

Ken H Loui
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

26 February 2025

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino
Chair, Senate Committee on Labor & Technology
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: GM 502 - Letter of Interest in Serving on the Workforce Development
Council

Dear Senator Aquino,

I am writing to you to express my interest in continuing to serve on the Workforce Development Council. I have served on the Workforce Development Council (WDC) for the past four years, the last two years as Chair of the WDC so I have a very good understanding and appreciation of the roles and responsibilities required and expected of the members of the council. For example, as required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), last year the WDC completed the 2024 Unified State Plan that outlines a four-year strategy for our State's workforce development system.

During my term of service, I hope to continue to improve and strengthen our workforce development system, aligning it with our state's projected economic growth and promoting collaborations with our educational institutions and workforce development partners. Having lived and worked in Hawaii for many decades and served in an executive position for the past 15 years, I have a good understanding of the economic opportunities as well as the knowledge, skills and experience employers are seeking from the workforce. For these reasons/qualities: (1) Understanding of Hawaii's economy, (2) a proven business leader and (3) prior WDC experience, I believe I can bring value and contribute to the Workforce Development Council.

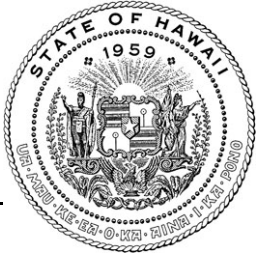
I do not anticipate any possible conflicts of interest but if do encounter any such conflicts, I will abide by the guidelines as set forth by the State Ethics Code and HRS 84-14.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ken H Loui

Ken H Loui
CEO, Pacific Marine & Co Subsidiaries



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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
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

Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Friday, March 07, 2025, 3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #224

In consideration of
GM 502
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce
Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, KEN LOUI, for a term to expire 06-
30-2028.**

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Labor and Technology Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Ken Loui to serve on the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council (WDC) for a term expiring on June 30, 2028.

With more than 36 years of leadership experience across business, construction, engineering, and workforce development, Mr. Loui brings deep expertise in workforce training, industry partnerships, and economic growth strategies that directly support DBEDT's strategic vision for a resilient and diversified economy.

As CEO of Pacific Marine & Supply Company, overseeing subsidiaries in shipyard operations, mechanical engineering, and technology development, Mr. Loui has led efforts to expand Hawai'i's skilled labor workforce, modernize operations, and improve training pipelines for technical and trade positions. His previous leadership roles at GSI Pacific Inc. and Parsons Corporation further highlight his ability to manage workforce-intensive projects, develop talent pipelines, and strengthen public-private partnerships—all critical to addressing Hawai'i's workforce shortages in construction, advanced manufacturing, and maritime industries.

DBEDT's Economic Landscape Framework prioritizes strengthening industry anchors, expanding workforce pathways, and aligning training programs with high-growth sectors. Mr. Loui's experience leading large-scale workforce recruitment,

training, and retention efforts—as well as his ability to mentor emerging industry leaders and oversee multi-million-dollar workforce projects—will be invaluable in shaping policies that strengthen Hawai‘i’s talent pipeline. His role as Chair of the WDC has already demonstrated his commitment to these goals, making his continued leadership essential to building a competitive, adaptive, and future-ready workforce.

For these reasons, DBEDT fully supports the confirmation of Mr. Ken Loui to the Hawai‘i Workforce Development Council.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify..



SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
Friday, March 7, 2025 — 3 p.m.

The Workforce Development Council supports GM 502.

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee:

We are Keith DeMello and Tuia'ana Scanlan, members of the State of Hawai'i Workforce Development Council (WDC) delegated with the authority to represent the WDC's legislative policy positions. Pursuant to [HRS Chapter 202](#), the WDC is the policy and planning advisor to the State on workforce development matters. It is comprised of both public, labor, and private-sector representatives appointed by the Governor to serve on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of workforce development programs in Hawai'i and how to support economic development throughout the state.

The WDC strongly supports GM 502, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, gubernatorial nominee, Ken Loui, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

As chair of the Council, Mr. Loui has been a steadfast leader, skillfully guiding the WDC through transitions and challenges with his calm and steady approach. Despite his demanding schedule as CEO of Pacific Marine, he remains accessible to staff, balancing a deep understanding of the Council's detailed work with a strategic vision for its future.

His career in business leadership, including growing companies and developing Hawai'i's workforce, exemplifies the expertise needed on the WDC. His background spans private sector growth, military service, and extensive experience in construction and technical industries — perspectives crucial to understanding Hawai'i's diverse workforce needs. Further, the Council believes Mr. Loui's continued service will strengthen our ability to develop and implement effective action plans within the [Hawai'i State Workforce Unified Plan](#), completed and approved under his leadership.

We respectfully urge the Committee to recommend approval of this nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith DeMello
Member, WDC

Tuia'ana Scanlan
Member, WDC

GM-502

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:06:40 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan S. Hayashi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Ken Loui for over 10'year and have found him to be an excellent leader and Board member with great knowledge and good ethical background.

I fully support the nomination of Ken Loui to the Workforce Development Council by proposed GM502.

GM-502

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:53:45 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Lui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Ken for approximately 20 years. During that time I have witnessed his dedication to his family by attending his daughters dance recitals and tennis matches and supporting his wife in her volunteer efforts and business endeavors. I have known him to be reliable, honest, kind and empathetic. He has demonstrated high integrity, dependability and confidence. He is an effective communicator and a successful leader. He will be an asset to the council.

SL

GM-502

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 1:42:02 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Maynard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of Ken Loui for reappointment to State Workforce Development Council: As Ken's Step father, I have known him for more than 50 years. Beyond his intelligence, congenial personality, sociability, collaborative work instincts and his experience working with business and labor union, Ken's strongest personal trait may be his ability to use his imagination, technical skills and persistence to solve problems.

GM-502

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 7:33:32 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sandra Taketa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of renomination of Ken Loui to the State Workforce Development Council.

GM-502

Submitted on: 2/28/2025 4:08:54 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to encourage your confirmation of Ken Loui to serve on the State Workforce Development Council. I have worked with Ken profesisonally for a number of years. He has been a strong proponent of fostering business opportunities throughout the state and of creating good, high-paying jobs for local workers. Born and raised here, Ken is committed to keeping Hawaii a great place for local families to live and work.

Please give Ken your favorable consideration.

Mahalo,

Wren Wescoatt

GM-502

Submitted on: 2/28/2025 4:15:29 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Statement of Support for Ken Loui for the State Workforce Development Council

It is my privilege to provide my support for Ken Loui for the State Workforce Development Council. I have personally known Ken for over 20 years, and it is my strong belief that he has the leadership, knowledge, and work ethic to help lead the Workforce Development Council to create programs to support the employees throughout the state.

I fully support Ken Loui's appointment to the State Workforce Development Council and look forward to the positive impact he and the council will continue to make in the state.

Brian Wong

GM-502

Submitted on: 3/3/2025 3:52:47 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Chung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have worked with Mr Ken Loui for many years and I believe his leadership in the area of workforce development is outstanding. I am in strong support and ask for your consideration and confirmation.

Mahalo!

GM-502

Submitted on: 3/5/2025 8:47:02 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Garrick Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit this testimony in full support of this Committee's confirmation of Ken Loui to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I have worked with Mr. Loui on a number of matters for well over 20 years, and he has always shown his high level of expertise and abilities to manage projects, people and resources. Having held executive positions at large companies (and now the CEO of Pacific Marine), he has seen firsthand the importance of maintaining and improving our community's workforce, which is especially critical given the isolation of our islands and our high cost of living. Mr. Loui has impressed me with his understanding of not only how best to work with highly trained employees, but also how to ensure that their value and hard work is not overlooked. I am confident that Mr. Loui's confirmation to the Council for another term will be invaluable to its efforts.



LATE

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-Third Legislature, State of Hawai'i
Regular Session of 2025
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Testimony by IATSE 665
March 7th, 2025

GM 502 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, KEN LOUI, for a term to expire 06-30-2028

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Senate committee,

My name is Tuia'ana Scanlan, IATSE International Trustee and President of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **IATSE 665 strongly supports GM 502**, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ken Loui, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

As chair of the Council, Mr. Loui has been a steadfast leader, skillfully guiding the WDC through transitions and challenges with his calm and steady approach. Despite his demanding schedule as CEO of Pacific Marine, he remains accessible to staff, balancing a deep understanding of the Council's detailed work with a strategic vision for its future. His 36-year career in business leadership, including growing companies and developing Hawai'i's workforce, exemplifies the expertise needed on the WDC. His background spans private sector growth, military service, and extensive experience in construction and technical industries — perspectives crucial to understanding Hawai'i's diverse workforce needs. Further, the IATSE 665 believes Mr. Loui's continued service will strengthen our ability to develop and implement effective action plans under the Hawai'i State Workforce Unified Plan, completed and approved under his leadership.

IATSE 665 strongly supports GM 502. We urge your committee to do the same.
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

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

501 SUMNER STREET + SUITE #610 + HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 + (808) 596-0227 + FAX (808) 591-8213