplomacy in times of heated conflicting opposition. Those who have had the pleasure to work with you have always found her to carefully consider difficult issues, and through a structured investigative process and mindset, she develops calculated decisions that address and work to resolve an issue. Most important, Lauren stands by her beliefs and principals, strongly defending them skillfully and with respectful tact.

Lauren is well versed in a myriad of educational organizational processes and scholastic learning issues and I feel she is an individual of unquestionable integrity and fairness. She has my personal vote of confidence to serve on the Education Board. The success of the mandated mission of the Board of Education is too important to Hawai'i and deserves strong leadership and commitment to purpose to provide the best possible learning opportunities, experiences in a safe and encouraging environment.

***Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this distinguished gubernatorial nominee***

Sincerely,

***William F. Anonsen***

Managing Partner/Principal



‘Apelila 12, 2022

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Senators Donovan Dela Cruz, Dru Kanuha & Kurt Fevella  
RE: GM 802 Nicole Makana McClellan, nomination to Board of Education  
Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Aloha nui Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and Senate Education Committee members Dela Cruz, Kanuha and Fevella!

I am so thankful for the opportunity to support the nomination of Lauren Moriarty to the Board of Education for the term to expire on June 30, 2024. My name is Hailama VKK Farden, Pelekikena (President) of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

Lauren’s vast experiences locally and globally will certainly enhance and add to the expertise of the Board of Education. In her capacity as a member of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Lauren is a long standing and life member of the Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club. She is among three generation of members in her family. I strongly believe her professional networks and knowledge will only augment her responsibilities as a member of the Board of Education!

Considering the depth of knowledge and experience in which Lauren is engaged, I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Lauren Moriarty to the Board of Education.

Me Ke Aloha!

Hailama V.K.K. Farden, President  
The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 12:37:58 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JOSEPH P LATURNAU	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am excited to submit testimony supporting Lauren Moriarty's nomination to serve on the BOE. I worked 33 years in the DOE as a teacher and administrator, as well as seven years as an independent consultant. I fully understand the mission of the BOE and how complex areas and schools implement BOE policies. I have known Lauren for four years and we frequently discuss community and education issues. I am confident that Lauren will serve with integrity, focus on serving all students, and honor divergent opinions. Additionally, her experiences as a career diplomat will greatly enhance the effectiveness of the BOE. Lauren Moriarty is an outstanding nominee. Thank you. Joseph P. Lturnau

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 11:58:08 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caycie Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Education Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on **GM803**. My name is Caycie Kahiau Gusman Wong. I am a daughter, wife, mother, native Hawaiian community member, leader, and attorney and partner at Kobayashi Sugita & Goda LLP. I present this testimony in favor of Lauren Moriarty. I respectfully request and support her appointment to the State of Hawai`i Board of Education. I have known Lauren Moriarty for over a decade and I have observed her positive impact on the people of Hawai`i in both her personal and professional life. Her leadership skills and experience speak for itself, but her service-minded values, wisdom, patience, and passion for education and helping others is why I submit this testimony in favor of her appointment. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

Caycie Wong

April 10, 2022

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

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

**I strongly support Lauren Moriarty's nomination to the Board of Education (GM803).**

As the former High School Program Director at the Pacific & Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization developing engaged global citizens and informing Hawai'i high school students about international affairs, I often reached out to Lauren Moriarty for help and guidance in her capacity as Vice President on PAAC's Board of Governors.

"Inspiring," "memorable," and "exciting" were words students used most to describe her. After events, she was always met by a line of eager students wanting to ask her more questions.

She is also an attentive listener. At PAAC's youth summits, she spent hours observing, listening, and interacting with teachers, parents, community members, and students. She was able to quickly grasp challenges and opportunities facing different stakeholders and provide feedback for PAAC staff that was always constructive, actionable, and focused on how to benefit students.

As a mentor who combines deep knowledge and breadth of experience with concrete teaching skills and pedagogical know-how, she made me a better educator and global citizen. She helped me and thousands of students to believe that what we do matters, that teaching and learning are worth the effort.

Please give her the opportunity to make that impact as a member of the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jason Shon

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 5:06:11 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rhonda Black	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Rhonda Black and I am a professor of Special Education in the College of Education at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I have worked with teachers and administrators in Hawaii's public schools for 26 years

In my opinion, Lauren Moriarty is an impressive nominee for the BOE. She shows leadership and dedication to her community. She has a lifetime of public service and work with Foundations that support development of communities. Her experience in the foreign service contributes a global perspective that will add to the depth to the Board.

Her familiarity with the Asia-Pacific Region, her extensive managerial experience, and international diplomacy skills make her uniquely qualified to be a member of the Board of Education. Thank you.



April 10, 2022

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

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

**I strongly support Lauren Moriarty's nomination to the Board of Education (GM803).**

As the former Study Tour Director at the Pacific & Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), a 501(c)(3) international education non-profit, I had many opportunities to work with Ambassador Moriarty and can attest to her skills and dedication in supporting Hawai'i's youth.

Ambassador Moriarty's global career unfolded in many contexts and tackled a wide range of issues, giving her a deep understanding of the challenges the world faces and what they mean for Hawai'i. More importantly, she pairs her knowledge with action that reflects a strong belief in the power of education to change lives. Many people care about education; few actually become teachers, much less after a 30+ year career. I have personally seen her impact hundreds of students - not only with the breadth of her knowledge, but in the way she shares it - unreservedly, compassionately, and with a deep understanding of our young people's challenges and hopes.

The outcome of this unique professional journey is that Ambassador Moriarty is uniquely well-placed to contribute to the Hawai'i State Board of Education. I have no doubt that her ability to liaise with diverse stakeholders, implement a strategic vision, and deliver results under constraints will prove immensely helpful. Given the many challenges the State faces in ensuring quality education for all, I would be relieved to know that somebody as capable and genuinely devoted as Ambassador Moriarty was tasked with being a part of the solution.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify,

Erica Nakanishi-Stanis

April 10, 2022

Dear Members of the Hawai'i State Senate,

I am delighted to write to you in strong support of the confirmation of Lauren Kahea Moriarty to serve as a member of the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

I am Elyse Beth Silverberg, now retired after spending 40 years living and working in Beijing, China in the Healthcare Sector. I served for 10 years on the Board of Directors of the International School of Beijing, two of those years as Chairperson. It was during that time that I came to know Lauren and to appreciate the experience, skill, dedication and passion with which she effectively tackles large and complicated projects.

Our work together not only included procuring land, securing financing, design and construction of a new school facility but also a complete overhaul of programming and policies for a school that would triple in size and add many new programs. Lauren was instrumental in not only the brick and mortar considerations but preparing our new strategic plan and an overhaul of our policies and procedures. Lauren held a demanding position at the U.S. Embassy but happily gave very freely of her time in early mornings, late evenings and whenever needed.

I remember well when Lauren first arrived in Beijing and her first School Board meeting. What struck me first was her questions. She asked the most astute and insightful questions. She often helped us to focus on an issue we were missing in the form of a question rather than immediately stating an opinion. Although she came to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience from her previous postings and her positions at other schools - she was very careful to take the time to fully understand our unique situation in Beijing before making suggestions. I think it was also her way of being sensitive to our multi-cultural and somewhat complicated environment. She did become a driving force on our Board and held us to task on our governance - but she started off with the best questions. Since meeting her I strive to begin my tenure in new organizations the same way.

After a long and stellar career abroad representing the United States and engaging in a variety of volunteer activities, I know that Lauren's greatest passion would be to serve the people of her beloved Hawai'i in this capacity. I am confident Lauren would be a crucial asset to your Board of Education and that the children of Hawai'i and their families would benefit now and in generations to come from her contributions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Elyse Beth Silverberg  
+301 802-5296  
esilverberg@gmail.com

I have known Lauren for three decades.

I worked with her in the Foreign Service, when she was Dean of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS), and on our boards of the Pacific and Asia Affairs Council (PAAC) and Pacific Forum.

At PAAC, she was a mainstay of our education program for Hawaii students.

Her decision to obtain an MA in education and to teach at the secondary school level testifies to her passion for education.

Governor Ige has made the right choice in nominating Lauren for the Board of Education.

I support her without reservation. She will do an outstanding job for the people of Hawaii.

Charles B Salmon JR  
Ambassador (RET)

# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

The William S. Richardson School of Law  
Professor John Barkai

April 10, 2022

RE: GM 803 - LAUREN MORIARTY to the Board of Education

I strongly support the appointment of Lauren Moriarty to the Board of Education.

I worked under Lauren's supervision as an independent contractor for a few years providing educational programs to the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies while she was Dean of Academics there. She was great to work with. She had sound grasp of professional education and worked well with the faculty (including me) and high-level participants from approximately 40 different countries. Her resume is impressive.

By coincidence, her son Mana was a student of mine at the University of Hawaii Law School before I met or had even heard of Lauren. Her daughter-in-law, Sarah was a research assistant of mine at the Law School before she married Mana and before I met Lauren. Her nephew, David Nguyen, was a research assistant of mine last year. He was hired before I knew he was related to Lauren.

Lauren Moriarty is an amazing woman. She has an amazing family and extended family. They are all bright, honest, and support and respect education. She and her family have a strong interest in education.

She should be confirmed and appointed to the Board of Education.

Sincerely,



John Barkai  
Professor of Law (since 1978)  
William S. Richardson School of Law



Davies Pacific Center 1250  
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 USA

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April 9, 2022

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani  
Senate Vice President and Chair of the Education Committee  
Hawaii State Senate  
Via electronic submission

Dear Education Chair Kidani.

Aloha and mahalo for your work and the work of all the members of the Senate Education Committee in furthering the education of Hawaii's children and young adults. I write to respectfully and strongly support Lauren Moriarty's confirmation to the Hawai'i State Board of Education. A Honolulu resident and the first Native Hawaiian to serve as a United States Ambassador, Lauren's significant and unique ability to plan and achieve strategic goals in large complex organizations has earned her awards and commendations from the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Defense, and Hawai'i State House of Representatives. With a master's degree in teaching and volunteer teaching experience, she will make important contributions if confirmed to serve on the DOE Board.

I have known Lauren for more than a decade while serving on Hawai'i and national Boards. In 2010, Lauren and I met on the APEC Hawai'i Host Committee to facilitate a successful Honolulu meeting for leaders of 21 economies hosted by President Obama. Lauren's deep roots in Hawai'i and extensive professional experience in the Asia-Pacific region, including as U.S. Ambassador and Senior Official to APEC in 2003-2005, provided critical and strategic input as we planned the APEC Hawai'i program. She significantly contributed to the Marketing and Communications Committee that I chaired as we developed an APEC program for Hawai'i's youth, helping implement initiatives through the Department of Education so all public school students could participate.

Subsequently, I worked with Lauren on the Board of Trustees of The Asia Foundation (TAF), a \$100-million philanthropic development organization with offices in 18 countries (a position from which she just completed serving her maximum Board terms). She chaired the Program Committee, and we served together on the Executive Committee. Lauren's leadership encouraged program prioritization in alignment with TAF's strategic plan and contributed significantly to the development of current and past strategic plans. Lauren comprehends and incorporates complex operational and factual insights into strategic initiatives and summarizes succinctly for the Board. For example, she led TAF's initiative to develop country dashboards so Board members, management and representatives in 18 countries could readily assess country programs.

Lauren does not shy away from addressing challenging and difficult issues. But her approach very importantly focuses on including working with professional management and other stakeholders, understanding different perspectives, and finding common ground in the *ho'oponopono* tradition. Though she does not micro-manage, she is a dedicated resource for management and works extremely hard in her volunteer role.

I am completely confident that Ambassador Moriarty would be a strong advocate for students and teachers, a tireless servant to ensure public education serves Hawai'i's needs, and an invaluable asset to Hawai'i's public school system. It is an honor to strongly recommend her. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*Pat Loui*

The Honorable Patricia M. Loui

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 7:37:55 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David A. Bramlett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

I provide my strongest endorsement for confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAUREN MORIARTY. I have known Ambassador Moriarty for several years and remain in awe of her dedication to education at all levels, most evident in her post-State Department career to pursue successfully a degree in Education and then to use it. She will bring a wealth of experience to the position, ranging from her childhood here, her life experiences nationally and internationally, and her years here upon her return. She understands the value of education and the importance of public education in our future. We need her. Mahalo!

-- General David A. Bramlett, US Army (Ret)

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 1:47:17 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Gentry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Education Committee.

I am writing testimony in support of Lauren Moriarty, whom Governor Ige has nominated to serve as a member of State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

Lauren is an upstanding and outstandingly talented member of our community . The BOE would be foolish not to make use of her tremendous skills and experience. Lauren humility and humble nature combined with her ethics and moral decision making are not to be wasted.

Mahalo

Lisa Gentry

Aloha Senator Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Education Committee,

I provide this testimony in strong support of Lauren Moriarty as a member of the State of Hawaii Board of Education. My name is Sarah Shaw Pomaikai Moriarty. I am a daughter, wife, mother, native Hawaiian community member, attorney, and Investigator and Compliance Officer with the University of Hawaii Community Colleges System. Lauren Moriarty is my mother-in-law, whom I respect and value dearly. She is also a mentor, role model, and life coach, who has positively impacted my personal and professional life.

She inspires me to lean-in and strive to be better in everything I do, whether providing me with tips on tantrums or potty training, or coaching me to take on new leadership responsibilities throughout my legal career. Her leadership skills have already made an impression on my children. My six-year-old and three-year-old sons have told me, "Grandma should be the President." She has been their number one supporter in their educational and developmental growth, imparting all her wisdom to them and practicing the skills that she learned from her recently attained Masters in Education.

As a leader and board member, Lauren's intellect, organization, diligence, initiative, global perspective, service to others, and passion for education will greatly benefit the people of Hawaii and especially our keiki for generations to come. Please confirm Lauren Moriarty as a member of the Board of Education. Mahalo for your consideration.

Mahalo,  
Sarah Moriarty



**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 1:00:48 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Kurisu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support of Lauren Moriarty for the Hawaii Board of Education.

I have served with Lauren on the Board of Directors of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council for over 10 years.

I feel that Lauren will bring a different perspective to the BOE through her extensive international experience, relationships and passion for education.

Mahalo,

Brandon Kurisu

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 4:19:01 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lucy Gentry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Lauren Moriarty has single-handely guided me in finding my dream career. I heard about her career as a Foreign Service Officer and I knew that was something I needed to pursue. When I expressed this, Lauren took the time to invest in me. She was quick to send many great resources, tips on how to get started, and amazing stories from her career. I look up to her professionally and on a personal level. Her thoughtfulness and intentionality mean so much to me. Wherever she goes I know that she will be an incredibly valuable asset.

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 12:56:50 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Charmain Alu Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

My name is Charmain Alu Wong, retired Kamehameha High School Kapālama administrator. I am writing in strong support of Lauren Kahea Moriarty to serve as a member of the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. If you want to know how qualified Lauren is for this position, you can read about it in her resume or google her. My testimony is from my personal point of view. I've known Lauren for many years as her only son, Mana, is married to my only daughter, Sarah.

Within the family, Lauren is a daughter, a sister, an aunty, a wife, a mother, and a grandmother. She comes from the Peters 'ohana whose roots run deep in our island history and culture. Lauren has been a support for family and friends, whether guiding a grand nephew with his post high school plans or babysitting her 10-month old granddaughter. She is diligent, loving, caring, and focused. A role model, a mentor, and a good listener.

Lauren's passion for education is evident. One could see it when she talked about lesson plans she worked on for her students at Castle High School or when she asks her young grandsons what they are learning in school. Through the years of mentoring haumana, whether in her student teaching at Castle High School or elsewhere, by contributing to scholarships for Native Hawaiian students, and by striving to inspire through speeches, Lauren has lived her passion for supporting haumana.

Please confirm Lauren Kahea Moriarty as a State of Hawai'i Board of Education member. She is a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a wahine of high character, a servant leader, and an educator.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Charmain Alu Wong

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 8:56:43 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jill Takasaki Canfield	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Ambassador Lauren Moriarty to serve on the Board of Education. I have observed her inclusive, strategic, thoughtful, collaborative leadership style for many years and something that always came through was her commitment to our state, public education, and our students. She has the ability to articulate a vision, foster collaboration, inspire others, and bring people together to work toward a common goal.

Lauren Moriarty's career, education, and experiences give her a perspective and understanding of public education issues that would serve her well on the Board of Education. I've had the privilege of working with her in my previous role as the director of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council, and fortunate to have had her support as a school administrator and in my current role at Hawaii Literacy, an organization that works with adults and children in under-served communities.

Thank you for your consideration. As a proud product of our public schools, I am excited to know that Lauren Moriarty is committing her time and expertise to our students. Her presence on the Board of Education will be an asset for Hawaii's keiki.

If you require any additional information, I can be reached at 808-537-6706 or [Jill.Takasaki.Canfield@HawaiiLiteracy.org](mailto:Jill.Takasaki.Canfield@HawaiiLiteracy.org).

Sincerely,  
Jill Takasaki Canfield

**GM-803**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 11:55:03 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ashley James	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

estimony for Lauren Moriarity for GM803  
from Nālani Minton

Lauren Kahea Moriarty is the first US Ambassador of Native Hawaiian descent. Her father Col David Peters was Exec Asst to Sen Daniel Inouye for many years and a Trustee of the Queen Lili‘uokalani Trust, so she grew up in a family committed to public service.

Lauren not only has integrity and a devoted work ethic, she also has many years of expertise, experience and leadership on a national and global affairs level of diplomacy, critical thinking and analysis, negotiations, collaborative decision making and skills in problem solving through communication, compromise and mutual respect.

Through decades of educating nations, leaders and communities about socio-economic recovery, better options and strategic planning Lauren has become efficient and effective in helping to create transformational outcomes by empowering and supporting community engagement and leadership in educating people.

Lauren’s commitment to serve on the Hawai‘i Board of Education brings a powerful perspective of positive insights, innovative improvements, and relevant advancements in education to address existing crises and challenges as well as intelligent responses to present and future needs.

Lauren’s extraordinary skills, professionalism, experience and realistic idealism, give the BOE the advantages of her visionary achievements to help guide the changes needed to create best practices, processes, and policies that provide positive outcomes.

Lauren Kahea Moriarty is a WIN/WIN for both Hawai‘i and the BOE, highly recommended!

Nālanī Minton, Asst Specialist  
Director, `IKE AO PONO and NHHI  
University of Hawaii-Mānoa

Apr 12, 2022

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

**I strongly support Amb. Lauren Moriarty's nomination to the Board of Education (GM803).**

I am currently an undergraduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. In 2020 and 2021, Amb. Moriarty spoke to the Pacific & Asian Affairs Council's (PAAC) Youth Action Alliance Hawai'i and Hawai'i Sustainable Development Goals class, both of which I was a member. She spoke of her experiences in diplomacy and one specific instance struck me. After advocating for a rural village, Amb. Moriarty recounted that to thank her, the residents had prepared goat— a precious delicacy that could not be afforded by many. Despite the fact that it was likely spoiled, it was imbued with the reciprocity and the gratitude of these people and she appreciatively and respectfully accepted it.

Amb. Moriarty's story resonated with me and showed, not only how committed she is to listening to and representing a community, but also her effectiveness as a communicator and educator. Her involvement with PAAC inspired me to pursue a degree and career in diplomacy and crystallized the importance of listening to individual people and developing solutions rooted in local culture.

Her vast experience in diplomacy and genuine commitment to education will bring much-needed insight to ensure collaboration, communication, and equity for Hawai'i's public education system and students. Please allow Amb. Moriarty to share her invaluable skills and experiences as a member of the Hawai'i State Board of Education.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,  
Kayla Lim-Tam