

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

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT. GOVERNOR  
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO**  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

**RYAN YAMANE**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA**  
235 S. BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

Statement of  
**BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO**  
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**  
Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of  
**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 626**  
**NOMINATION OF BONNIE KAHAKUI, ADMINISTRATOR,**  
**STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

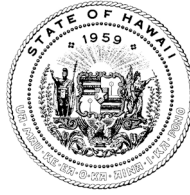
Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and the members of the committee.

The Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) supports the nomination and confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui as the Administrator for the State Procurement Office (SPO).

Ms. Kahakui has served as the SPO's Acting Administrator and Chief Procurement Officer since January 2021. In our time working with her, Ms. Kahakui has demonstrated a commitment to integrity and fairness, while serving to support State departments as an incredible source of knowledge over procurement matters – attributes befitting of the Administrator leading the State in its procurement efforts. She has a thorough understanding of applicable laws, rules and policies. Ms. Kahakui is always willing to educate departments about the State's procurement framework and prioritizes assisting departments to identify workable solutions to complex issues.

Ms. Kahakui is a tremendous and valued resource to DHRD and to the State of Hawaii. We humbly request the Committee's support in confirming Ms. Kahakui as the SPO Administrator.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'AINA



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 GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Tuesday, March 12, 2024

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 626  
NOMINATION OF BONNIE KAHAKUI, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE STATE  
PROCUREMENT OFFICE

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee:

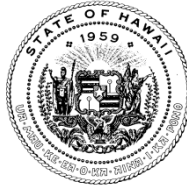
I am writing in support of Governor Josh Green's nomination of Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

Ms. Kahakui is a results-oriented strategic planner with more than 20 years of procurement knowledge and is committed to maintaining procurement integrity statewide.

She has worked in the State Procurement Office since December 2007, starting as a Purchasing Specialist, becoming an EProcurement Supervisor in May 2015, an Assistant Administrator in January 2019, and taking her current position as Acting Administrator in January 2020.

Her skill set includes an understanding of procurement statutes and rules, complex issue resolution, project management, training policy and development, working relationships with governmental agencies, market research principles and skills, and administration management.

I believe Ms. Kahakui has all the necessary tools to be a great Administrator for the State Procurement Office and I am very happy to support her confirmation.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O  
HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA  
'OIHANA ALAKAU  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
3:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol

In consideration of  
**Governor's Message 626**  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Administrator, State  
Procurement Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, Bonnie Kahakui

Senate Committee on Government Operations

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui as the Administrator to the State Procurement Office (SPO).

Ms. Kahakui received her bachelors from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Her background reflects a strong commitment to public service, she has held leadership positions within the State Procurement Office including Assistant Administrator and EProcurement Supervisor.

The DOT has worked closely with Ms. Kahakui on complex procurement issues and appreciates the solution minded approach Ms. Kahakui brings. Ms. Kahakui's understanding of the Procurement Code is unparalleled and the DOT has benefitted from initiatives implemented by Ms. Kahakui including the statewide cooperative purchasing master agreements that Ms. Kahakui and her State Procurement Office Team has negotiated as well as the EProcurement HlePRO system where all of DOT's formal solicitations are advertised.

Ms. Kahakui is an experienced professional in the field of public procurement. She has demonstrated executive and organizational ability to implement the State Procurement Code with integrity and the DOT looks forward to continued partnership.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
Lt. Governor



**SHARON HURD**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**DEXTER KISHIDA**  
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 COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024**  
**3:00 PM**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 225**

**GOVERNORS MESSAGE NO. 626**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Administrator, State Procurement Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, BONNIE KAHAKUI, for a term to expire in 4 years.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Bonnie Kahakui, to the Administrator of the State Procurement Office. Bonnie has been the Acting Administrator for over four years and has demonstrated that she has the knowledge, skills and can perform well as the Administrator.

Bonnie has been a godsend to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA). For example, she was always available to answer questions while we worked together to manage a new grant, the Microgrants for Food Security Program (MGFSP) that was awarded to Hawaii in 2020. The MGFSP was complicated, even to the Grant Specialist assigned, however, with Bonnie's knowledge of procurement and her approachable, can-do assistance, Hawaii has now distributed over \$6 million in MGFSP \$5000 awards to over 1000 Hawaii households. We could not have done that without Bonnie's guidance.

While this request is from the HDOA perspective, it is with confidence that I respectfully request your consideration to confirm Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator,



State Procurement Office because she is experienced and well-respected by the agencies for her approachability, professionalism and pleasant demeanor.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to testify in strong support.

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 LIMAHANA

March 12, 2024

To: The Honorable Angus LK. McKelvey, Chair  
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference, State Capitol

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

**Re: G.M. 626, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Administrator, State Procurement Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, BONNIE KAHAKUI, for a term to expire in 4 years.**

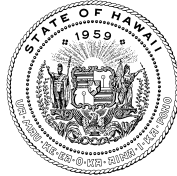
The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator of the State Procurement Office (SPO).

Ms. Kahakui is a dedicated public servant having worked at the Department of Accounting and General Services since 1997. She served as the departments Travel Manager, Purchasing Specialist and E-Procurement Supervisor. In 2019 she became the SPO's Assistant Administrator and a year later served as its Acting Administrator.

The DLIR greatly appreciates the support and guidance of Ms. Kahakui on the complexities of procurement, inventory, and surplus property management which facilitated an effective and innovative government that is fair and transparent. For these reasons the DLIR believes Ms. Kahakui is the right person to create transformative leadership for public procurement excellence.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 626.

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



KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ  
  
MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

**STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

MARCH 12, 2024, 3:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 626  
SUBMITTING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE, GUBERNATORIAL  
NOMINEE, BONNIE KAHAKUI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE IN 4 YEARS.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 626. I **support** the nomination of Ms. Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator of the State Procurement Office (SPO).

Bonnie has led the SPO as Acting Administrator since January 2020 and as Assistant Administrator from 2019. She also served as EProcurement Supervisor and Purchasing Specialist at the SPO. Bonnie worked her way up within the SPO to lead the agency. Her career has been marked with excellence in leading teams to accomplish projects that have moved the SPO forward. Bonnie's hard work and leadership resulted in her being awarded the DAGS Manager of the Year Award in 2020.

I have had the opportunity work with Bonnie for several years and have found that she is a committed public servant and a true leader in the field of procurement. I have always found her to be accessible, responsive, and willing to provide assistance especially when dealing with more complex and unusual procurements. Her knowledge and experience are valuable assets which I am confident she will use to help further improve the State's ability to procure goods and services. Although SPO is an attached agency to DAGS, Bonnie has exhibited a team-player approach that has made her a critically important resource and asset to the DAGS team as well as other State agencies. I humbly ask that you support her confirmation to become the next Administrator of the SPO.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF STAFF OF THE  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 626  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADMINISTRATOR,  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
BONNIE KAHAKUI,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE IN 4 YEARS.

March 12, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

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Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on GM 626. The staff of the State Procurement Office (SPO) is in strong support of the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

Ms. Kahakui has been serving as the Acting Administrator of the SPO since January 2021 and demonstrates exceptional executive and organizational ability and has proven to be a strong leader for our office. In addition to having more than 27 years of procurement experience, she is a consistent source of institutional and procurement knowledge and epitomizes the upmost integrity, professionalism, and excellence in all that she does. She facilitates teamwork and collaboration to carry out the objectives of the SPO and best serve our stakeholders: other state and county agencies, vendors, and the public. As a team, we greatly appreciate Ms. Kahakui's guidance, commitment to professional and personal development, hands-on approach, and open-door policy.

Her accolades and awards, including being named the 2020 Department of Accounting and General Services Manager of the Year, are testament to her hard work and dedication to service to the State of Hawaii.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that your committee advise and consent to Ms. Kahakui's nomination.

Sincerely,

The.Staff.of.the.State.Procurement.Office

Christopher Amandi  
Ruth Baker  
Jacob Chang  
Matthew Chow  
Mary Grace Dobbin  
Stacey Kauleinamoku

Kietsuda Kelsey  
Chihiro Kleinhans  
Jittima Laurita  
Suzanne Okino  
Michael Ong  
Shannon Ota

Mei Phillips  
Elly Raguindin  
Carey Ann Sasaki  
Cynthia Sato  
Donn Tsuruda-Kashiwabara  
Alan Yeh

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
Hawaii State Capitol

**Personal Testimony of Deborah Kim Morikawa, Deputy Director  
Department of Health  
In SUPPORT of Governor's Message 626**

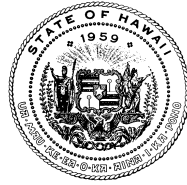
Good afternoon Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations.

My name is Deborah Kim Morikawa and I stand in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

Ms. Kahakui has been with the State Procurement Office since December 2007 and has been serving as its Acting Administrator since January 2021. She has had years of experience in this office and her willingness to provide support and direction on what can sometimes be a challenging process is commendable.

I have known her to be accessible and forthright and appreciate her commitment to serving the good of the public. She has proven herself to be a competent and capable leader of this Office and is well-deserving of this nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of gubernatorial nominee for the Administrator of the State Procurement Office, Bonnie Kahakui.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM626**  
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Administrator, State Procurement**  
**Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, BONNIE KAHAKUI, for a term to expire in 4 years.**

SEN. ANGUS MCKELVEY, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Hearing Date: March 12, 2024

Room Number: 225

- 1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the nomination of Ms.  
2 Bonnie Kahakui for Administrator, State Procurement Office.
- 3 Ms. Kahakui's work experience clearly demonstrates expertise in state procurement policies and  
4 practices. In addition to extensive participation with national professional organizations, she has  
5 been recognized as a leader in her field by her peers and colleagues as DAGS Manager of the  
6 Year, Governor's Team of the Year, and DAGS Teams of the Year.
- 7 Her qualifications go beyond what is printed on paper, as many in the Executive Branch who  
8 have worked with Ms. Kahakui can attest to her collegiality, professionalism, and willingness to  
9 find solutions. These qualities are invaluable as we balance protecting public funds with  
10 promoting the public good.
- 11 The Department of Health, as an agency and through many difficult public health emergencies,  
12 including the COVID-19 pandemic, found the State Procurement Office, under a leadership team  
13 that included Ms. Kahakui, to be responsive and responsible in helping DOH fulfill our mission.
- 14 DOH urges the Senate Committee on Government Operations to unanimously support Ms.  
15 Kahakui's nomination.

**KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PHONE: (808) 586-0285  
FAX: (808) 586-0288  
WWW.HAWAII.GOV/CAMPAIGN

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION**

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 11, 2024

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 626 – Consideration and Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator, State Procurement Office, State of Hawaii

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations:

I am respectfully writing in strong support of gubernatorial nominee Bonnie Kahakui as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office, State of Hawaii.

I have known Bonnie as the Acting Administrator in my capacity as the Executive Director of the Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission (“Commission”) which is a DAGS administratively attached agency. During this time, the Commission has greatly appreciated Bonnie’s work ethic and commitment to this position as well as her support and straightforwardness attitude. During a time of uncertainty as the Acting Administrator, Bonnie has been very professional, accessible, and has timely responded to our requests/inquiries. I believe that she has the proper demeanor and integrity to do well as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office, State of Hawaii, and therefore, appreciate the opportunity to write in support of her nomination.

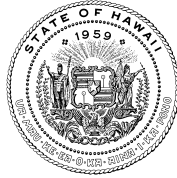
Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao".

Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao  
Executive Director

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



**LATE**

KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF  
MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN, DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 626  
Wednesday, March 12, 2024, 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 225

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADMINISTRATOR,  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BONNIE KAHAKUI, FOR A TERM TO  
EXPIRE IN 4 YEARS.

Honorable Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support for the confirmation of  
Ms. Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator, State Procurement Office (SPO).

Bonnie has been serving as the Acting Administrator in SPO since January 2020, where  
she provides procurement guidance to governmental agencies and is involved in the  
development of procurement rules, policies, and procedures. Prior to her current role, she has  
served in various capacities within SPO and built her expertise in state procurement. Bonnie  
was involved in the development and implementation of the State-wide purchasing card  
program, as well as the eProcurement system (HlePRO), Hawaii Awards and Notices Data  
System (HANDS), the Hawaii Compliance Express (HCE), and the Procurement Wizard. All of  
these tools have resulted in greater efficiency for state employees and facilitated vendors,  
contractors and service providers in doing business with state or county agencies, especially in  
documenting compliance with applicable laws.

I have worked closely with Bonnie since 2017 and found her to be thorough, consistent,  
and steadfast in her approach. These are traits that will serve her well in the leadership role of  
Administrator for SPO.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support and I respectfully ask  
your committee to advise and consent to this nomination.

# Green Door Finance LLC

Tel: 808.213.1210, Email: [sarah@greendoorfinance.com](mailto:sarah@greendoorfinance.com)  
Kaneohe, Hawaii



TESTIMONY FOR HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (GVO)  
FOR GM626

Confirmation of State Procurement Administrator: Mrs. Bonnie Kahakui

Conference Room 225

12 March 2024, 1500

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard and Honorable Senate Members of the GVO Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM626 that confirms Mrs. Bonnie Kahakui as State Procurement Administrator. I **strongly support** her confirmation and appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony and share with you why Bonnie is the ideal choice for this important position.

I was fortunate enough to spend seven years as State Procurement Administrator under Governor Abercrombie and Governor Ige. During this period, our State Procurement Team achieved many positive improvements to procurement across the State of Hawaii.

We created online, anytime procurement training. We published our procurement policies and regulations with access to all in a lifecycle model. We implemented online systems and new programs for procurement and State Surplus. We brought State Workers and Industry together through conferences and outreach. We submitted our recommendations to and achieved improved policy through Legislation. We achieved incredible results as a high-performance team during COVID when many other offices were down for the count.

All through those seven years, Bonnie was there. She was our systems expert and then my Deputy. She was integral in shaping the amazing culture of our team and the vision for procurement across the State, and she has continued to lead this team with true commitment to our State's Aloha principles.

Bonnie's background and mission of implementing and leveraging innovative systems and procurement methods give the procurement professionals across the State, the access, transparency, and community they need to conduct procurement practices at the highest level.

The State Procurement Office team is a highly dedicated, professional, and empathetic high-performance team, who cares deeply about the people of Hawaii. They take pride in conducting business with integrity and passion, helping our state departments find answers to their most

pressing needs. These team members are energized to make a difference and they do this because of their close team bond and the incredible leadership from Bonnie.

I am extremely proud and honored to know and have worked with Bonnie and the entire SPO team and believe that the people of the State of Hawaii should know that they have an exceptional team working every day to improve the lives, spaces and access for the residents and our visitors on these blessed islands.

I thank Governor Green and the Committee today for their wisdom in choosing Mrs. Kahakui as the State's leader in procurement. And I thank you both for supporting the good work of the State Procurement Office.

*Sarah Allen*

# ***SAH - Subcontractors Association of Hawaii***

***1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003\*\*Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2938***

***Phone: (808) 537-5619 ✦ Fax: (808) 533-2739***

March 12, 2024

Testimony To: Senate Committee on Government Operations  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons, CAE  
President

Subject: GM 626 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Administrator, State Procurement Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, BONNIE KAHAKUI, for a term to expire in 4 years.

Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, President of the Subcontractors Association of Hawaii. The SAH represents the following nine separate and distinct contracting trade organizations.

HAWAII FLOORING ASSOCIATION

ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

HAWAII WALL AND CEILING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

TILE CONTRACTORS PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

SHEETMETAL AND AIR CONDITIONING NATIONAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

PAINTING AND DECORATING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

PACIFIC INSULATION CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION



We are in support of this nomination.

We have dealt with the Administrator for the past several years on a variety of topics, most notably the past performance issues. We have found her to be measured in her approach, fair and always attempting to strike a balance between the concerned parties, including her own department.

It is no easy job to continually battle with other State and County agencies who want to cut their procurement process short in some manner in order to expedite their purchases however we feel that it is always important to follow the same code in every instance in order to assure quality and a fair procurement system.

Based on the above we can highly recommend this nominee for your advice and consent.

Thank you.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 7:22:36 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dustin Lanier	Testifying for Civic Initiatives	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Bonnie Kahakui is a respected professional not only in Hawaii, but across the United States by her peers in the procurement profession. We have had the opportunity to work with Bonnie on multiple occasions over the last several years in support of procurement operations and improvements. She is thoughtful, accessible, and collaborative - but also decisive when it is time to act. Bonnie is an excellent leader for the state and its citizens.



Hawaii Technology Development Corporation  
521 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste 255 | 808-539-3806  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | www.htdc.org

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR

Written Statement of  
**Wayne Inouye**  
**Interim Director**  
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**Senate Committee on Government Operations**

Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room #225

In consideration of  
**GM626**

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee.

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) strongly **supports** the consideration and confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui to the Administrator, State Procurement Office.

HTDC has had an excellent experience working with Ms. Kahakui. Not only is she qualified for the position with her education, but she also has an extensive history working with the State. Through her various positions she has proven her skill set and value to the State. She has also proven her ability to work as the role of Administrator during her interim as Acting Administrator starting from January, 2020.

HTDC strongly supports the consideration and confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui to the Administrator, State Procurement Office and we look forward to working with her more in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 5:03:22 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Government Operations,

I strongly support the confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator for the State Procurement Office.

I have had the privilege of working closely with Bonnie Kahakui during her tenure at the State Procurement Office, and her exceptional qualifications and dedication to maintaining procurement integrity statewide make her an exemplary candidate for this role.

With over 20 years of extensive procurement knowledge and a demonstrated commitment to upholding the highest standards of professionalism, Bonnie Kahakui is a results-oriented strategic planner whose leadership has been instrumental in advancing procurement practices within the State. Her understanding of procurement statutes and rules, coupled with her expertise in complex issue resolution and project management, has enabled her to effectively navigate challenges and drive positive outcomes.

In her current role as Acting Administrator, Bonnie has provided invaluable guidance to governmental bodies on procurement matters, directed educational programs for procurement personnel, and played a pivotal role in developing and implementing procurement rules, policies, and procedures. Her proactive approach to ensuring compliance and transparency in procurement processes has earned her recognition and respect both within the State and among external stakeholders.

Moreover, Bonnie's dedication to continuous improvement and innovation is evident in her leadership of various initiatives, including the development and coordination of online procurement systems, such as HiePRO and HANDS. Her strategic vision and commitment to excellence have been instrumental in streamlining operations and enhancing efficiency across procurement functions.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to procurement excellence, Bonnie Kahakui has received numerous accolades and awards, including the Governor's Team of the Year and DAGS Manager of the Year. Her dedication to advancing procurement practices and her commitment to serving the people of Hawai'i are beyond reproach. Her leadership and expertise will be

invaluable in advancing the state's procurement objectives and ensuring accountability and transparency in government operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Bonnie Kahakui's confirmation, and I respectfully request the committee to advise and consent to this nomination.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:27:07 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Park	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui, who is well qualified to be the Administrator of the State Procurement Office. Bonnie has extensive procurement and travel contracting experience with DAGS since 1997, and she has been the the acting or assistant Administrator since 2019. She needs no training and can keep the Procurement Office doing its job without skipping a beat. Mahalo.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:28:22 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Curt Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair McKelvey and Committee Members:

Thank you for considering the appointment of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator for the State Procurement Office. I have known Bonnie for over 20 years prior to joining the State of Hawaii. As a former banker, I had the pleasure of working with Bonnie with the State's first P-Card program. During my time as Comptroller, I worked closely with Bonnie on procurement matters involving the State. When the prior Administrator left, I asked Bonnie if she would serve as interim Administrator. She hasn't disappointed us at all. Her in-depth knowledge of procurement laws and State processes is truly an asset to this administration.

She is always professional, fair, but has the integrity to oppose inequitable or questional procurement requests to protect the interests of the State. But she is also willing to be flexible and find ways to help Departments with their procurement needs. She is an excellent teacher and always willing to help others in the State to understand the intricacies associated with State Procurement law. I urge members of the GVO committee to support the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator for our State Procurement Office. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to testify.

Aloha, Curt Otaguro

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:44:34 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaden Couto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi my name is Jaden Couto and I support this bill because having fresh minds, and different viewpoints is a crucial part of progress. A 4 year term supports the healthy cycling of ideas, and has a greater ability to amplify the voices of the public with differentiating viewpoints.



**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 7:33:28 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keith Kogachi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the Governor's nomination of Bonnie Kahakui as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 11:37:19 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stella Kam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Bonnie Kahakui has been an excellent acting administrator for the State Procurement Office for the past three years. She is a dedicated professional who makes sound decisions based upon the Procurement Code and its accompanying administrative rules. Ms. Kahakui also is an outstanding manager and leader of the SPO and its staff. It has been a pleasure to work with her on procurement-related issues.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Ms. Kahakui for the position of Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

I am submitting this testimony in my individual capacity.

March 11, 2024

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey  
Chair, Senate Committee on Government Operations  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey:

This is a letter in support of Bonnie Kahakui's appointment as Administrator of the State Procurement Office, GM 626.

I have worked with Bonnie for over 15 years in her various positions with the State Procurement Office. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience in government procurement and the State's procurement statutes and rules. She is helpful in trying to solve procurement issues while at the same time being always mindful of maintaining the integrity of the procurement process.

Bonnie is intelligent, capable and hardworking. She has consistently demonstrated her problem-solving ability, sound judgment and communication skills. And she has a proven record of being able to work well with others and manage people.

I believe that Bonnie possesses the necessary experience and qualities to make an excellent Administrator of the State Procurement Office. I urge that the Committee and Senate confirm her appointment.

Sincerely,



Neal Miyahira  
Administrator, Program Planning and Budget Division  
Department of Budget and Finance

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 10:11:11 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Wast of Tax payer Moneys. No More Communist in Hawaii!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/10/2024 8:00:25 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michele Nakata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the consideration and confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator of the State Procurement Office. Bonnie is very knowledgeable about state procurement requirements and is extremely approachable, responsive and helpful to programs, which is critical to ensuring that things are done properly. She has gone out of her way to be available and provide guidance to our program and we truly appreciate it.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 6:58:19 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dexter Kishida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Bonnie Kahakui for Administrator, SPO. Through the years in both the State and County, I have received excellent support in conducting solicitations of goods and services. Her extensive knowledge has helped me by providing lesser known tools to procure items.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 12:03:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jan Gouveia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office. Her many years of experience with state procurement matters, coupled with her demonstrated ability to exercise sound judgment and technical expertise, makes her an ideal candidate to lead the State Procurement Office.

Additionally, Ms Kahakui has served as a dedicated and committed public servant for over 15 years. The State of Hawaii has been, and will continue to, benefit from her contributions and leadership.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 12:09:38 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Todd Omura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On Governor’s Message No. 626, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Administrator, State Procurement Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, Bonnie Kahakui, for a term to expire 4 years from confirmation.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Todd Omura, and I am testifying in my personal capacity in support of the appointment of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

I currently serve as the IT Governance Officer in the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, and have been working with Ms. Kahakui since I started at the State of Hawaii in 2015 to present day, during which she held multiple positions at the State Procurement Office, including her current one as Acting Administrator.

Ms. Kahakui has extensive experience and knowledge of public sector procurement laws, policies, and procedures, established trusted relationships with all levels of Department staff, and elevated the overall procurement readiness of Executive Branch. This was especially evident during her recent leadership role for the statewide procurement services consolidation working group, where Ms. Kahakui facilitated the discussion and identification of the major issues and potential remedies all state offices are facing today regarding procurement.

Ms. Kahakui has delivered demonstrable results during the past administration, and is right person to assist Governor Green’s administration in meeting today’s challenges for the State. I respectfully request that you recommend approval of her nomination as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 626.



Written Testimony  
**Mary Alice Evans**  
Waimanalo, Hawaii

**GM 626**

Nomination of **Bonnie Kahakui** for Administrator, State Procurement Office

**Senate Committee on Government Operations**

Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 3:00pm  
State Capitol Conference Room 225

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations.

I urge your **strong support** for the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui for Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

I have worked with Bonnie for almost 25 years and have very deep respect for her integrity and ability to ensure compliance with Chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code. Bonnie has worked at all levels of the State Procurement Office and demonstrated the executive and organizational skills required for this important role.

She has served as Acting Administrator for more than three years. I doubt there is anyone else in the state with more direct experience in managing the State Procurement System than Bonnie.

Whenever, I want advice on how to comply with Chapter 103D, I know I can ask Bonnie and get ethical options for procuring services for complex projects. Bonnie has always had a strong commitment to protecting trust in government by making procurement transactions completely transparent.

Please recommend advice and consent to the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui as Administrator of the State Procurement Office. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my testimony in strong support of Bonnie's nomination.

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 2:59:18 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynn Araki-Regan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support GM 626 and urge the committee to confirm Ms. Bonnie Kahakui as the Administrator for the State Procurement Office.

Through my dealings with Ms. Kahakua, I have found her to be extremely responsive and knowledgeable. She has been a real joy to work with.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Lynn Araki-Regan

**LATE**

Testimony of CURT A COTTRELL

Before the Senate Committee on GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

3:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 626  
for consideration and confirmation to the Administrator, State Procurement  
Office - **BONNIE KAHAKUI** - for a term to expire in 4 years

I strongly support the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui for the Administrator of the  
State Procurement Office.

Bonnie has been a tremendous leader in moving the State Procurement Office to  
a program where you feel welcome to ask for assistance in working through the  
procurement processes. Her availability to meet, even at moment's notice, is one  
of her strengths. She is easy to talk to while still making sure you follow the  
statutes, rules and guidelines of procurement.

Additionally, she is a staunch supporter of innovative methods to streamline SPO  
in order to accelerate repairs and maintenance. This is critical in a State where we  
have a variety of aging infrastructure that needs rapid attention and repairs.

Her being the past Manager of the Year for DAGS is indicative of Bonnie's hard  
work that has contributed to her accomplishments of moving through the various  
positions within the State Procurement Office.

Please support the nomination of Bonnie Kahakui and recommend her for Advise  
and Consent.

**LATE**

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 5:50:38 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Kato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee on Government Operations:

I am writing in my individual capacity in strong support of the nomination and confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office (SPO).

I had the opportunity to work with Bonnie on procurement issues while I was at the Attorney General’s office and now at the Department of Health. She has always been patiently helpful and immediately responsive to my procurement inquiries. I have enjoyed working with her and have a deep respect and appreciation for her knowledge and leadership. Her experience as Acting Administrator for over 4 years at the SPO as well as her previous years at SPO will be an amazing asset to SPO.

Therefore, I respectfully ask for Ms. Kahakui’s confirmation as SPO Administrator.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**LATE**

**GM-626**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 5:59:26 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathleen Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in my individual capacity to support the nominaton and confirmation of Bonnie Kahakui to serve as the Administrator, State Prucurement Office. Bonnie's extensive knowledge and experience in State Procurment and Policy makes her the ideal choice as the Administrator.

I respectfully request her confirmation as the Administrator of the State Procurement Office.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**LATE**

Tammy L. Lee, Esq.  
Email: tlee.esq@gmail.com

TO: Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Government Operations

DATE: Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
TIME: 3:00 PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

RE: GM 626 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Administrator,  
State Procurement Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, BONNIE KAHAKUI, for a  
term to expire in 4 years

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Government  
Operations:

My name is Tammy Lee and I strongly support Bonnie's nomination as the State Procurement Office Administrator. I have worked closely with Bonnie over the past several years in my capacity as the Department of Transportation Contracts Officer, Business Management Officer, and Administrative Services Officer and can attest to her qualifications, dedication, and capability to excel as the State Procurement Office Administrator. Bonnie has a deep understanding of procurement policies of the State Procurement Office and works tirelessly to fulfill and implement the State Procurement Office's vision and goals.

Bonnie is unwavering in her commitment to ethical procurement and will listen and help to find solutions to complex questions. She champions every change with grace and her ability to collaborate to a shared positive outcome with professionalism and integrity contributes significantly to the State.

I am confident that Bonnie will be a valuable asset to the State, and I look forward to our continued collaboration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.