



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
TECHNOLOGY**

Friday, April 8, 2022
3:00 pm

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
in consideration of

GM 861

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DAVELYN KALIPI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and Members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) is pleased to present testimony in strong support of Ms. Davelyn Kalipi to be considered for the NELHA Board of Directors. She has a long history of contributing to the renewable energy, community economic development, and sustainability-oriented projects in Hawaii. She is very qualified and has the ability to fill this important position.

Ms. Kalipi's experience and understanding of government, strategic planning, and economic development combined with leadership in facilitating discussions with various stakeholders to develop community partnerships provide her with perfect qualifications for the NELHA Board of Directors. Her practical realistic assessment of issues and straight-forward thinking will be invaluable in this regard.

Ms. Kalipi has a strong understanding of successful development projects in Hawaii based on a clear understanding of professional relationships and entrepreneurship networks in conjunction with Hawaiian customs and practices. This history and experience will contribute to the Board's ability to evaluate new opportunities, strategic direction, and objectives. In this regard, NELHA needs Directors who can see the "big picture" and have a broad vision to understand how the pieces of our economic future fit together. Ms. Kalipi possesses these skills.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony.



4/6/2022

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Bennette E. Misalucha, Vice Chair

RE: NELHA Board of Directors Support Letter for D. Noelani Kalipi

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and members of the Committee,

It is with pleasure and honor that I write this letter of support for D. Noelani Kalipi to serve on the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA).

NELHA plays a significant role in fostering opportunities for innovative solutions to address the global challenges of enabling energy and food security in ways that regenerate Hawaii's robust natural, environmental, and cultural resources. Ms. Kalipi's extensive experience in federal policy, community engagement and empowerment, renewable energy, and food security makes her an ideal candidate to assist NELHA in meeting its mission and its authorities as outlined in HRS 227D.

Ms. Kalipi's broad network and understanding of the diversity of stakeholder perspectives can help to provide valuable insights as the strategies are updated and implemented to create sustainable economic pathways to diversify Hawaii's economy in ways that perpetuate and protect Hawaii's unique assets.

While serving on various community boards alongside Ms. Kalipi, I have experienced her exceptional knowledge, leadership, and passion for the community. I am confident that she will prove to be an asset to the NELHA team. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support for Ms. Kalipi.

Sincerely,

Jason Fujimoto
President & CEO
HPM Building Supply



GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 12:08:00 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Arbles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

I support the nomination of Davelyn Kalipi to the Board of Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority. I have known Davelyn personally, and professionally, for over 30 years and she has always exhibited a strong sense of ethics, character, and willingness to work with others that will make her a valuable addition to the Board. I respectfully request that you approve GM681 and the nomination of Ms. Kalipi. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Jon Arbles

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 7:44:29 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Theodore Allen Peck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Noe for 15 years, since I served as the Energy Office Administrator. In that role I also served on the NELHA Board. From that perspective, I can confidently say that Noe will be an excellent innovator, overseer, and advocate for NELHA and its mission. Please approve her nomination.

Ted Peck

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 8:43:55 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Ha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai and Committee members

I very strongly support Davelyn (Noe) Kalipi for a seat on the board of NELHA.

I have known and worked very closely with Noe for more than 10 years. She is as comfortable walking the Halls of Congress where she was a staffer for Sen Akaka as she is comfortable talking story with the rubbah slippah folks. She is professionally trained in energy issues. She was one of a handful of Hawaii citizens who had attended a Association for the Study of Peak Oil (ASPO) conferences. She can see short, medium and long term. Most of all, she has a solid moral compass. I respect her tremendously.

Aloha

Richard Ha

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 8:51:22 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wren Wescoatt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am submitting written testimony in support of Davelyn Kalipi's confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority. I have known Ms. Kalipi in a professional capacity for 15 years and recommend her highly as someone experienced in renewable energy, government and community service. She has worked in the local clean energy industry for nearly two decades, helping to develop the largest wind and solar energy projects in the state, consistently working with local communities to ensure that resident support the projects. She has a distinguished career of service in the federal government from her work in the Army to her work on Capitol Hill for Senator Akaka, as a strong advocate for bringing government resources to help the people of Hawaii. Finally, Ms. Kalipi has a long record working on behalf of the Native Hawaiian community and kama'aina in general, particularly on her home island of Hawaii. She has the ability to both listen to concerns of individual stakeholders and also to keep the big picture of government priorities in mind, seeking collaboration and solutions for the common good. She is an excellent choice for the NEHLA board, and I strongly support her confirmation.

Mahalo,

Wren W. Wescoatt

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 12:15:17 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Forest Frizzell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate,

It is my pleasure to recommend Davelyn (Noe) Kalipi for the Board of Directors position of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA). I have known Noe professionally for over 10 years and she is a person of the utmost integrity she has a passion for her work, she is an ethical person with also understands equity and is able to communicate all of these things in a succinct, thoughtful, and action-oriented way.

I think it's important to elevate people who have the experience and can weave a community-centric approach to their work.

- Noe understands the oversight responsibilities of the Board of Directors for NELHA. Her experience in the energy and food security sectors combined with her work in community engagement and policy will help her to fulfill these duties and to share insights in support of the NELHA Executive Director and team.**
- Ms. Kalipi's work in creating opportunities to shift structures and systems to better meet emerging challenges will also be an asset as NELHA continues to build on its success in creating opportunities to diversify Hawaii's economy**

Noe has been a great thought partner and mentor. She has an impeccable reputation as a brilliant energy practitioner with a passion for the hard work it takes to get things done. There is no question in my mind she wouldn't just fulfill her obligation to the board and its benefactors, but be an important voice to elevate the work and mission of the organization.

With Aloha,

Forest Frizzell

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 1:29:07 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of nominee, Ms. Davelyn Noe Kalipi, to the Board of Directors for the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA).

As a life-long resident and strong community member of Hawaii Island, Ms. Kalipi has the passion, experience, intelligence, and political acumen to be a stellar board member. Her extensive experience in sustainable and renewable energy, energy development, and community outreach will be invaluable to this role and to the board.

More importantly, Ms. Kalipi loves Hawaii and always has the state's and state's residents' best interest in mind. She is a mindful and careful steward of our land, but also understands the importance of building a bright future (with workforce opportunities) for our keiki. She is a smart, kind and level-headed leader and would be a true asset to the Board.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Mahalo, Karen Lee



DDCCONSULTING

Testimony in support of GM 861
Submitted by: Donalyn Dela Cruz
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism
Hearing date: April 8, 2022
Video Conference

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and members of the committee,

I am writing in support of Gubernatorial Nominee Davelyn Noelani Kalipi to the Board of Directors of the Natural Laboratory of Hawai‘ii Authority (NELHA).

I have known Mrs. Kalipi for 18 years. Her contributions to Hawai‘i’s energy goals could be summed up as building bridges for a renewable future. Having worked for the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka for nearly two decades and returned home to work in the energy and community sectors, Mrs. Kalipi exhibits a work ethic and professionalism that is deeply rooted in community engagement and cultural understanding. To find such constant striving to improve Hawai‘i’s energy outcomes — without extrinsic motivations or rewards for doing so—is truly admirable. As exemplified in her resume, Mrs. Kalipi has worked in government, non-profits, and in the private sector - notably with First Wind and Progression Energy.

NELHA’s mission is to develop and diversify the Hawai‘i economy by providing resources and facilities for energy and ocean-related research, education, and commercial activities in an environmentally sound and culturally sensitive manner.

Mrs. Kalipi is well suited to execute NELHA’s mission and would bring sound judgment and expertise as Hawai‘i strives to raise the bar in its energy production.

Mahalo for your consideration and the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

Donalyn Dela Cruz

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 9:15:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marissa Sandblom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! I am writing in strong support of Davelyn "Noe" Kalipi. I have known Noe for over a decade and I have found her to be incredibly intelligent and astute. She is a wonderful problem-solver and given her extensive knowledge on energy-related matters, I know Noe will be a valuable member of NELHA when confirmed. Noe is a committed and respected servant leader and I wholeheartedly support her nomination. Mahalo, Marissa Sandblom

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 9:27:50 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Puaala Hora	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Bennette E. Misalucha, Vice Chair

Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

April 6, 2022

Support for GM 861 for consideration and confirmation of DAVELYN KALIPI, Gubernatorial Nominee for the Board of Directors of Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority

My name is Pua'ala Hora and I am testifying in Support for GM 861 - Consideration for Confirmation of Davelyn Kalipi, Gubernatorial Nominee for the Board of Directors of Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority.

I have known Davelyn Kalipi for many years and have seen her share her special qualities as a communicator, innovator and team builder. Davelyn understands her kuleana in making Hawai'i a more sustainable place for our future generations and has done this with her work with First Wind, Ti Leaf Group, and Kohala Institute at 'Iole. Davelyn has a unique ability to bring people together, to actively listen, to find common ground among diverse stakeholders, to create a vision that includes the valued contributions of those involved, to understand information and ideas and their relevance to the tasks at hand, and to move and inspire a diverse group forward toward common goals and the completion of project objectives. Davelyn will bring this kind of experience, skill set, and energy, if you will, to this board of directors.

She has a strong sense of community as demonstrated by her many volunteer opportunities for nonprofits and community organizations. I have had the privilege to work with her as a board member and coach of Hilo Strikers, a girls softball program here in Hilo where we encourage our players to not just learn the skills of the sport, but the skills of life through personal development and goal-setting, achieving growth and resilience through challenges as well as team-building activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in Support of GM 861. I believe that DAVELYN KALUPI will work hard to serve the people of Hawai'i as a board member of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority.

Date: April 6, 2022

To: Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Bennette E. Misalucha, Vice-Chair
And Members

From: Richard Matsuda

Subject: SUPPORT confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy
Laboratory of Hawaii Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, DAVELYN KALIPI

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Misalucha, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

Thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for the confirmation of Davelyn Kalipi to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority.

I am a resident of Waimea in the South Kohala district of Hawai'i Island. I am well acquainted with Ms. Kalipi through collaboration on community initiatives.

Ms. Kalipi has strong and impressive professional qualifications in law, energy, strategic planning, business development, community engagement and more. Beyond her professional credentials, I can attest to Ms. Kalipi's solid values and ethics, her commendable record in community and civic service, her high level of energy and work ethic, and her rare combination of analytical and people skills that allow her to meet complex challenges effectively with skill and grace. She cares deeply for Hawai'i and all of its people, envisions solutions, collaborates well, motivates those around her and gets results.

I believe Ms. Kalipi would bring tremendous value to guiding NELHA's mission to develop and diversify the Hawaii economy by providing resources and facilities for energy and ocean-related research, education and commercial activities in an environmentally sound and culturally sensitive manner.

Mahalo,

Richard Matsuda

TESTIMONY OF NICOLE A. VELASCO, PRIVATE CITIZEN
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

Friday, April 8, 2022
3:00 P.M., Room 224/Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony on GM 861, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, DAVELYN KALIPI

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Misalucha, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nicole A. Velasco, private citizen, writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 861 that offers Davelyn Noelani Kalipi as the gubernatorial nominee for the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA).

I have had the honor of being both a supporter and colleague working alongside Noe on projects with the Kohala Institute at 'Iole, the Hawaii Leadership Forum, and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii Military Affairs Council that prioritize community relationships and resilience as a key component of comprehensive systems change. As a natural convener with depth of experience, Noe creates the conditions required for inclusive, meaningful discussions that remain informed by our past and present to thus look forward to a shared future with confidence. In these changing times, we have witnessed the challenges that arise when community is neglected. With deep island roots and even deeper relationships in community, industry, and government, Noe is always akamai to recognize value in voices typically excluded, often creating a much larger table altogether so our community is not left behind.

Given its mission, NELHA requires a board of directors capable of navigating the disparate terrain of new technology, renewable energy, food equity/security, public policy and community engagement. In my short time working in our energy industry, I have witnessed firsthand the results and benefits of Noe's long track-record in energy and sustainability, particularly renewable energy generation. As evidenced by her earlier work with First Wind, Noe set a precedent for what successful large-scale energy projects can become when community engagement is tantamount with technical expertise.

In addition to Noe's technical and adaptive prowess, perhaps what excites me the most about this appointment is the possibility of another Kanaka Maoli occupying a role that bears great influence on the trajectory of our people, land, sea, and sky. Though always grateful for meaningful expertise from beyond our shores, I am most encouraged to see Hawaiians stepping into roles of influence throughout our various government entities.

Please confirm this appointment of Davelyn Noelani Kalipi to the NELHA board.

Mahalo,
Nicole A. Velasco



4/6/2022

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Bennette E. Misalucha, Vice Chair

RE: NELHA Board of Directors Support Letter for D. Noelani Kalipi

Aloha nui e Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and members of the Committee,

It is with great appreciation and honor that I submit this letter of support for the appointment of D. Noelani Kalipi to serve on the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority (NELHA).

I have known Ms. Kalipi for the past two decades throughout her roles of service beginning with the honorable Daniel K. Akaka in the U.S. Senate through to her critical leadership in areas including renewable energy, food security, education, and Native Hawaiian advancement. Noelani has

Noelani has a strong professional work ethic and unique relationship building skills that make her an effective leader. She is able to drive a collective vision for the empowerment of community and as such has developed a broad network – both local and international – of “movers and shakers” creating transformative and systemic change. She is strategic, courageous and passion driven to solve difficult challenges and simultaneously strives to create unique opportunities for Hawai'i as a global leader in renewable energy and sustainable economies.

I can think of no better person than D. Noelani Kalipi to serve as director on the NELHA board. I am confident that she will serve with effectiveness and with excellence that will be a vital asset to the board. Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to provide a letter of support.

Ka'iu Kimura
Hawai'i Island Community Member
Executive Director, 'Imiloa Astronomy Center

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 8:15:48 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colton Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Misalucha, and Committee members,

My name is Colton Ching and I am testifying in support of Governor’s Message 861, in consideration and confirmation of Davelyn “Noe” Kalipi to serve on the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (“NELHA”) for a term to expire June 30, 2024.

For over ten years I have known and worked with Ms. Kalipi on various leadership, community, and energy initiatives. Through these years, I have learned to appreciate and admire her enthusiasm for advancing Hawaii’s efforts to increase sustainability, individual and community involvement in decision making, and creating ownership of issues and solutions within Hawaii’s communities. I am confident that Ms. Kalipi will bring these strengths and perspectives to the NELHA board and contribute meaningfully to the board’s mission.

Accordingly, I support Davelyn “Noe” Kalipi to serve on the Board of Directors of NELHA. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

LATE

**Governor's Message 861
Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Directors of the
Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee
DAVELYN "NOE" KALIPI, for a term to expire 6-30-2024**

Friday, April 8, 2022
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Shelee Kimura

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and Committee members,

My name is Shelee Kimura and I am testifying **in support of Governor's Message 861**, in consideration and confirmation of Davelyn "Noe" Kalipi to serve on the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority ("NELHA") for a term to expire June 30, 2024.

Over several years, I have worked with Ms. Kalipi on various energy initiatives and appreciate her enthusiasm for renewable energy, equity and inclusion, and her deep connection to Hawaii's culture and sense of place. She understands the importance of government, private and community stakeholders working collaboratively and cohesively to achieve our state's clean energy goals. Her work with various organizations exemplifies her commitment to innovation, creativity, and community. As a member of NELHA's board, Ms. Kalipi will bring these values and her experience to an important entity whose mission is to develop and diversify the Hawaii economy by providing resources and facilities for energy and ocean related research, education, and commercial activity in an environmentally sound and culturally sensitive manner.

Accordingly, I support Davelyn "Noe" Kalipi to serve on the Board of Directors of NELHA. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

GM-861

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 10:35:46 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachael Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism members:

I am writing as an individual citizen and in strong support of the confirmation of **Davelyn Noelani Kalipi, JD** to the Natural Energy Laboratory of the Hawai'i Authority (NELHA) Board of Directors. You will find that Ms. Kalipi's experience and expertise, as evident in her resume and through others' testimony, make her an excellent candidate to serve in this capacity. Having had the opportunity to work with Ms. Kalipi over the last few years, I'd like to also highlight a few valuable strengths she would bring to NELHA and the communities it serves.

- **Moving to action:** One of Ms. Kalipi's strengths is her ability to convene people and organizations, facilitate the identification of shared goals, and engage participants in generative, productive, and strategic discourse that leads to collective decision-making. This solid process, in turn, leads to collaborative action and impact.
- **Applying different lenses:** As you have learned, Ms. Kalipi has deep roots on Hawai'i Island and brings her experience working on the federal and statewide levels to the community-based, economic development, and community engagement work that she leads in both professional and volunteer roles. What might not show up on paper is that another of Ms. Kalipi's strengths is her ability to look at situations, systems, sectors, and opportunity from different perspectives—she can easily see through community, policy, strategy, business, government, operational, cultural, environmental, and other lenses. She can see and switch between them individually, in combinations, and as a whole. This is an extremely valuable strength on any board, and especially one leading the development and diversification of the Hawai'i economy through innovation and with community partners.
- **Character:** Ms. Kalipi has held and continues to hold various roles as an energy and leadership professional, public servant, and volunteer. One of the main reasons why she is asked to do much and why she accomplishes a great deal is because of her character. Ms. Kalipi's strong ethics and values guide her, draw others to work with her, and are rooted in service to others and a thriving Hawai'i...for generations to come. She is rooted to this place, land, and ocean and will be a responsible steward in this capacity.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration of Ms. Noe Kalipi for the NELHA Board of Directors. Like many, I strongly support her confirmation.

Sincerely,
Rachael Wong