



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 04/08/2024

**Time:** 03:00 PM

**Location:** CR 229 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Bill Title:** GM 0735 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson, Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROY TAKUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

**Purpose of Bill:**

**Department's Position:**

As the Superintendent of the Hawaii State Department of Education, I support Roy Takumi's confirmation to serve as the Chairperson of the Hawaii State Board of Education.

I worked closely with Mr. Takumi when I was Waipahu Elementary School Principal, Pearl City-Waipahu Complex Area Superintendent, and Waipahu High School Principal since Mr. Takumi was the State House Representative for communities served by the Pearl City and Waipahu schools. I can personally attest to Mr. Takumi's deep commitment to our students and their success.

Mr. Takumi also chaired the House Education Committee for 15 years and sponsored the Reinventing Education Act of 2004 (Act 51). Additionally, he was active in national education policy groups through the National Council of State Legislatures and Education Committee of the States.

Mr. Takumi's experience and commitment to education have prepared him to serve as the Chairperson of the Hawai'i State Board of Education. I appreciate his willingness to serve on the Board. I support Mr. Takumi's confirmation to serve on the Hawaii State Board of Education in the at-large seat and urge the State Senate to confirm his appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of GM 735.



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org  
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro  
Executive Director

April 8, 2024

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

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

**HawaiiKidsCAN supports GM735**, which submits for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson, Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, Roy Takumi, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

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

The Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) is a critical organization for public education in Hawaii, with significant responsibilities including but not limited to formulating policy, ensuring oversight and accountability within the public education system, and monitoring progress on the State of Hawaii Public Education 2023-2029 Strategic Plan. Given the magnitude of issues facing the public education system, effective BOE members should be able to critically review data presented by the DOE, set a policy agenda that the DOE, legislature, and community partners can rally around, and look holistically at how schools are preparing kids for great careers and lives in Hawaii.

We urge all appointees consider the following questions:

- How will you find balance between supporting our public schools while holding leaders and schools accountable when students are suffering poor outcomes?
- How can the BOE better harness public charter schools and public libraries as part of our education system, given that the BOE also oversees the State Librarian and members of the State Public Charter School Commission?

- How can the BOE better engage families and community members?
- What is the ideal process for collaborative policymaking between the BOE, DOE, legislature, and community partners?
- How can the BOE and DOE better target supports to students to close achievement gaps and long-standing inequities?
- How can our education system better harness the abundant non-traditional learning opportunities in Hawaii offered by local non-profits, employers, and community organizations?

We support the nomination of Roy Takumi, as we believe a leader and policymaker with his experience and expertise will represent an exciting new chapter for the BOE. His deep relationships with the DOE, legislature, and community are an exciting and likely unprecedented opportunity to move forward as one system. The stakes are incredibly high to achieve the goals of the State of Hawaii Public Education 2023-2029 Strategic Plan, and it will take leadership that is knowledgeable, candid, and strategic to move the needle. Our system will need to go above and beyond in order to counteract the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also pledge to be a partner with Mr. Takumi and hope to have timely opportunities to sit down as a community and align around achieving better outcomes for students and our broader state.

Mahalo for your consideration,

David Miyashiro  
Founding Executive Director  
HawaiiKidsCAN



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

April 8, 2024

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is submitted in support for GM735, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, Roy Takumi, for a term to expire 06-30-2027.

As one of HE'E Coalition's priorities is influencing policy that affects public education, the Coalition staff attends Board of Education meetings on a regular basis. We continue to advocate strongly on family and community engagement as well as equity in education in our public school system.

HE'E worked well with Mr. Takumi when he was Chair of the House Education Committee. We respect Mr. Takumi's experience regarding education policy, in working with the community, and his focus on accountability and improving outcomes of our students. We encourage the Committee to confirm his nomination.

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support for this measure represents at least a 75% consensus of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

## Coalition Members and Participants

Academy 21  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Atherton YMCA  
Education Institute of Hawai'i  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawai'i  
\*HawaiiKidsCAN  
\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
\*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
\*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Children's Action Network  
Hawai'i Education Association  
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
\* Hawai'i State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation

Learning First  
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Native Hawaiian Education Council  
Our Public School  
\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i  
Special Education Provider Alliance  
\*Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
\* Youth Service Hawai'i  
*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the Coalition.*

April 6, 2024

TO: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair Senate Committee on  
Education

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Senate Committee on  
Education

Members Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Kate Stanley (retired)

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of confirming Gubernatorial Nominee  
Roy Takumi to the Board of Education as a member and Chair: GM  
735

I am Kate Stanley testifying in my individual capacity in support of  
the confirmation of Roy Takumi as a member and Chair of the Hawaii  
State Board of Education (BOE).

As you know I have retired from working and now volunteer to work  
on projects for the Department of Education and speak on other is-  
sues that effect the State of Hawaii. In past years I have worked as  
an analyst for the House Committee on Finance assigned to analyze  
the budget of the Department of Education and assigned to work  
with then Chair of the House Education Committee, Roy Takumi in  
drafting Act 51 of the 2004 Session; and I have worked for Superin-  
tendents Pat Hamamoto, Kathy Matayoshi, and Keith Hayashi. I have  
assisted the superintendents with implementing Act 51, budget  
preparation, and working with the Legislature. In the course of these  
years I have had the opportunity to attend many BOE meetings in-  
cluding those of both an elected and appointed BOE.

I have an undying commitment to public education. Public education and its improvement is an obligation we all have in order to secure the best possible Hawaii in the years to come.

I have known and worked with and for Roy Takumi since he was first elected to the Hawaii State House of Representatives in 1992.

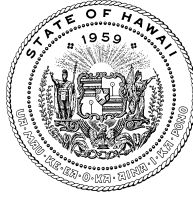
Roy brings a dedication to public education, experience as a Chair of a number of Committees, a keen mind, an ability to learn from others and the good sense to listen to my advice at least once in-awhile.

Most of you know that Roy can be a curmudgeon with a sharp wit. However I have only seen him carefully and with knowledge lead his committees.

Act 51 SLH 2004 was a product of his ability to work with the Business Round Table, the Senate Education Committee, the DOE Superintendent, and the Chair of the Board of Education. This Act withstood a veto which was overridden by the Legislature. However the veto was not ignored and amendments were made in the very same session.

It is a skilled leader who can secure a landmark piece of legislation while being open to amendments that improve that legislation. It is this skill that Roy will bring to the task of chairing and leading the Board of Education.

I wholeheartedly recommend that the Committee on Education recommend to the full Senate confirmation of Roy Takumi as a member and Chair of the Hawaii State Board of Education.



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 Education**

Monday, April 8, 2024  
3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In consideration of  
**Governor's Message No. 735**

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

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 735, appointment of Roy Takumi to serve as the Chairperson, Board of Education.

Roy Takumi's extensive firsthand experiences in various state leadership positions throughout his longstanding public service career reflect his firm grasp of the role, functions, and processes of government. He served as a state representative for 30 years and chaired the House Education Committee for 15 years. He was the primary sponsor of the Reinventing Education Act of 2004 (Act 51). It was also during his chairmanship that the Executive Office on Early Learning was established in 2012.

His other work experiences include serving as communications director for the Hawaii State AFL-CIO, the largest labor federation in the state with over 60 affiliated unions representing 80,000 workers. He also served in the Hawai'i Air National Guard for seven years. He graduated first in technical training class and received Outstanding Honor Graduate Award. He completed four-week course in Leadership Training at McGhee-Tyson Air Force Base, Tennessee. In addition, he received Distinguished Graduate Certificate awarded to the top ten percent in class. He was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant.

Roy earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Hawai'i and Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from Long Island University, NY.

Lastly, Roy's solid work experience, effective leadership and commitment enable him to serve the State and community well as Chairperson of the Board of Education.

Thank you very much for your consideration.





**SanHi**

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: April 5, 2024

TO: Senator Michelle N. Kidani  
Chair, Committee on Education

FROM: Rick Tsujimura

RE: **GM 735 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the  
Chairperson, Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROY TAKUMI,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2026  
Hearing Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 at 3:00PM  
Conference Room: 229**

---

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

Gary Slovin and I submit this testimony in strong support of Roy Takumi's nomination to be the Chair of the Board of Education.

I have known Roy for well over a decade. I can say without equivocation that Roy is dedicated to education and always has been during his career at the legislature. It is this knowledge that compels me to write this testimony in support of his nomination.

While we have had our differences over the years I always knew that first and foremost Roy was focused on doing the right thing. I am certain that he will bring that same focus to this position. He will bring his own blend of assertiveness, which may not sit well with some, but leadership isn't about making friends. In fact, being a leader sometimes alienates some of your closest friends. The noted scholar Peter Drucker once said, "Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things."

We can assure you that Roy will do the right thing. Please give him your full-hearted support as he takes on this challenge.

April 4, 2024

Senator Michelle Kidani  
Chair, Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Donna Kim  
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Education  
Members of the Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Senate

RE: GM 735 Nomination of Roy Takumi for Chair of the Board of Education  
Hearing: April 8, 2024 3:00 pm

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Roy Takumi to serve as Chair of the Board of Education.

During the time I served as superintendent of the Hawaii Department of Education, I was very fortunate to have knowledgeable and thoughtful support from the legislature, both this committee and also the House Committee on Education that Mr. Takumi chaired. We did not take this support for granted. Both Chairs challenged us, asked critical questions and were not hesitant in expressing their concerns and clearly voicing their priorities and focus. In 2017, with the support of Mr. Takumi and Chair Kidani, the DOE was the 2017 recipient of the Frank Newman Award for State Innovation, awarded by the Education Commission of the States. I believe their thoughtful, informed and forceful leadership helped push the DOE to the changes and progress that was recognized by the Commission.

As chair of the House Committee on Education, Mr. Takumi has gained in-depth knowledge about the department of education that comes from 15 years of hearing from the many stakeholders in public education about the wide range of issues presented each year to the Legislature. He has engaged in many discussions with various department leaders. That, along with his visits with a variety of schools and school leaders, gives him insights that will be valuable as Chair of the BOE. I appreciate his clear thinking, his high level of integrity, and his firm commitment to a high-quality public education for all students. He has been tough but fair in considering the many issues that faced the public schools, and unwavering in his strong support for universal early education.

Mr. Takumi is highly qualified to serve as Chair of the Board of Education, and I ask for your support for his nomination. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kathryn S. Matayoshi

Kathryn Matayoshi

[Kathryn.matayoshi@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn.matayoshi@gmail.com)

808-223-7893

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HAWAII STATE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

RE: **GM735** – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF EDUCATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROY TAKUMI, FOR  
A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2026.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024

JASON BRADSHAW, CHAIR  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII LABOR CAUCUS

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

The Democratic Party of Hawaii Labor Caucus **strongly supports** Roy Takumi to serve as Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education.

Mr. Takumi has a wealth of education and leadership experience and can immediately make a positive impact as Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education. Mr. Takumi knows how to effectively run meetings and has a positive relationship with many of the stakeholders and can hit the ground running.

Mr. Takumi was first elected to the Hawaii State House of Representatives in 1992 and throughout his 30 year career as member of the Hawaii State House of Representatives he served in various leadership roles such as the Chair of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee, Chair of the Higher Education Committee and most importantly Chair of the Education Committee for 15 years. Mr. Takumi also served as Vice-Chair of the Education Committee of the States and focused heavily on advancing education policy.

Mr. Takumi also has a plethora of private sector work experience. He worked at the Hawaii State AFL-CIO as the Communications Director for over 25 years and as the Program Director of the American Friends Service Committee for 7 years. He has also served on numerous boards and commissions such as the Labor Education Advisory Council, Hawaii Job Training Coordinating Council, and the Commission on Employment and Human Resources.

Mr. Takumi is also a graduate of Hawaii's public schools. He graduated from McKinley High School in 1970 and pursued his higher education at the University of Hawaii where he majored in Ethnic Studies and achieved his Master's degree in Public Administration with an impressive 4.0 GPA.

Mr. Takumi's work experience in the private and public sector, his service on boards and commissions and his extraordinary knowledge on education make him exceptionally qualified to be the Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education. We know Mr. Takumi will look out for the best interests of our public schools.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii Labor Caucus asks your committee to **support** recommending confirmation to the full senate.

Mahalo.



# HAWAII PORTS MARITIME COUNCIL

affiliated with

Maritime Trades Department

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR and CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

606 Kalihi Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

TELEPHONE: (808) 845-5222

FAX: (808) 841-1191

Member Unions:

April 5, 2024

*American Federation Of  
Government Employees*

*Hawaii Government  
Employees Association,  
AFSCME Local 152*

*Hawaii Pilots Association,  
MM&P Pilots Division*

*Inlandboatmen's Union  
of the Pacific*

*International Brotherhood of  
Boilermakers, Iron Ship  
Builders, Blacksmiths,  
Forgers and Helpers  
Lodge 627*

*International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers Local 1186*

*International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers Local 1260*

*International Longshore and  
Warehouse Union Local 142*

*International Union of  
Elevator Constructors  
Local 126*

*Ironworkers Union  
Stabilization Fund  
Local 625*

*Laborers' International Union  
of North America Local 368*

*Marine Engineers'  
Beneficial Association*

*Marine Firemen,  
Watertenders, Oilers & Wipers*

*Masters, Mates and Pilots,  
Offshore Division*

*Sailors' Union of the Pacific*

*Seafarers International Union*

*Sheet Metal Workers Local 293*

*United Food and Commercial  
Workers International Union  
Local 480*

Senate Committee on Education  
Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Honorable Donna Kim, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

RE: GM735 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
AS THE CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF EDUCATION, GUBERNATORIAL  
NOMINEE, ROY TAKUMI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-26

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Ports Maritime Council strongly supports Roy Takumi to serve as  
Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education.

Mr. Takumi has a wealth of education and leadership experience and can  
immediately make a positive impact as Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education.  
Mr. Takumi knows how to effectively run meetings and has a positive  
relationship with many of the stakeholders and can hit the ground running.

Mr. Takumi was first elected to the Hawaii State House of Representatives in  
1992 and throughout his 30 year career as member of the Hawaii State House of  
Representatives he served in various leadership roles such as the Chair of the  
Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee, Chair of the Higher Education  
Committee and most importantly Chair of the Education Committee for 15 years.  
Mr. Takumi also served as Vice-Chair of the Education Committee of the States  
and has worked to advance education policy.

Mr. Takumi also has varied private sector work experience. He has worked at the  
Hawaii State AFL-CIO as the Communications Director for over 25 years and as  
the Program Director of the American Friends Service Committee for 7 years. He  
has also served on numerous boards and commissions such as the Labor  
Education Advisory Council, Hawaii Job Training Coordinating Council, and the  
Commission on Employment and Human Resources.

Mr. Takumi is a graduate of Hawaii's public schools. He graduated from  
McKinley High School in 1970 and pursued his higher education at the University  
of Hawaii where he majored in Ethnic Studies and achieved his Master's degree  
in Public Administration with an impressive 4.0 GPA.

Mr. Takumi's work experience in the private and public sector, his service on boards and commissions and his extraordinary knowledge on education make him exceptionally qualified to be the Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education. We know Mr. Takumi will look out for the best interests of our public schools.

The Hawaii Ports Maritime Council asks your committee to support recommending confirmation to the full senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy Swindell".

Randy Swindell  
President

**GM-735**

Submitted on: 4/4/2024 7:24:53 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laura Sakai, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 4, 2024

Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Education

RE: GM735 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson, Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROY TAKUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2026

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

It is an honor to submit testimony in support of the appointment of Mr. Roy Takumi to serve as the Chair of the Board of Education. Mr. Takumi's extensive experience, commitment to public service, and outstanding leadership skills make him the ideal candidate for this position.

I was privileged to serve as Rep. Takumi's legislative aide for three years and was fortunate to witness his visionary and inclusive leadership style and his ability to make difficult but informed decisions – qualities and skills necessary to lead the Board of Education.

Roy Takumi has a proven track record of unparalleled commitment to public service and the people of Hawaii as demonstrated by his 30 years in Hawaii State House of Representatives and his leadership roles as Chair of various committees, including 15 years as Chair of the Education Committee. He was also the primary sponsor of the Reinventing Education Act of 2004 (Act 51).

In addition, Roy Takumi's experience provides him with a unique understanding of the diverse needs of Hawaii's teachers, the complexity of their jobs, and the academic and social-emotional needs of Hawaii's keiki and youth. He understands the challenges facing Hawaii's public schools.

Roy Takumi has my highest endorsement. I urge you to confirm his nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





**GM-735**

Submitted on: 4/5/2024 2:12:34 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenneth T Hiraki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

I am writing to provide my strong support for the nomination of Mr. Roy Takumi to serve as Chair of the Hawaii State Board of Education. I had the privilege of working with Mr. Takumi for over 15 years, while serving together in the House of Representatives. In that time, I witnessed firsthand his exceptional intellect, work ethic, and disarming sense of humor. These qualities, coupled with his deep commitment to championing efforts to improve public education, make him an outstanding candidate for this important role.

During his tenure as Chair of the Education Committee for an impressive 15 years, Mr. Takumi demonstrated his expertise in education policy and reform. His leadership was instrumental in the passage of the Reinventing Education Act of 2004 (Act 51), a groundbreaking piece of legislation that established the current formula for school funding in Hawaii. This landmark law has had a profound and lasting impact on our state's ability to provide equitable access to resources for all students.

Furthermore, Mr. Takumi played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Executive Office on Early Learning in 2012, recognizing the critical importance of early childhood education in setting the foundation for lifelong learning and success. His leadership and advocacy have earned him numerous accolades and awards over the years.

In addition to his legislative achievements, Mr. Takumi's character and integrity are beyond reproach. He tackles every challenge with integrity, fairness, and a deep sense of responsibility to serve the best interests of Hawaii's students, educators, and families. His collaborative approach, ability to listen and learn from diverse perspectives, and commitment to positive change makes him an ideal candidate to lead the Board.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Mr. Roy Takumi for Chair of the State Board of Education and I urge the committee to act favorably upon his nomination.

**GM-735**

Submitted on: 4/6/2024 12:10:30 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bob Toyofuku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Bob Toyofuku in support of Roy Takumi as the chairperson of the Board of Education.

Chair Kidani and Members: I have known Roy Takumi for about 30 years and have interacted with him often when he was in the state legislature. He has the intelligence, integrity, diligence and a positive work ethic to be an effective chairperson. Further, his commitment to increase the standards of education in Hawaii has been evident throughout the years as the House Education committee chair. I also had the privilege of working with Roy for about 10 years in presenting a legislative overview at the Public Administration course at the University of Hawaii. I strongly recommend that this committee and the Senate confirm his appointment. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

April 8, 2024

TO: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Members on the Senate Education Committee

FR: Nancy Nishimura

RE: GM735 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson, Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROY TAKUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

I submit my testimony in strong support of the appointment of Roy Takumi to serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Education. It was an honor to have worked for Representative Takumi for the past 26 years. His unwavering commitment to the betterment of the residents of Hawaii was evident in his start of public service and continues on to this day.

I consider myself very fortunate to have witnessed his unwavering integrity, visionary outlook, leadership abilities and willingness to collaborate with others. These character traits I feel are indispensable for this position, and these combination makes him an ideal candidate for this position.

Having served as Chair of the House Education Committee for 15 years, he comprehends the intricate workings of the Department of Education and has steadfastly committed to its enhancement. His initiative and implementation of Act 51, Reinventing Education Act of 2004 has proven to be a landmark educational reform in Hawaii. His understanding of educators' needs, fostering student enrichment, and complying with government standards makes him an exceptionally suitable candidate for this position.

His ability to objectively evaluate the issues and challenges facing the department, coupled with his comprehensive qualifications makes him a tremendous asset to the Board of Education.

I respectfully ask for your confirmation of Roy Takumi's nomination as Chairperson to the Board of Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**GM-735**

Submitted on: 4/7/2024 11:00:10 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lon Paresa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Mr. Roy Takumi as the Chair for the State Board of Education. Thank you

April 6, 2024

Senate Committee on Education  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 214  
415 S Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM520 – Nomination of Roy Takumi to Chairmanship of Board of Education

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

I write to urge the Committee's support for the nomination of Roy Takumi to serve as Chair of the Hawai'i Board of Education (BOE).

Former Representative Takumi's 15 years' service as Chair of the House of Representatives Committee on Education included the years of my service as Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission during the years 2013-2016. Chair Takumi always demonstrated mastery of the legislative issues before his committee, coupled with a strong commitment to all of Hawai'i's public school students in DOE and charter schools alike. Importantly in Hawai'i's unique and complex public education organizational structure, he always took a thoughtful and deliberate approach to considering the appropriate and mutually respectful roles of the various governmental entities in decision-making.

Former Chair Takumi's lengthy experience with, and deep knowledge of, public education issues was recognized not only in Hawai'i but also nationally, as reflected in his election as Vice Chair of the Education Commission of the States. Our public education system is fortunate indeed to have at its disposal someone who would bring to this important leadership role the rare combination of that background with his broad legislative and other professional and personal experience, in addition to his trademark sense of humor.

Thank you for your service on the Committee to the school children of Hawai'i, and mahalo for your consideration of this opportunity to ensure the placement of so capable an ally in that cause in so important a position.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hutton", written in a cursive style.

Tom Hutton

**GM-735**

Submitted on: 4/7/2024 6:39:30 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gayle Hirohata-Goto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support the nomination of Roy Takumi as Chair of the Board of Education.

Mr. Takumi is committed to improving Hawaii's public education. He has a wide breadth of knowledge about educational policy, theory, and practice. Undoubtedly he would be an asset to the Board of Education with his skills and knowledge.

Thank you for your support of Roy Takumi as Board of Education Chair.

**GM-735**

Submitted on: 4/7/2024 11:45:04 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JoAnn Yosemite	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

I am writing to express my support for Mr. Roy Takumi, GM 735 for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson of the Board of Education. I have known Mr. Takumi professionally and personally for over thirty years and have come to highly value his dedication, knowledge and leadership skills, and genuine commitment to education.

Mr. Takumi has consistently demonstrated a deep understanding of the challenges facing our education system and has worked tirelessly to address them. His ability to collaborate with stakeholders have been instrumental in driving positive change in the past whether it's advocating for equitable resources, promoting innovative educational programs, or fostering a supportive environment for both students and educators, he has always shown a strong sense of integrity and empathy.

One of Mr. Takumi's greatest strengths is his ability to find practical solutions to situations that many would consider cumbersome, difficult, or just status-quo. A strength, that will certainly be needed, when addressing the department's budget and other board challenges.

Moreover, Mr. Takumi brings a wealth of experience to the table, having served as House Education Committee Chair while serving as a state legislator. His leadership has been instrumental in implementing policies that promote academic excellence, student well-being, and community engagement. I have no doubt that Mr. Takumi will continue to inspire positive change and lead our state's educational goals with integrity and passion.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Roy Takumi for the position of Board of Education Chair. His unwavering commitment to excellence, genuine concern for the well-being of our students, as well as his own personal involvement as a parent and grandparent, make him an exceptional candidate for this important role. I am confident that under his guidance, our educational system will continue to thrive and excel.

Thank you for your consideration of Mr. Roy Takumi for this crucial position and thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of his nomination.

April 8, 2024

The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Education

RE: GM 735 – Roy Takumi as Chairperson, Board of Education

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

I am writing in strong support for Gubernatorial Nominee Roy Takumi as the Chairperson of the Board of Education. I find this nomination well deserved and seemingly a perfect fit. I've had the pleasure of working with him while I was staff at the capitol and other various advocate roles for many years and have found him to be of exceptional character.

His many years as the chair of the House Education Committee gives him more than sufficient knowledge of the Department of Education and its needs. Through those years at the legislature he was able to witness the changing policies and their effects on Hawaii's educational system. This unquestionably will serve him well as the board conducts strategic planning, sets policies and guidelines and among other things measures the progress of the public school system. Additionally, his abilities conducting thoughtful and efficient hearings at the legislature will transfer seamlessly to the Board of Education meetings.

Being a board member, let alone the chairperson, is an important and difficult undertaking. It is not a position to be taken lightly. Thus, I can confidently recommend Roy Takumi as Chairperson to the Board of Education. He is reliable, discerning, conscious and considerate and will be a great asset, as he has been in the past, to the success of Hawaii's educational system as chairperson.

Mahalo,

Annie Macapagal





# IATSE LOCAL 665

FILM, TELEVISION, STAGE, PROJECTION AND TRADESHOWS  
Since 1937



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES, MOVING PICTURE TECHNICIANS, ARTISTS AND ALLIED CRAFTS  
OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO, CLC

Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawai'i  
Regular Session of 2024  
Senate Committee on Education

Testimony by IATSE 665  
April 8th, 2024

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 735 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson, Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROY TAKUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2026**

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the Senate committee,

My name is Tuia'ana Scanlan, International Trustee and president of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. I am writing to express my strong support for the appointment of Gubernatorial Nominee ROY TAKUMI to serve as Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education.

Mr. Takumi has a wealth of education and leadership experience and can immediately make a positive impact as Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education. Mr. Takumi knows how to effectively run meetings and has a positive relationship with many of the stakeholders and can hit the ground running.

Mr. Takumi was first elected to the Hawaii State House of Representatives in 1992 and throughout his 30 year career as member of the Hawaii State House of Representatives he served in various leadership roles such as the Chair of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee, Chair of the Higher Education Committee and most importantly Chair of the Education Committee for 15 years. Mr. Takumi also served as Vice-Chair of the Education Committee of the States and focused heavily on advancing education policy.

Mr. Takumi also has a plethora of private sector work experience. He worked at the Hawaii State AFL-CIO as the Communications Director for over 25 years and as the Program Director of the American Friends Service Committee for 7 years. He has also served on numerous boards and commissions such as the Labor Education Advisory Council, Hawaii Job Training Coordinating Council, and the Commission on Employment and Human Resources.

Mr. Takumi is also a graduate of Hawaii's public schools. He graduated from McKinley High School in 1970 and pursued his higher education at the University of Hawaii where he majored in Ethnic Studies and achieved his Master's degree in Public Administration with an impressive 4.0 GPA. Mr. Takumi's work experience in the private and public sector, his service on boards and commissions and his extraordinary knowledge on education make him

exceptionally qualified to be the Chair of the Hawaii Board of Education. I know Mr. Takumi will look out for the best interests of our public schools.

**I strongly support GM 735. I hope your committee will do the same.** Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tuia'ana Scanlan', written in a cursive style.

Tuia'ana Scanlan  
IATSE International Trustee  
President, IATSE 665  
(he/him/his)