

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawaii

Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 534

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 534, appointment of Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Dane brings to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism a decade of experience and understanding of government and its processes, budgeting, and public policy. During this time, Dane served as Chief of Staff and Committee Clerk to the Chairperson of the Committee on Ways and Means and State Senator and provided direction to the operating and capital improvement project supervisors and staff on the review of the Governor's Executive Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Budget, as well as analyzed, determined the financial impacts of, and prioritized the budgeted line items. These skillsets will be invaluable to his work at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Dane's work experience also extends to the county level. As former Executive Assistant in the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu, Dane handled administrative matters that included executing the support of the Administration and coordinating special projects. Dane also assisted in communicating the Administration's decisions and recommended actions on matters supporting the Mayor and Administration.

Testimony of Office of the Governor
Governor's Message No. 534
March 14, 2023
Page 2

Dane received a Bachelor of Arts degree in social science-political science from the University of Hawaii – West Oahu and is working on a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

I am confident that Dane Wicker's leadership and professional and educational attributes will enable him to serve the State and community well as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Testimony of
CHRIS J. SADAYASU
to the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 534

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee.

I strongly support the appointment of Dane Wicker to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have had the opportunity to get to know Dane over the past few months and it has been a privilege to serve the Department and the State of Hawai'i with him. He is a longtime public servant with experience at both the State and County levels and his background in program and budget analysis has been beneficial in his current role as the acting Deputy Director for DBEDT. And Dane's extensive experience in legislative affairs has been invaluable as we navigate through this legislative session.

Since being on the job, Dane has been instrumental in helping to create the framework of how we will achieve greater diversification of the state's economy.

Together, we have been working to increase accountability and efficiency across DBEDT's core divisions and attached agencies. And as we continue to "move the needle" in achieving a Hawai'i economy that embraces innovation and is globally competitive, dynamic and productive, I look forward to continuing our work in providing opportunities for the people of Hawai'i.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for Dane Wicker's confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my strong support.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT DIVISION

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DENNIS T. LING
ADMINISTRATOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Testimony of

Dennis Ling, Administrator

Business Development & Support Division
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

March 14, 2023, 1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of

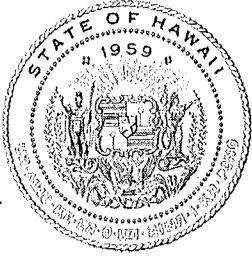
GM No. 534

**Confirmation of Deputy Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER**

I am pleased to submit this letter in strong support of the nomination of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I have known Dane professionally for over 10 years and he has always shown himself to be bright, energetic and enthusiastic. He has a strong background in state and county experience and has excellent planning and organizing skills. His various roles and responsibilities in state and local government in legislative and administrative positions provide him with a wide range of knowledge and experience that will serve him well as Deputy Director. He also has a great working relationship with his peers and subordinates.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer support for Dane.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKAI

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Testimony of
Maria Lucia L. Pascual
Administrative Services Officer
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

March 14, 2023, 1:00pm
State Capitol, Conference Room #229

In consideration of
GM No. 534
Confirmation of Deputy Director,
Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism
Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker

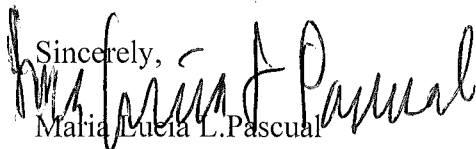
I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 534 for Dane Wicker's nomination as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

I have been the Administrative Services Officer for DBEDT since January 13, 2023.

Within just the couple of months that I have known Mr. Wicker and working closely with him, I could see that he has a vast experience and skill set for working collaboratively with the ten (10) attached agencies and four (4) core programs of DBEDT, being able to identify their mission and align them with the overall DBEDT's strategic goals and Governor's priorities. These accomplishments transcend to advocating funds for payroll, other current expenses, and necessary capital improvement projects that sustain the Department's operation so that we can better serve the people of Hawaii.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge his confirmation as DBEDT Deputy Director.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Maria Lucia L. Pascual
c: Chris J. Sadayasu, DBEDT



Ke'ena Kuleana Ho'okipa O'Hawai'i
Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii tourism authority.org

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor

John De Fries
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
JOHN DE FRIES
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 P.M.
State Capitol Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GOV. MESSAGE NO. 534
NOMINATION OF DANE WICKER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority has valued a productive working relationship with Mr. Wicker since he joined the department in December 2022, and before that in his capacity with the Committee on Ways & Means.

Mr. Wicker is a man of high integrity, and administratively, he functions like a well-calibrated precision instrument with little or no waste of energy. Mr. Wicker will be a tremendous asset at DBEDT and we appreciate this opportunity to offer our endorsement of him before this committee.

Mahalo.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

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

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 PM
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**GM 534 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy
Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”) **supports** GM 534, relating to the consideration and confirmation of Mr. Dane Wicker’s appointment as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

ADC believes Mr. Wicker’s experience will be instrumental in guiding DBEDT to reach new heights. Furthermore, ADC is confident Mr. Wicker has the knowledge and skills required to serve as Deputy Director and we respectfully ask for your consideration and support of his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



LAND USE COMMISSION

Komikina Ho'ohana 'Āina

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
Ka 'Oihana Ho'omōhala Pā'oihana, 'Imi Wai wai a Ho'omāka'ika'i

JOSH GREEN, MD
GOVERNOR

DANIEL ORODENKER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

235 S. Beretania Street, RM 406, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804
Email Address: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 587-3822
Fax: (808) 587-3827
Website: luc.hawaii.gov

March 9, 2023

Statement of
Daniel E. Orodenker
Executive Officer
State Land Use Commission

Before the
Senate Committee on
Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Tuesday March 14, 2023
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Room 229 & Video Conference

In consideration of
GM 534
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE WICKER
As Deputy Director of Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Chair DeCoite; Vice Chair Wakai; and members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

Please accept this testimony in strong support for the confirmation of Dane Wicker as deputy director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. I've known Dane Wicker personally for 12 years. During that time, he has shown himself to be an intelligent, open minded and hard-working public servant with extensive experience in State budgetary and procurement matters.

Dane is an exceptional person and candidate for this position. He has the background and experience necessary to be a successful deputy director at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Written Statement of
Len Higashi
Executive Director
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

Thursday, March 14, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GM534
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee.

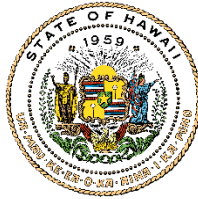
I am pleased to have this opportunity to **support** the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. I worked with Mr. Wicker in his prior role in the State Senate and am working with him in his current role.

Mr. Wicker has brought to DBEDT a focus on planning, metrics, and deliverables that will pay dividends for the Department in the years ahead. Mr. Wicker is hard-working and efficient. His skillsets are unique in that he can both plan and execute. He is a strong candidate to serve as Deputy Director and the State of Hawai'i is fortunate to have him in this very important position.

I look forward to working together in the years to come. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and I encourage your favorable vote on his behalf.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 534
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE WICKER, FOR A TERM TO
EXPIRE 12-07-2026**

Governor's Message 534 proposes to confirm as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department recognizes the remarkable contribution of Mr. Dane Wicker to the state of Hawai'i, for his efforts and service as Clerk and Chief of Staff to a Hawai'i State Senator, in addition to an Executive Assistant position with the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting. In these roles, Mr. Wicker gained valuable experience with budgets, economic development, office management, and administrative procedures.

Mr. Wicker's experience, competence and community relationships make him an ideal candidate for the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 534.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:

677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 587-0620
FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of
DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

March 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

In consideration of
G.M. 534

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE WICKER, FOR A TERM TO
EXPIRE 12-07-2026.**

As the Executive Director for HHFDC, it is a privilege for me to express my **strong support** for the confirmation of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

During my time serving in different capacities within state government, I have had the opportunity to work directly with Dane Wicker and found him to be a very dedicated, and conscientious individual who is driven to achieve results. He is also very honest, respectful, and fair in his dealings with people.

Mr. Wicker spent the past decade in public service and held various positions in government administration including the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP), the Hawaii State Senate, and the East-West Center.

The knowledge and experience acquired in these positions, especially that of being the Chief of Staff for the Senate's Ways and Means (WAM) committee, was instrumental in preparing the DBEDT departments and attached agencies for their budget briefings. His understanding of departmental operations, the budgeting process, and financial-impact analysis is an asset that will continue to help DBEDT achieve tangible results. During his time at the city, he demonstrated his ability to organize and coordinate programs to support the Director of DPP.

Economic and workforce development, energy efficiency, and affordable housing are critical issues facing the state that will require strategic planning and execution. Mr. Wicker has the right skillset to help DBEDT play a pivotal role in revitalizing the state's economy.

I urge you to confirm Dane Wicker as the Deputy of DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHAHA

March 14, 2023

To: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development,
and Tourism

Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229 & Videoconference, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: GM 534; Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Wicker has the experience and knowledge to successfully serve as the Deputy Director of DBEDT. Mr. Wicker has extensive knowledge about governmental operations. He served as the Administrative Assistant at the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting where he coordinated and communicated administrative decisions, work programs, budgets, and objectives to all stakeholders. As the Chief of Staff and Committee Clerk for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. Wicker directed the operating and capital improvement projects and oversaw the review of the Governor's executive operating budget of about \$16 billion and a capital improvement budget of about \$2 - \$3 billion of which over \$200 million is earmarked for housing and economic development. In addition, Mr. Wicker was also a small business owner and operated businesses in retail and farming.

Mr. Wicker embraces innovation and his energy and determination chart a path for Hawaii to be globally competitive, dynamic and productive to provide opportunities for all Hawaii's citizens. As the Deputy Director, he will also foster planned community development, create affordable workforce housing units in high-quality living environments, and promote innovation sector job growth.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 534.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

GWEN S. YAMAMOTO LAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, Suite 501, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3868
Web site: gems.hawaii.gov

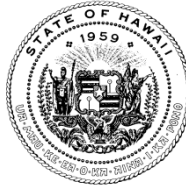
**Testimony of
Gwen Yamamoto Lau
Executive Director
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority**
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
March 14, 2023, 1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of
GM No. 534
**Confirmation of Deputy Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Governor's Message 534 for Gubernatorial Nominee Dane Wicker, as Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

With over eleven years of experience as Chief of Staff/Committee Clerk for Ways and Means, Dane provides DBEDT and its attached Agencies invaluable insight and working knowledge to successfully navigate legislative policy that will result in measurable economic development and environmental impacts. Additionally, his financial acumen and budgetary experience will strengthen and streamline DBEDT's fiscal processes, increasing efficiencies and building capacity for future economic growth for DBEDT and the State.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer support and comments for Governor's Message 534.



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
State Capitol

In consideration of
Governor's Message 534

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Wicker received his bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii. He recently served as the Principal Executive Assistant at the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting, communicating administrative decisions, budgets, and objectives with various stakeholders.

Mr. Wicker also served as the Chief of Staff for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, and Assistant to the Director of the Pacific Asian Studies at the University of Hawai'i East-West Center.

The DOT believes Mr. Wicker's work experience and business knowledge will benefit the department.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

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

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 534, DANE WICKER

**AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, I am writing in strong support of the appointment of Mr. Dane Wicker to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Wicker's wide range of prior experience in state and county government, as well as the East-West Center gives him the policy and economic development skills and background to building a stronger economy for Hawai'i.

At the City and County of Honolulu, he excelled in a senior administrative position coordinating special projects and gained executive level management experience by carrying out decisions and recommended actions on matters supporting the Mayor and Administration.

As Chief of Staff/Committee Clerk to the Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and in his overall service to Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Mr. Wicker became adept at understanding the operations, processes, policies, procedures, and systems of 17 State departments. In that role, he directed the operating and capital improvement projects' supervisors and staff to review the Governor's \$16 billion executive operating budget and \$2 - \$3 billion capital improvement budget, with more than \$200 million earmarked for housing and economic development.

At the East-West Center, Mr. Wicker pursued federal grants and supported the creation of programs in schools to spread awareness of climate change. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated leadership, innovation, and commitment to making positive change. These qualities will serve him well in his role as Deputy Director of DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY

An Authority of the State of Hawaii attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Statement of
Gregory P. Barbour
Executive Director
Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority
before the

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

in consideration of

GM 534
RELATING TO THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF
DANE WICKER AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

I am pleased to provide testimony in strong support of Mr. Dane Wicker for the position of the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I have worked with Mr. Wicker over the past ten years in his former position as the Chief of Staff for the Senate Ways and Means Committee. He has a very detailed knowledge of the interworking of government, checks and balances and the different role of each agency.

It is very important that we have a Deputy Director who can see the “big picture” and have a broad vision to understand how the pieces and economic development policies fit together to grow our economy. His practical realistic assessment of issues and straight-forward thinking will be invaluable in this regard.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY

In reply, please refer to:
File:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM534
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of
Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE
WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.**

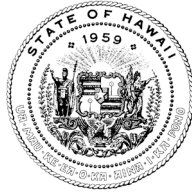
SENATOR LYNN DECOITE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Hearing Date: 3/14/2023

Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the nomination of Dane
- 3 Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and
- 4 Tourism.
- 5
- 6 Mr. Wicker demonstrated a keen understanding of the role of state government in society and the
- 7 economy during his tenure with the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. His experience in
- 8 both executive and legislative branches of government, including academia, are assets for the
- 9 position of Deputy Director. Working with Mr. Wicker over the years, DOH finds that his
- 10 temperament, fairness, and ability to grasp complex issues will be valuable resources for the
- 11 Executive Branch.
- 12
- 13 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 14
- 15 **Offered Amendments:** None

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 534
NOMINATION OF DANE WICKER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
TUESDAY MARCH 14, 2023

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of Governor Josh Green's nomination of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Wicker most recently served as the Principal Executive Assistant at the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting, coordinating and communicating administrative decisions, work programs, budgets, and objectives to all stakeholders.

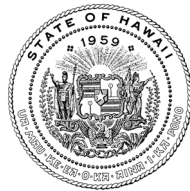
He has also served as the Chief of Staff for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, and Assistant to the Director of the Pacific Asian Studies at the University of Hawai'i East-West Center.

In these roles, he prepared, reviewed, and provided recommendations on legislative and grant proposals.

I am pleased to support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 534

March 14, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Room 229 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE WICKER, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT). I am working with Mr. Wicker in my professional capacity as Director of Finance.

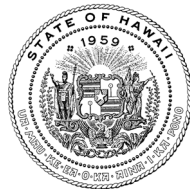
Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Mr. Wicker is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Mr. Wicker has been serving as the Deputy Director at DBEDT since December 2022. Prior to that, he was the Chief of Staff/Committee Clerk at the Hawai'i State Senate from January 2011, then an Executive Assistant at the City Department of Planning and Permitting from June 2022. His work experience will benefit DBEDT and the State; therefore, I support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 534

March 14, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Room 229 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE WICKER, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director at the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). I am working with Mr. Wicker in my professional capacity as Deputy Director of Finance.

Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Mr. Wicker is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Mr. Wicker has been serving as the Deputy Director at DBEDT since December 2022. Prior to that, he was the Chief of Staff/Committee Clerk at the Hawai'i State Senate from January 2011, then an Executive Assistant at the City Department of Planning and Permitting from June 2022. His work experience will benefit DBEDT and the State; therefore, I support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR, DBEDT



ALOHA STADIUM

An Agency of the State of Hawaii
March 14, 2023

BRENNON MORIOKA
VICE CHAIRMAN, STADIUM AUTHORITY

RYAN G. ANDREWS
STADIUM MANAGER

RUSSELL UCHIDA
DEPUTY STADIUM MANAGER

TESTIMONY
OF
RYAN G. ANDREWS, STADIUM MANAGER
STADIUM AUTHORITY
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
March 14, 2023, 1:00 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & by video conference

G.M. 534

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the appointment of Mr. Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

From my professional interaction with Mr. Wicker, he has the education, knowledge, business acumen, and legislative experience to effectively ensure that DBEDT remains committed to a state-wide and comprehensive economic development strategy that will drive economic resilience and prosperity for the State of Hawaii. Mr. Wicker's collective experience will be extremely beneficial as DBEDT plays a pivotal role in capitalizing on economic opportunities by coordinating and directing Hawaii's resources to ensure optimum efficiency and long-term return on investment. I have found Mr. Wicker to be committed and quick to absorb the myriad of projects that involve DBEDT. As such, I respectfully ask for the Committee's favorable consideration in confirming gubernatorial nominee, Mr. Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director, DBEDT for a term to expire on December 7, 2026.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of Mr. Wicker.

JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 420
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8675 / Fax: (808) 586-8685
Email: dlir.ocs@hawaii.gov

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

JOVANIE DOMINGO DELA CRUZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IN REPLY, REFER TO:
OCS 23.1116

March 10, 2023

To: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair,
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, and Members
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism

Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol & Videoconference

From: Jovanie Domingo dela Cruz, Executive Director
DLIR – Office of Community Services

Position: Support

Re: GM 534 - NOMINATION OF DANE WICKER

Aloha, Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism!

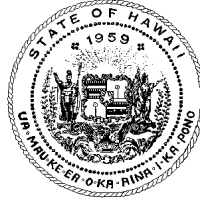
As Executive Director of the Office of Community Services (OCS) in the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, I am pleased to support the nomination of DANE WICKER for confirmation as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have known Mr. Wicker for several years through his former position as Chief of Staff for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz. In that role, he provided important support for the Office of Community Services so that our Office could fulfill its mission of serving economically disadvantaged persons, refugees, immigrants, and other persons of limited means. I invariably found Mr. Wicker to be truly helpful and caring about our needs, above and beyond the usual level of attention that we all seek and appreciate when we ask one another for help for our respective agencies.

I am confident that he is up to the tasks required at DBEDT, and that he will make positive contributions to that Department as well as the State government in general.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
KA 'ŌI HANA HO'OPALEKANA LEHULEHU
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Michael J. Hoffman
Acting Deputy Director
Corrections

William Oku
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 534
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF DANE WICKER
TO BE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

By

Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 14, 2023; 1:00 p.m.
CR 229 & Via Video Conference

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Dane Wicker to be the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT. Mr. Wicker's eclectic work background includes University of Hawaii, Chief of Staff/Committee Clerk for the honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, and the Department of Planning and Permitting with the City and County of Honolulu.

His experience working in both County and State government coupled with his current efforts to obtain a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning is indicative of someone continually striving to move forward. These types of individuals make excellent leaders, and their thinking processes are productively innovative, which are essential to moving organization forward in a positive manner. This is the type of thought leader DBEDT and the State of Hawai'i needs

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony support of Governor's Message 534 and Mr. Wicker.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023
1:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 229 & VIDEOCONFERENCE**

GOVERNORS MESSAGE NO. 534

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

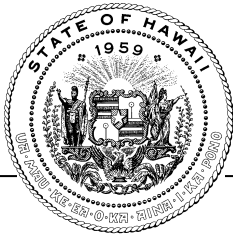
Chairperson DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker, as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). Dane has experience with the business of doing business in Hawaii, which is important to the position. He understands processes at the county and state, having served in positions at both levels, is a graduate of the University of Hawaii with a BA in Social Science – Political Science, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Dane is qualified and the right person for the position.

Respectfully requesting your vote to confirm Dane Wicker's nomination to serve as the Deputy Director, DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
GM 534

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Dane Wicker to serve as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Wicker has more than 10 years of government experience. He recently served as Administrative Assistant at the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting, coordinating and communicating administrative decisions, work programs, budgets, and objectives to all stakeholders. He also previously served as a legislative chief of staff and Committee Clerk for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, and Assistant to the Director of the Pacific Asian Studies at the East-West Center. In these roles, he prepared, reviewed, and provided recommendations on legislative, budget, and grant proposals.

This experience positions Mr. Wicker to benefit DBEDT. He is an expert in legislative policymaking and budgeting. He is passionate, dedicated, and hard working to help advance priority projects to benefit Hawai'i's economic growth. His focus on policy and procedures, objectives, metrics, and project delivery has already brought improvements to DBEDT operations.

For these reasons, I humbly ask for Mr. Wicker's confirmation as the Deputy Director, DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Ka 'Oihana 'Auhau
P.O. BOX 259

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**TESTIMONY OF
GARY S. SUGANUMA, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION**

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

In consideration of G.M. No. 534

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, gubernatorial nominee, Dane Wicker

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

DATE: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

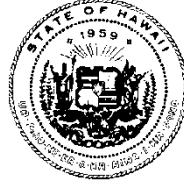
Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Mr. Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I believe that Mr. Wicker's years of experience in the legislature and his leadership and administrative background makes him an excellent candidate for Deputy Director of DBEDT. I believe Mr. Wicker is committed to serving the best interests of the State and am confident that he possesses the experience, skillset, and leadership abilities to effectively address the challenges facing DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 534.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 PM
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 534

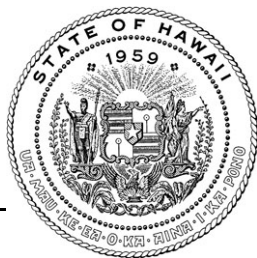
**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, DANE WICKER, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.**

Honorable Chair Decoite, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 534, to consider and confirm Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I have known Dane for many years, and I am honored to be working alongside with him in Governor Green's Administration. He is an integral part of a team that is committed to addressing the many issues facing our State and I believe that he will be able to effectively fulfill his role through his life experiences and professional expertise.

There is no doubt in my mind that he will continue to bring a fresh perspective on how to deliver services, improve the experience of those we serve, and strive to maximize taxpayer dollars efficiently and effectively.

The HPHA urges the Committee to pass GM 534 and confirm Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE NO. 9
521 ALA MOANA BLVD., SUITE 101 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Web site: www.ftz9.org

Telephone: (808) 586-2507
Fax: (808) 586-2512
E-mail: administrator@ftz9.org

**Statement of
DAVID SIKKINK, Administrator
Foreign-Trade Zone Division**

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

**In Consideration of
Governor's Message 534**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Deputy Director, for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, **DANE WICKER**, for the term to expire December 7, 2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, Member of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in **SUPPORT** for the confirmation and appointment of Dane Wicker to serve as the Deputy Director the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Wicker has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in government and governmental processes serving as the Senate Ways and Means Committee Chief of Staff and Committee Clerk as well as the Executive Assistant to the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting. Through his extensive work with the Senate Ways and Means Committee, he has gained critical insight into the structure and mission of DBEDT, the most diverse department within the Hawaii State Government. His considerable focus, expertise, and knowledge will help lead the department, and the State, to expanded economic growth and diversification, as well as accelerated innovation opportunities.

Respectfully requesting your confirmation and appointment of **DANE WICKER** to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR



Testimony of
Derek S.K. Kawakami
Mayor, County of Kaua'i

Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
March 14, 2023 at 1:00 PM
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GM 534 Relating to the Appointment of
Dane K. Wicker
Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Honorable Chair DeCoite, Honorable Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I write in **strong support** of the appointment of Dane K. Wicker as the State of Hawaii Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) where he will assist to oversee Hawaii's resource center for economic and statistical data, business development opportunities, energy and conservation information, and foreign trade advantages.

During my years at the Legislature, I witnessed the dedication and keen focus Mr. Wicker applied to his work as Chief of Staff and Committee Clerk to Senator Dela Cruz. This work required an acute analysis of the Governor's executive operating and capital improvement budgets as well as the implications of changes to policies. Additionally, Mr. Wicker listened to and worked collaboratively to bring groups with different perspectives together.

Mr. Wicker has refined his budgeting and planning skills with his recent work at the City and County of Honolulu where he was instrumental in providing recommendations in streamlining and modernizing processes. These honed skills will enhance his leadership at DBEDT.

In addition to his analytical skills and prowess with budgets and government procedures, Mr. Wicker has worked as a farmer growing and manufacturing value added products. Having boots on the ground experience affords an essential perspective to a leadership position with such oversight.

Mr. Wicker is well-qualified and suited as Deputy Director of DBEDT. His extensive knowledge and background, as well as his collaborative and leadership skills will be an asset to the department. I **strongly support** this committee to advise and consent to his nomination.

Mahalo for your consideration.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR



Testimony of

Michael A. Dahilig

Managing Director, County of Kaua'i

Before the

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

March 14, 2023 at 1:00 PM

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of

GM 534 – Dane K. Wicker

Gubernatorial Nominee for

Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Honorable Chair DeCoite, Honorable Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Mr. Dane K. Wicker's nomination as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT). As a nominee, he is well qualified to fulfill this responsibility given his professional and life experiences, his temperament, and desire to serve.

I have known Mr. Wicker in various community capacities for over 15 years, particularly with his work with our County during his time supporting the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and his volunteer work with the broader Filipino-American community. I can attest to his cooperative and collaborative style, intellect, and good character. His experience in understanding how Hawai'i works makes his unique skill set in understanding government operations, economics, and the legislative process an asset to this critical department that is forward looking.

Outside of government, Mr. Wicker is also a small business owner having founded a retail business, managing a consulting service, and working as a farmer growing and manufacturing value-added agricultural items. This experience makes him well suited to first-hand empathize with our "mom and pops" and innovators as they find a way to make it in this economy.

Mr. Wicker's track record for service is well established. He has served on various community committees and non-profit boards over the years including the Filipino Community Center (FilCOM) in Waipahu, and Ho'ola na Pua. His inclusion as a Pacific Century Fellow in 2022 reflects his aptitude and potential for growth as a future leader in our state.

The Department and the State will undoubtedly be enriched by his service as Deputy Director. I have confidence in Mr. Wicker's ability to make sound and deliberative choices in the management of our state's economic future, and respectfully ask this honorable committee to **ADVISE AND CONSENT** to his nomination.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Testimony of
Pacific Resource Partnership

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, And Tourism
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

GM 534—Confirmation Mr. Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic
Development, and Tourism (DBEDT)
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
1:00 P.M.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a non-profit market recovery trust fund which represents approximately 7,000 men and women union carpenters and 240 large and small contractors. With our expertise in research, compliance, marketing, and project advocacy, we are committed to building a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs, and enhances the quality of life for all residents of Hawaii.

PRP writes in **strong support** of GM 534, confirming as the Deputy Director of the DBEDT, Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Dane Wicker.

Mr. Wicker brings with him valuable experiences obtained while serving as the Principal Executive Assistant for Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting, Chief of Staff for Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, and Committee Clerk for the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Wicker's commitment to public service, work experience, intimate knowledge of the State's legislative process, and patience and ability to understand and work with people from diverse backgrounds renders him well suited to serve as Deputy Director of DBEDT.

Given the above, we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration on Mr. Wicker's confirmation.





Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, & TOURISM
Tuesday, March 14, 2023 — 1:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports GM 534, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker, for a Term to Expire 12-07-2026.

Dear Chair DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports GM 534, which submits for consideration and confirmation Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Dane Wicker has served in significant government roles over the past decade, including positions at both the State and City & County of Honolulu. In the Office of Senator Dela Cruz and also at the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting, he gained a wealth of knowledge that he applies to navigating local government and directly supporting the State's effort in diversifying our economy with fresh, innovative ideas. We believe his unique experience and insight will contribute to making Hawai'i a better place to live and work. We look forward to working with Mr. Wicker on the department's initiatives, especially with regards to our focus sectors—energy, food production, transportation, and freshwater—as each of these not only impacts economic development and tourism but also the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i.

Ulupono humbly asks this committee and the Legislature for their support of the nomination of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



Ko`olau Foundation

P. O. Box 4749
Kane`ohe, HI 96744

March 12, 2023

To: Lynne DeCoite, Chair
Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
& Members
Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism

From: Aaron Mahi, President
Mahealani Cypher, Board Member
Ko`olau Foundation

Re: G.M. 534, In Support of Dane Wicker for Confirmation
As Deputy Director, Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Committee Members:

The Ko`olau Foundation strongly supports the appointment of Dane Wicker to serve as deputy director of the Hawai`i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

The Foundation is a nonprofit, community organization dedicated to the preservation of historic sites and cultural properties, and the perpetuation of Hawaiian history, customary and traditional practices.

Over the years, we have come to know Dane as a hard-working and dedicated public servant working here at the State Legislature. In all of our meetings with him, when we have asked for advice and guidance regarding legislation that affected our kuleana, he has been forthright and response to our inquiries.

We regard him as a man of high integrity and professionalism, and well-qualified to serve this important agency that oversees important economic activities of our state.

We hope you will agree with our assessment and pass G.M. 534 for advise and consent for confirmation by the Senate as a whole.

Mahalo for allowing us to share our mana`o.



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 1260 EMPOWERING THE PACIFIC

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM,

HEARING DATE: Tuesday, March 14, 2023
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
PLACE: State Capitol
Conference Room 229

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 534

Aloha Honorable Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee;

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) and its Business Manager and Financial Secretary, Leroy Chincio, Jr. would like to offer the following testimony in support of Governor's Message 534 (GM 534).

IBEW 1260, is comprised of nearly 3,000 hardworking union members. Our members are a diverse workforce that largely consist of highly skilled and trained individuals working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to generate and transmit electricity here in the State of Hawai'i and to ensure the reliability and availability of this precious resource.

IBEW 1260 supports GM534 which submits for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

IBEW 1260 has had the pleasure of working with Mr. Wicker over the years in various capacities and find that the experience and practical knowledge of the legislative process and budget in specific he has acquired, in addition to the relationships that he has developed over the years will positively support the efforts of this department and this administration in realizing its priorities, goals, and objectives.

It's with pleasure and confidence that IBEW 1260 stands in support of DANE WICKER for this nomination. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
A S S O C I A T I O N

Testimony of
Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, & Tourism
Governor's Message 534
March 14, 2023

Chair DeCoite and members of the Committee, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's largest and oldest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers—**strongly supports Governor's Message 534 and the appointment of Mr. Dane Wicker to serve as deputy director of the State Department of Business, Economic Development, & Tourism.**

On numerous occasions, HLTA has worked closely with Mr. Wicker in his capacity as Senator Donovan Dela Cruz's chief of staff. Throughout these working relationships, he has demonstrated a deep understanding of our State government and its intricacies, and he would bring this knowledge with him to the deputy director role at DBEDT. He has also shown that he is thorough, capable, and deeply committed to public service that will enhance the lives of local residents.

Most recently, HLTA has worked closely with Sen. Dela Cruz's office on a workforce development initiative that will provide internships, job training, and more to local students while serving as a bridge to careers in the hospitality industry. Mr. Wicker played a key role in these efforts and was a critical resource as the initiative progressed from a concept to an actual program that will benefit Hawai'i students.

In a personal capacity, I have also had the pleasure of interacting with Mr. Wicker through the Pacific Century Fellows, a leadership program that I created and modeled after the prestigious White House Fellows. Mr. Wicker was a member of the most recent cohort of Fellows and comported himself well in a program that counts leaders such as former Gov. David Ige, U.S. Senator Brian Schatz, and late U.S. Rep. Mark Takai among its alumni.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION

LOCAL OFFICE • 451 ATKINSON DRIVE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 • PHONE 949-4161

HAWAII DIVISION: 100 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 • **OAHU DIVISION:** 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
MAUI COUNTY DIVISION: 896 Lower Main Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 • **KAUAI DIVISION:** 4154 Hardy Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766
HAWAII LONGSHORE DIVISION: 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

LOCAL 142

March 13, 2023

The Thirty-Second Legislature
Regular Session of 2023

THE SENATE

Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
Tuesday, March 14, 2023; 1:00 PM

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON GM 534 –
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS DEPUTY
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
AND TOURSIM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE WICKER, FOR A
TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.**

The ILWU Local 142 strongly **supports** the nomination of DANE WICKER as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee for a term to expire 12-07-2026. We believe that his breath of work and life experience from the Department of Planning and Permitting and Hawaii State Senate will serve him well in the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of GM 534.**

Respectfully,

Christian West
President



LOCAL 142

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION

LOCAL OFFICE • 451 ATKINSON DRIVE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 • PHONE 949-4161

HAWAII DIVISION: 100 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 • **OAHU DIVISION:** 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
MAUI COUNTY DIVISION: 896 Lower Main Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 • **KAUAI DIVISION:** 4154 Hardy Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766
HAWAII LONGSHORE DIVISION: 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

March 10, 2023

Aloha Chair Decoite and Vice-Chair Glenn Wakai,

The ILWU Local 142 Hawaii Longshore Division is in full support of the confirmation of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of DBEDT.

Mahalo,

Dustin Dawson
ILWU Local 142
Hawaii Longshore Division Director

/dd

“AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL”



LOCAL 100

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION
PH. 208-2969 EMAIL ILWU.LOCAL.100@GMAIL.COM

President
Jeff Mueller

Vice President
Kanoa Yamauchi

Secretary
Drake Rickard

Treasurer
Dane Quitevis

March 13, 2023

ILWU SUPPORT FOR DANE WICKER

ILWU Local 100 is in full support of the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mueller
President
ILWU Local 100

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"



HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2023

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 14, 2023
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY ON GM534

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIR LYNN DECOITE, VICE CHAIR GLENN WAKAI, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM:

Hawaii LECET strongly supports GM534 submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026. Mr. Wicker has extensive experience in government, on both the State and County levels, having worked in the Hawaii State Legislature for over a decade as Chief of Staff for Senator Dela Cruz and as the Committee Clerk for the powerful Senate Committee, Ways and Means. In these capacities, Mr. Wicker has gained valuable insight, knowledge and experience in a multitude of areas, such as public policy, legislative advocacy and matters as it relates to government.

As the Executive Assistant for the Honolulu County Department of Planning and Permitting, Mr. Wicker has solidified and built beneficial relationships with the Honolulu County Council and various County agencies, which will be an asset in his capacity as DBEDT Deputy Director. In addition, Mr. Wicker is known for his professionalism, congeniality, and his ability to work well with representatives from various industries, trades, companies, organizations and government agencies.

Mr. Wicker's significant government experience and commitment to public service is commendable. Hawaii LECET strongly supports Mr. Dane Wicker's confirmation as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. Thank you for your consideration.

With Respect,

Hawaii Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust



March 13, 2023

The Honorable Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 229
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator DeCoite, Senator Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

This letter of support is for Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) for the State of Hawai'i (for a term to expire 12/7/2026).

As the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Executive Collaborative, I have had the opportunity to work with Dane and believe that he is incredibly qualified to serve in this role. He has an extensive amount of experience and knowledge working in the public sector and has cultivated key relationships with stakeholders in the Legislature and State government.

As the Deputy Director for DBEDT, Dane will have the opportunity to effectively apply his expertise and collaborative spirit to shape the economic future and workforce in our state that includes an emphasis on technology and innovation, ag-tech, creative industries and film, workforce housing, and developing a state energy plan.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Dane's appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynelle Marble', written in a cursive style.

Lynelle Marble
Executive Director



TITLE GUARANTY
HAWAII

March 9, 2023

Re: Letter of Support for Dane K. Wicker, State Deputy Director (DBEDT)
Hearing Date & Time: Tuesday, March 14 at 1:00pm
Re: Testimony of Title Guaranty of Hawai'i in support

Aloha State Senate Committee:

We write in support of Dane K. Wicker nomination to serve as the State's Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) with a term that expires on December 7, 2026.

Title Guaranty of Hawai'i is the oldest and largest title company in the state. We have been owned and operated by a kama'aina family since 1896 and we are proud to employ over 300 people who work in our branches all across the state. Being a longtime employer of so many people in Hawai'i, we know how important it is to invest in our community. The nomination of Dane K. Wicker will allow the opportunity to provide the next generation a better economic forecast in the areas of Technology and Innovation, Ag-Tech, and Workforce Housing to name a few.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Dane K. Wicker.

Sincerely,

Mike B. Pietsch
President and Chief Operating Officer
Title Guaranty of Hawai'i



Title and Escrow is our business. Hawaii is our home.



Testimony of Ku`uhaku Park
Sr. VP, Government and Community Relations
Matson Navigation Company, Inc.
In Support of GM534
Before the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
March 14, 2023

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Matson Navigation Company, Inc. (Matson) supports GM534, which nominates Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Mr. Wicker is a longtime public servant with decades of experience in state and county governments. His experience gives him unique insight into operations of the State of Hawaii.

Matson has worked with Mr. Wicker on maritime issues and have always found him to be open, fair, and transparent. We believe he will execute his duties with fairness and competence.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support.



Hawaii Foodservice Alliance LLC, 2720 Waiwai Loop, Honolulu, HI 96819
Tel: 808.839.2004 ~ Fax: 808.839.2033 ~ HFA@HFAHawaii.com

March 11 , 2023,

TO: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai Vice Chair
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

FM: Chad Buck
Founder & CEO for: Hawaii Foodservice Alliance LLC - HFA Logistics LLC -
Hawaii Secure Foods LLC (O'okala) - Niihau Ahiu Provisions LLC

RE: **SUPPORT** for consideration and confirmation of **Dane Wicker** as the
Deputy Director of Department of Business, Economic Development, and
Tourism.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Senators Fukunaga, Kim, and Fevella:

I am writing this letter of SUPPORT for your consideration and confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I have had the privilege of working and collaborating with Dane Wicker over the years. Dane's vision, dedication, intelligence, work ethic, and passion for improving and preparing our state for the future is unparalleled. I am continually inspired by Dane's passion and ability to tackle difficult problems and create a path forward.

I am thankful that Dane is willing to serve as Deputy Director of Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and fully support Dane in this capacity for our state.

Mahalo for your consideration in this important matter!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Buck", is written over a faint, light-colored signature line.

Chad Buck



Imanaka Asato
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

March 10, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Energy,
Economic Development & Tourism

RE: Governor's Message No. 534
Hearing date: March 14, 2023 at 1:00 pm

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 534 relating to the confirmation of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Dane has solid experience and understanding of government operations. Dane is a local boy with a love for Hawaii and commitment to public service, which is exemplified in his decade-long service to the state. Prior to his current position, Dane served as the Principal Executive Assistant for the Department of Planning and Permitting, wherein he was responsible for the coordination and support of special development projects. Dane was critical in ensuring that one of the state's main economic engines, construction, continued to advance in coordination with the administration's policies. He also has a wealth of knowledge gained serving as the committee clerk to the State Senate's Ways and Means committee, which is responsible for the state budget and ensuring the state's policies are properly financed.

Dane's demonstrated planning and finance experience is critical to guiding the department tasked with growing our economy and expanding into industries that will provide economic opportunities for local residents to continue to live in Hawaii. His past work experience also demonstrates a deep understanding of how to guide state agencies to achieve success. Most importantly, Dane is a person of high moral character and ethics. He is the type of leader that is critical to supporting state departments and will undoubtedly provide remarkable service to the Hawaii residents. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to confirm Dane Wicker as Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Mahalo,

Michael L. Iosua



March 9, 2023

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite
& Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism (EET)
State Capitol
Honolulu HI 96813

Re: Governor's Message 534 - Dane Wicker's Appointment as Deputy Director of Business
Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT)

Dear Chair DeCoite and Members of the EET Committee:

It is my great honor and privilege to strongly support Mr. Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of DBEDT. For the past 15+ years, I worked closely with Mr. Wicker on many occasions, primarily in his role on Senator Dela Cruz's staff, where he served in numerous different roles.

Throughout my years of interaction, I have found Mr. Wicker to be a leader and team player beyond reproach. He is intelligent, extremely hard working, very responsive, and is knowledgeable on many diverse issues, topics, programs, and legislation. He is intimately familiar with the workings of the Legislature, and I have seen him work across the various State departments to get interagency issues resolved in an expeditious manner. In other words, he can get things done.

His legislative experience suits him well for the many issues that are the kuleana of DBEDT. He is familiar with the critical issues facing the State regarding economic development, our reliance on tourism and the military, and he will devote his energy and experience to create opportunities for a more sustainable economy for our beloved State.

In Mr. Wicker's "getting things done" style, his personal character and integrity shine through. He is respectful to all – regardless of a person's role, title, stature, or beliefs –and he treats everyone with respect, dignity, and humility. He treats others as many of us would like to be treated. He is a friend and a gentleman.

I cannot think of a more qualified person for this key role in the State administration.

I wholeheartedly endorse him and I humbly ask that you confirm him for this position.

Respectfully,

Warren H. Haruki
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 12:43:49 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaclyn Kaina	Testifying for Kauai Economic Development Board	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

On behalf of Kaua'i Economic Development Board and its Board of Directors and Members, we strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

We believe, Mr. Wicker to be the best candidate for this position and look forward to working with him in his new role.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Kaina, Executive Director



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 14, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

TESTIMONY ON GM 534

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau strongly supports the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

HFB has had the opportunity to work with Mr. Wicker during his nearly eleven years while he served as the Chief of Staff and Committee Clerk for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz. We are confident that Mr. Wicker is the right person for this position. We have found him to be exceptionally qualified, dedicated, honest, and fair in his handling of the many complicated issues tackled by the Legislature. He is personable, listens to and considers all points of view, and has excellent communication skills.

As a farmer-based organization, HFB appreciates Mr. Wicker's support for all agriculture and his commitment to addressing the many important agricultural issues facing Hawai'i's farming community. His experience is complemented by a strong work ethic and dedication that will undoubtedly combine to provide positive leadership for Hawai'i's Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Please accept our strong support for Mr. Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

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

RE: GM 534 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS
THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
DANE WICKER, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023

JASON BRADSHAW, CHAIR
MITZIE HIGA, LEGISLATIVE CHAIR
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF A HAWAII LABOR CAUCUS

Chair Lynn DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Labor Caucus **supports GM 534**, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Dane Wicker is an excellent choice as Deputy Director for DBEDT. As the former Principal Executive Assistant at the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting, who coordinated and communicated administrative decisions, work programs, budgets, and objectives to all stakeholders, he has the type of experience and knowledge necessary for this appointment. Wicker has also served for several years as the Chief of Staff for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz and Assistant to the Director of the Pacific Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii East-West Center. In these roles, he prepared, reviewed, and provided recommendations on legislative and grant proposals. He knows the needs and the budget of DBEDT, which is extremely helpful. His private sector experience also provided him with experience and knowledge as a former owner and operator of a small business.

Moreover, Dane Wicker brings an understanding of the challenges faced by our hardworking labor force in Hawai'i, the challenges of being a business owner, as well as an understanding of state budgetary matters of DBEDT that will be advantageous in assisting DBEDT with sound choices under the direction of the Director of DBEDT.

To guarantee that DBEDT is driven by great experience, professionalism, and intelligence for figuring out details, the Labor Caucus asks your committee to **support** this motion.



HAWAII TEAMSTERS & ALLIED WORKERS LOCAL 996

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Local996@hawaiiTEAMSTERS.com

1817 Hart Street
Honolulu, HI 96819-3205

Telephone: (808) 847-6633
Fax: (808) 842-4575

March 13, 2023

KEVIN HOLU
President/Principal Officer

Aloha Chair Decoite and Vice-Chair Glenn Wakai,

JOELLE HUSSEY
Secretary – Treasurer

This letter is being submitted to voice the full support, on behalf of the Hawaii

Teamsters and Allied Workers (HTAW), Local 996, regarding the confirmation

of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business,

Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

WALTER FOX III
Vice President

TAVESI AUGAFA
Recording Secretary

Mahalo and Aloha,

FELIPE "PACO" ANGUIANO
Trustee

Kevin Holu
President
HTAW, Local 996

BEVERLY TUSI
Trustee

JONATHAN LEO REED
Trustee

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 9:28:23 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathaniel Kinney	Testifying for Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters is in support of the nomination of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of DBEDT.

Dane's many years of experience as the committee clerk for Ways and Means demonstrates his ability to understand the complex issues that Hawaii is grappling with.

His balanced approach and wealth of knowledge would be a great asset for the department.



Written Statement of
DR. PATRICK K. SULLIVAN, PH.D.
PRESIDENT/CEO
OCEANIT

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In Support of the Nomination of
DANE WICKER
As Deputy Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
(GM534)

To: Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair, Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee

From: Dr. Patrick K. Sullivan, President/CEO, Oceanit

Re: Testimony in Support of GM534

Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee Members:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Mr. Wicker has a wealth of experience with City and State Government, serving as a Committee Clerk for the Senate Ways and Means Committee and Executive Assistant for the City and County Department of Planning and Permitting. He is an Entrepreneur who developed, owned, operated and sold a small retail business in Hawai'i and is a farmer. Mr. Wicker will be an asset to DBEDT and it's mission to diversity Hawaii's economy.

I sincerely support the confirmation of Mr. Wicker as Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.



LATE

Testimony in Support of GM534

Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Tuesday, March 14, 2023 @ 1:00 PM HST
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Dane Wicker's nomination as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for the state of Hawaii. With his expertise and passion for economic development, Mr. Wicker is the ideal candidate for this important position.

As you know, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism plays a crucial role in promoting Hawaii's economic growth and development. With Mr. Wicker's extensive experience in economic policy and planning, I am confident that he will make a significant contribution to the department's efforts

Mr. Wicker has demonstrated his commitment to creating jobs and promoting economic prosperity in Hawaii through his previous work in the public and private sectors. He has a deep understanding of the economic challenges and opportunities facing Hawaii, and I am confident that he will work tirelessly to advance the state's economic development agenda.

I strongly urge you to confirm Mr. Wicker's appointment as Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. He is an excellent candidate who will serve the state of Hawaii with distinction.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 855-8066.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Mark Perriello
President & CEO



Imanaka Asato
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

LATE

March 12, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Energy,
Economic Development & Tourism

RE: Governor's Message No. 534
Hearing date: March 14, 2023 at 1:00 pm

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 534 relating to the confirmation of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Dane has solid experience and understanding of government operations. Prior to his current position, Dane served as the Principal Executive Assistant for the Department of Planning and Permitting, wherein he was responsible for the coordination and support of special development projects. Dane was critical in ensuring that one of the state's main economic engines, construction, continued to advance in coordination with the administration's policies. He also has a wealth of knowledge gained serving as the committee clerk to the State Senate's Ways and Means committee, which is responsible for the state budget and ensuring the state's policies are properly financed.

Dane's demonstrated planning and finance experience is critical to guiding the department tasked with growing our economy and expanding into industries that will provide economic opportunities for local residents to continue to live in Hawaii. His past work experience also demonstrates a deep understanding of how to guide state agencies to achieve success. Most importantly, Dane is a person of high moral character and ethics. He is the type of leader that is critical to supporting state departments and will undoubtedly provide remarkable service to the Hawaii residents.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to confirm Dane Wicker as Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Mahalo,

Kimberley Yoshimoto



Hartung Brothers, Inc.

P.O. Box 823
Kekaha, HI. 96752

Tel. 808-337-1408
Fax. 808-337-1560

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 1:00 PM
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Re: GM 534 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of the gubernatorial nomination of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

The remit of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is large and complex, and Mr. Wicker's professional background and experiences have provided him with both broad exposure to major issues in Hawaii's economy and unique insight into the mechanics of the relationship between the State Legislature and the Department.

I believe Mr. Wicker's experience and character make him an asset to the State and look forward to his continued public service.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nominee.

Sincerely,

Joshua Uyehara
Vice President – General Manager, Hawaii Operations
Hartung Brothers, Inc.



THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

94-428 Mokuola St., Suite 302 Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: 680-0451 Fax: 680-7510 www.filcom.org

Our mission is to develop, own and operate a community center that provides social, economic and education services and to promote and perpetuate Filipino culture and customs in the State of Hawai'i.

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 1:00 pm

By
Edmund Aczon
Chair, Board of Directors
The Filipino Community Center

In consideration of **Governor's Message No. 509**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee:

The Filipino Community Center strongly supports Governor's Message No. 509, the appointment of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Mr. Wicker has served as a board member of The Filipino Community Center for several years. As an active board member, he has volunteered countless hours and he continues to support the center. The FilCom Center is very fortunate to have him on the board because of his dedication and passion not just for the Filipinos but for everyone in the community.

Mr. Wicker's expertise on state budget, grants and the legislative process makes him an ideal candidate for the Deputy Director position at DBEDT.

Maraming Salamat for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 509.

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT T. MURAKAMI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 534

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

1:00PM Conference Room 229

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE DANE WICKER FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message 534 regarding the appointment of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** his nomination.

As the former Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), I've had the opportunity to work with Dane since 2019 during his tenure as the Chief of Staff/Committee Clerk for the Office of Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz. Dane was instrumental in understanding the complexities of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program and supporting the implementation of our SQL gateway and SQL replicated database solution that offloaded UI filings from the antiquated UI data system and allowed over 190,000¹ Hawaii residents to successfully file their initial UI Claims between the months of April and May 2020.

Dane is highly intelligent and extremely quick at grasping complex issues. These skills are a tremendous asset as they allow Dane to quickly comprehend, analyze, and plan for the economic impacts from our divisions' and agencies' projects and initiatives. This makes DBEDT's projects much more targeted and subsequently, impactful for growing and diversifying our economy. He has applied these skills to develop a structured approach to cluster economic development that better coordinates infrastructure, capital, and labor required to drive our economy forward.

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** Dane Wicker's nomination for Deputy Director of DBEDT and thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

¹ [Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims Data, Employment & Training Administration \(ETA\) - U.S. Department of Labor \(doleta.gov\)](https://doleta.gov), March 1, 2023.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 12:31:02 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georja Ann Skinner	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the EET Committee;

My name is Georja Skinner and I offer my testimony as a private citizen today in strong support of Dane K. Wicker, Governor’s nominee for Deputy Director of DBEDT.

Dane’s background in state, city and county government along with his commitment to education and workforce development brings a welcome energy to state leadership.

With his strong collaborative work ethic, his energy and vision for Hawai‘i and the ability to diversity our economy will serve our community well.

I appreciate your favorable vote in support to confirm nominee Dane K. Wicker as Deputy Director of DBEDT. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM534.

Sincerely,
Georja Skinner

March 8, 2023

Testimony for GM534

Aloha Members of the Senate,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Dane Wicker as the next Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Having the opportunity to work with and knowing Dane for past eight years, I can attest to his exceptional skills, experience, and commitment to public service.

During the time I have known him, Dane has demonstrated his ability to collaborate with various teams, is very organized, professional, easy to dialogue with, and has a knack for finding solutions through connecting stakeholders and team members will serve as an invaluable leader at DBEDT. He has a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing our State, the Department, as well as the community it serves, and has proven himself to be a thoughtful and innovative problem solver.

Dane has been dedicated to public service for many years now, and he has shown a passion for making a positive impact on the lives of the constituents his team has represented. He has a strong work ethic and will be committed to ensuring that Department operates with efficiency and effectiveness.

In addition to his impressive record of achievements and leadership, Dane has excellent interpersonal skills and will be able to build strong relationships within the Department, its Agencies, staff, other government departments, community leaders, and stakeholders. He has always been collaborative and open-minded, and his ability to listen to different perspectives and work across different sectors makes him an ideal candidate for this position.

I strongly believe that Dane would be an outstanding Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism of Hawai'i, and I wholeheartedly endorse his nomination. I have no doubt that he would serve the people of Hawai'i with dedication, professionalism, and integrity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Tran". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Ronald Tran
CEO of WCIT Architecture, Inc.
Honolulu, Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Lynn DeCouite, Chair,
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair,
Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and
Tourism

Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2023
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference

From: Dean I Hazama, Deputy Director, Department of Commerce and Consumer
Affairs

**Re: G.M. 534, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS
THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DANE
WICKER, FOR TERM TO EXPIER 12-07-2026.**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation of Mr. Dane Wicker as Deputy Director for the Department of Business and Economic Development. I have had the pleasure of working with Dane on various community issues as well as our department budget during his time at the Legislature in Senator Dela Cruz's office. He was always responsive and addressed all concerns expediently. His knowledge and expertise will serve DEDBT and the people of the State of Hawaii well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/9/2023 9:10:25 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

It is my privilege to express my **strong support** for the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

During my years in the affordable housing industry, serving in both the public and private sectors, I have had the opportunity to work with Dane and found him to be professional, innovative, and solution-oriented while being positive and pleasant.

I am confident that Dane will continue to be a good leader and a great asset. Therefore, I respectfully ask for the Committee's favorable consideration in confirming Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/9/2023 10:57:27 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
duane kurisu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dane Wicker is a qualified individual with upstanding character. Please accept this testimony as my unequivocal support for him as the Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. The people of our State would truly be very fortunate to have Dane Wicker serve in that capacity, not only because of his leadership, knowledge and demeanor but also because he is someone with experience in working intimately with legislative matters.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/9/2023 5:05:53 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I have known Dane Wicker for over 10 year in both a personal and professional setting. He is a person of great character and intelligence and our community would be extremely lucky to have someone with his knowledge, experience, and work ethic as the deputy director of Dbedt.

Marlene Hiraoka
Honolulu, Hawaii

GM534

Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker
Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee:

I am writing in strong support of Mr. Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). Dane has extensive knowledge and experience in the public and private sectors and has demonstrated his commitment especially to public service.

I look forward to working with Mr. Wicker and his leadership in supporting DBEDT's mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 534, Mr. Dane Wicker, Deputy Director, DBEDT.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/10/2023 1:33:16 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Audrey Hidano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully submit testimony in SUPPORT of GM534 relating to Gubernatorial Nominee Dane Wicker for Deputy Director, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism. Mr. Wicker possesses broad experience and is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of the administration.

Thank you for the oppportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of Governor's Message 534,

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/10/2023 2:08:14 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Oku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Sen.DeCoite, Vice Chair Sen. Wakai, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,

I support the consideration and confirmation of Dane Wicker to serve as the Deputy Director of, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Testimony in Support of GM534

Dane Wicker

Deputy Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

SENATOR LYNN DECOITE, CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Hearing Date: 03/14/23

Room Number: 229

I strongly support Governor's Message 534, Dane Wicker, for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism ("DBEDT").

I have worked with Mr. Wicker in a variety of professional capacities and believe that his skill set, work ethic, and character make him the ideal candidate for this position. He has spent a lifetime serving the people of Hawaii and his knowledge base of both City and County and State issues will allow him to continue to serve the people of Hawaii at DBEDT.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote in favor of Mr. Wicker in his appointment as Deputy Director of DBEDT. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 2:33:02 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Dane Wicker to be Deputy Director of DBEDT. I have worked with Dane for many years and have always found him to be knowledgeable and a hard working and committed public servant. Most importantly, Dane is accessible and always willing to listen. Thank you.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 4:41:26 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise Yamaguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 11, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

I am writing in support of Dane Wicker who is has been nominated by Governor Josh Green for the position of Deputy Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. I have known Dane for the past twelve years and met him while he worked for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz. I am submitting testimony in support of Dane as a private citizen but have worked with him because of my work in the nonprofit sector, primarily in agriculture and education. Because of Senator Dela Cruz's support for local agricultural, among many other industries, I worked with Dane on a number of initiatives to support the development, promotion and diversification of agriculture in the State of Hawai'i. His experience working as both a chief of staff and committee clerk for more than eleven years has provided him with the experience and working knowledge of government needed to be a leader in the Administration. Furthermore, with his contacts in both the House and Senate, he will be a strong asset for the Director of DBEDT and Governor Green.

As a government employee for most of his career, Dane has clearly demonstrated his commitment to public service and serving Hawai'i's people. Because of his even-tempered nature, I have found him to be a good listener, strategist, and collaborator. He is well-liked by many and in my dealings with him, he has proven to possess strong character, ethics and leadership. I have always been fond of Dane and know him as collaborative and always looking toward how organizations and people can find synergy and opportunities to work together.

Based on his work history, commitment to public service, education, and most importantly his passion to contribute, I feel Dane is the best candidate for this position. Within applicable rules, I

wholeheartedly support Dane Wicker for the position of Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Should you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, 808-386-2538.

Mahalo,

Denise Yamaguchi

Testimony Presented to the Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

March 14, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

GM 534 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee Members:

I am **writing in support of Dane Wicker** to serve as the State's Deputy Director for the Department of Business and Economic Development.

I have known Dane for many years and have seen firsthand his commitment to making Hawaii better for this and future generations. The knowledge, experience, and relationships he gained while working in the public sector will undoubtedly help him navigate through the many hurdles he may face in this position.

Given Dane's track record, I have no doubt that he will excel in this role, and his contributions will benefit the Department and the State of Hawaii as a whole.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandon H. Kurisu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brandon Kurisu

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 8:06:43 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Burt Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Dear Chair Decoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 534 for Dane Wicker’s nomination to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I’ve known Mr. Wicker during his years in Senator Dela Cruz’s office as Committee Clerk for the Ways and Means committee and as the Deputy Director for DBEDT.

During my time working with Mr. Wicker, as Deputy Director of DBEDT, I’ve found him to be very conscientious and a stickler for detail. He has helped to bring structure and process to DBEDT and in his short time, already contributed to the efficiency of the department. He is an excellent choice for Deputy Director and he has Hawaii’s best interest at heart.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge Mr. Wicker’s confirmation as Deputy Director of DBEDT.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 11:49:39 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Thune	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Dane on a personal level for almost 10 years. When I speak to him about his work in government, he consistently mentions ways to add taxpayer value and reduce the amount of unnecessary bureaucracy. He is a humble servant leader who I believe would be a great asset to DBEDT in diversifying our economy to shape Hawaii's future workforce.

TESTIMONY OF
CARRIE K. S. OKINAGA

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
March 14, 2023
1:00 p.m.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 534 RELATING TO
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE DANE WICKER FOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee:

I strongly support the nomination of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have had the privilege of working with Dane as the Chief of Staff for Senator Donovan Dela Cruz and Committee Clerk to the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and of getting to know him as trusted staffer, friend, and father. On top of being locally born, bred and educated, and perhaps because of those roots, Dane has demonstrated such a passion for and commitment to service to our community, and this recent appointment is just the next step in a personal trajectory that has been awesome to watch.

Especially given his work on Ways and Means, but also because of his natural intellectual curiosity and willingness to listen and learn, Dane is more knowledgeable about the State and how the levers of government work than most appointees and residents. DBEDT is a State organization that seems to be principally externally focused, but there is no question that external partners will benefit greatly from leadership that understands not just the business community, but also how to get things done in and with government. I have met with Dane since his appointment as Deputy Director, and am very excited about his determination and ability to connect dots and visualize how DBEDT can be the connective tissue for industry sectors and projects that will move the needle for the State.

In summary, I believe Dane is not just qualified to serve as Deputy Director of DBEDT, but also that the Director and staff in DBEDT, Governor Green and his team, and our State are extremely well-served by his appointment to this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Dane's appointment.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 3:08:28 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Chew	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite and committee members,

I strongly support the consideration and confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

TESTIMONY OF
KEITH A. REGAN

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023, 1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

GM534

Honorable Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, I am providing testimony in support of GM534, the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I've had the opportunity to work with Mr. Wicker for the past five years. I have found him to be knowledgeable, professional, and collaborative. In addition, his over a decade of experience in the legislature, managing and directing the review of the Governor's annual budget, particularly the Capitol Improvement Project component, has provided him with invaluable experience that makes him a tremendous asset to the department.

Mr. Wicker's educational background also has provided him with the foundation to support and expand upon the innovation necessary to move Hawaii's economy forward. Dane's combination of education and work at the Department of Planning and Permitting and the Legislature will allow the department to successfully navigate economic opportunities and implement the changes necessary to reinvigorate Hawaii's economy.

Finally, I have had the opportunity to observe Dane in his current role as Deputy Director. I have witnessed his keen ability to provide expert direction and guidance to the Director. He has a firm grasp of the department's issues and has done the research necessary to make sound decisions.

For these reasons, I humbly ask you to please support the confirmation of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Regan
Honolulu, Hawaii

March 11, 2023

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Honorable Members
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Hawai`i State Senate
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Governor's Message No. 534 appointing Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee,

I would like to express my strong **support** for GM 534 relating to Mr. Dane Wicker's consideration and confirmation as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I have worked with Mr. Wicker during his tenure while working for the State and more recently during his short time with the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, I have had the opportunity to more fully engage and collaborate with Mr. Wicker since his nomination to the deputy director position in my capacity as a Stadium Authority member. He has always been very responsive and even more so knowledgeable about the issues at hand and his approach towards finding workable solutions is exactly what a department such as DBEDT is in need of. His experience working for the Senate Ways and Means has also provided Mr. Wicker with greater insight to the broader needs of the State as well as the legislative process, which is a critical part of being effective in a cabinet-level position.

I believe Dane is a more than qualified nominee and would humbly ask for your favorable consideration of his nomination to this position.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BAM', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Brennon T. Morioka, PhD, PE

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 4:23:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randall John Francisco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support Mr. Dane Wicker.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 6:11:21 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
stephanie iona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please accept my testimony in support of Dane Wicker for his appointment as the Deputy Director of DBEDT. I have had the privilege of working with Dane in coordinating visits of the WAM committee to meetings here on Kauai. His leadership and superior handling of the meetings with our Hospital leaders, Agriculture farms, Educators, and Business owners on island, created a successful outcome with everyone in attendance. I trust his compassion to always go the extra mile when it comes to getting the job done. With his determination and Aloha, and his skills of collaborative engagement, he will be a tremendous leader of all aspects of the expectations of DBEDT. Thank you. Stephanie Iona, Waimea Kauai

Written Statement of
Mr. Matthew Sullivan

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 14, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**In Support of the Nomination of
Dane Wicker
As Deputy Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
(GM534)**

To: Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair, Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee

From: Mr. Matthew Sullivan

Re: Testimony in Support of GM534

Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee Members:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

I believe that Mr. Wicker has both the experience and drive to make a positive impact for the State in this role. His prior experience in government as a Committee Clerk for the Senate Ways and Means Committee as well as his experience as a small business owner/operator make him well suited to developing and implementing State policy that will create a local economy with more diversification, innovation, and inclusion of Hawaii's residents.

Regards,

Matthew Sullivan



March 14, 2023

Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support of the confirmation of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I have worked with Dane for many years now, in his role as senior aide to Senator Donovan Dela Cruz and his position at the Department of Planning and Permitting at the City and County of Honolulu. Dane has proved to be a quick learner and always responsive and respectful, showing excellent people skills. He is a hard worker and dedicated to the responsibilities of whatever position and responsibilities he holds. I see him as a rising star and, as young person, able to provide needed perspective to move Hawaii's economy forward, for the benefit of its residents, in this day and age.

As a resident of Hawaii, I feel fortunate to have someone of Dane's caliber to serve in this DBED Deputy Director position. I respectfully ask for your support of his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Meredith J. Ching
EVP, Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 10:36:35 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darryl Nitta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER. Dane is a man of impeccable character and will serve Hawaii with respect and honor. Thank you.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:51:09 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandy Burke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I'm providing written testimony supporting the appointment of Governor Green's nominee Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Dane's public service career and experience at the Federal, State, and County government levels have allowed him to actively work in making Hawaii a better place to live. Dane's ability to work for government officials from both political parties have proven that Dane isn't about daily politics, but able to put politics aside to work in bettering Hawaii.

I'm confident that Dane will work diligently for Hawaii and the generations to come.



March 10, 2023

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

RE: Support Letter for Dane Wicker for Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

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

It is with pleasure and honor that I write this letter of support for Dane Wicker to serve the Hawaii State Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

DBEDT plays an important role in fostering economic growth and prosperity in Hawaii by working with businesses, communities, and government agencies to promote a strong and sustainable economy. As a highly experienced public sector professional, Mr. Wicker's extensive experience in legislative policy, grassroots organizing, media relations, and constituent relations make him an ideal candidate for this role.

Mr. Wicker has worked diligently to develop strong relationships with key stakeholders in the legislature and state government, which will undoubtedly serve him well in his new position. With his focus on technology and innovation, Mr. Wicker is well positioned to help Hawaii embrace the opportunities of the 21st century and will be invaluable in driving economic growth and innovation across our state.

Furthermore, I have known Dane personally over the last 10 years as we were both members of the Hawaii Asia Pacific Association Leaders group. During this time, we worked together on various initiatives to bridge relationships and foster sharing of best practices between Hawaii and other countries in the Pacific Rim. It was through these interactions that I was able to appreciate the depth of Dane's care for Hawaii, his clear understanding of the challenges facing our State, and the tenacity and capacity to develop forward-thinking solutions.

I am confident Dane will bring fresh perspectives and valuable insights, and I wholeheartedly endorse his appointment as the state's Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support for Mr. Dane Wicker.

Sincerely,

Jason Fujimoto
President & CEO
HPM Building Supply



PHONE 808.966.5466 • FAX 808.966.7564
16-166 MELEKAHIWA STREET • KEA'AU, HI 96749

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March 13, 2023

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite
The Honorable Glenn Wakai
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol Room #230
Honolulu, Hawaii

Subject: GM 534: Support for the Confirmation of Dane Wicker to the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

Dear Chair Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair Glenn Wakai and Members of the Senate Committee of Energy, Economic Development and Tourism;

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of Dane Wicker to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. My name is Caroll Takahashi. I have known Dane for over ten (10) years. He is a kind and loving husband and father and cherishes family and friends.

Dane has in-depth knowledge of State Government. This includes the operations and the budgets of both the Executive and Legislative Branch. Dane will bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and understanding of State government to his position as Deputy Director of DBEDT. He also has experience in managing an office with incredible deadlines. As a manager he is known for being ethical, honest and fair, hardworking, treating people fairly and with respect and for having the self-discipline in setting and meeting goals and above all for getting things done. He listens and is receptive to other points of view. He is a critical thinker, adaptable and trustworthy. Dane is a person with strong character. He is committed to the people and community he serves.

He has said to me on several occasions that he is thankful for being given the opportunity to work in positions to provide public service to our community and to work with others in this regard.

Dane has many strengths some as noted above. He always strives to do the right thing in all situations. He is intelligent and inclusive. However, the one strength that I find admirable is his sense of humor and his ability to laugh at himself.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Dane Wicker.

Sincerely Yours,

Caroll Takahashi

Caroll Takahashi
306 Wailupe Circle
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 9:41:58 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Faye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

Aloha.

I support Dane Wicker Deputy Director of DBEDT. My dealings with Dane have always been fair and professional. I believe he has the background and dedication to fulfill his duties very well.

Mike Faye

Statement of

LEO R. ASUNCION, JR.

before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of

Governor's Message (GM) 534

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I strongly support the nomination of Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have known and worked with Mr. Wicker for over a decade, and he continues to demonstrate competency of the broad range of business, economic development, and tourism topics facing Hawai'i, as well as nationally and globally. With his experience in state government, the Legislature, and at the city and county level, Mr. Wicker is the right type of leader DBEDT needs to advance critical initiatives for our island state and its residents.

Mr. Wicker possesses that right demeanor and collaborative nature to lead DBEDT and he continues to demonstrate the highest level of leadership. Mr. Wicker has gained my trust as a colleague, and I have the utmost confidence that he will serve our State well.

I respectfully encourage the Committee to advise and consent to the nomination of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on GM 534.

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 10:40:13 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mihoko Ito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit this testimony in strong support for the nomination of Dane Wicker as Deputy Director for DBEDT. I have worked with Dane for many years as a colleague, and he has always been a hard worker, a collaborator, a team player and a great manager in his many years of experience at the Legislature. He also has very extensive legislative experience. These skills will undoubtedly serve him well in the deputy director position for DBEDT. I have no hesitations in giving Dane my highest recommendation for this position, and I urge the Senate to advise and consent to his nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Mihoko Ito



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 14, 2023

TO: Senator Lynn DeCoite
Chair, Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Rick Tsujimura

RE: **GM534 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, DANE WICKER, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026.**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 14 at 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

I am Rick Tsujimura writing in support of Dane Wicker as the deputy director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have known Dane for many years and have worked with him on some difficult issues, and have found him to be thoughtful, fair and open to discussion. To be sure we have not always agreed but his willingness to hear all sides and to remain fair and objective has been a trait which I have much appreciated. I know that he will be diligent in his new position and will be an asset not just to DBEDT but to the state as a whole.

I would request your support for his nomination

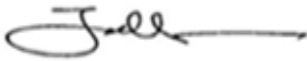
March 8, 2023

RE: State's Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for Dane Wicker

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing this letter in support of Dane Wicker for appointment to State's Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. I have known Dane for many years, and he is a valued member of Honolulu's business and local community. He can bring a wealth of knowledge to DBEDT with his many years of experience working in the public sector. He has developed relationships with key stakeholders in the legislature, state government and the business community. He possesses all the necessary qualities I believe you are looking for in this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason Haruki

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/7/2023 4:10:04 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judi Morris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Dane Wicker's nomination as Deputy Director to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF
DANE WICKER AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and TOURISM

March 14, 2023

To: Chairperson Lynn DeCoite and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am an attorney licensed in the State of Hawaii and have been primarily involved in government affairs for various clients for 40 years. I am testifying in strong support of Dane Wicker for the position as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I have had the opportunity to work for many years on several issues for various clients with Mr. Wicker when he served as the primary staff person for the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Dane was always accessible and always cordial and willing to listen to all sides of the issue I was involved with. He has a very positive attitude and I was always confident that he was aware of the legislation I was discussing and would communicate my client's position and the correct information to the chair of the WAM committee. I feel that one of his strengths was his ability to understand the issues and bills that were before the WAM committee and was able to assist me when the chair was not available. Also, because of his many years of experience at the Legislature he will be an asset to the Director and others at the Department.

I am confident that he will do an excellent job as the Deputy Director at DBEDT. I wholeheartedly support his nomination and urge this committee to recommend him for this position and for the Senate to confirm him as the Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

LATE

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 5:19:37 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair DeCoite and Committee Members:

RE: Consideration and Confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dane Wicker, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

I very strongly support the nomination of Dane Wicker as the Deputy Director to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). Dane has a lot of government experience and is a very good leader, team builder and manager - all skills that are necessary for the success of a diversified department.

Thank you.

LATE

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 4:30:11 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Curt Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Mr. Dane Wicker to serve as Deputy Director for DBEDT. I've had the opportunity to work with Mr. Wicker as a member of the Senate Ways and Means support staff and found him to be knowledgeable and capable. Smart and direct, Mr. Wicker handled situations with the administration effectively and managed to guide us to get things done. I admire Mr. Wicker's commitment to public service as he continued his service in the City and County of Honolulu's permitting department. The State is extremely fortunate to have Mr. Wicker return to the State and I know he will serve our State well as an appointed official in the Governor's Cabinet. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

GM-534

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 5:09:53 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/14/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laci Goshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of GM 534 appointing Dane Wicker as Deputy Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.