Josh Green, M.D. Governor

SYLVIA LUKELT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

DBEDT DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKERDBEDT DEPUTY DIRECTOR



CHRIS J. SADAYASU INTERIM STADIUM MANAGER

CHAIR, STADIUM AUTHORITY

BRENNON T. MORIOKA

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

Statement of CHRIS J. SADAYASU

Interim Stadium Manager

Stadium Authority
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 1:00 P.M. State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of **G.M. 600**

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STADIUM AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ERIC FUJIMOTO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Mr. Eric Fujimoto to the Stadium Authority Board of Directors. Mr. Fujimoto has proved to be a tremendous asset to the Stadium Authority as he has already capably completed his first four-year term as a Stadium Authority Board Member, the last two years serving as its Vice-Chair.

Mr. Fujimoto's extensive professional financial background, knowledge of opportunity zones and its tax implications, and his commitment to numerous community organizations, will

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continue to benefit the Stadium Authority as it moves forward with the development of the New

Aloha Stadium Entertainment District project.

In conclusion, I respectfully ask for the Committee's favorable consideration in

confirming gubernatorial nominee, Mr. Eric Fujimoto to the Stadium Authority Board of

Directors for a term to expire on June 30, 2028.

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



SYLVIA LUKE LT. GOVERNOR



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

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

Testimony of JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 1:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of

GM 600

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ERIC FUJIMOTO, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

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

I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Eric Fujimoto to the Stadium Authority.

Since 1994, Mr. Fujimoto has been with Ho'ea – Wealth Advisory Group and has been ranked as Best in State Wealth Advisors by Forbes and recognized by the US Small Business Administration as Small Business Person of the Year for the City and County of Honolulu.

Eric is active in the community and has been a past board member for 'Ahahui Koa Ānuenue (UH Athletics), past president for NaKoa (UH Football) and member of the Rotary Club of Pearlridge. Eric has also served as the Hawai'i Chapter President for the Claremont McKenna College Alumni Association, Board of Regent for Chaminade University and as a member of the Hawai'i Estate Planning Council.

Testimony of James Kunane Tokioka GM 600 March 11, 2025 Page 2

In addition, Eric was the Professional Advisor of the Year for the Hawai'i Community Foundation and Alumni of the Year at Chaminade University. He has also made positive contributions as the founder of Ho'ea – The Foundation.

Eric has been the vice chair for the Stadium Authority and has proven to be a valuable asset for the organization. Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my strong support.

TESTIMONY OF RYAN G. ANDREWS

Before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 1:00 P.M. State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of **G.M. 600**

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STADIUM AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ERIC FUJIMOTO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2028

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

It is my privilege to submit testimony in **strong support** of Eric Fujimoto's re-confirmation to the Stadium Authority. Eric is a proven leader, dedicated community servant, and financial expert whose contributions have been instrumental in shaping both the transitional operations of the Stadium Authority, and more importantly, the future of the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED).

As a highly respected financial advisor, Eric has spent his career helping organizations and individuals navigate complex financial landscapes. His expertise has been invaluable to the Stadium Authority, particularly in educating state leaders on opportunity zones as a tool to attract investment in NASED. His ability to simplify complex financial mechanisms and educate stakeholders has strengthened the Authority's fiscal strategy.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Eric has deep roots in the community. His leadership roles with Na Koa, Ahahui Koa Anuenue, and the Rotary Club of Pearlridge reflect his commitment to service and his appreciation of the stadium's significance – not just as a venue, but as a cultural and economic hub for Hawai'i.

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On a personal level, Eric is a man of integrity, collaboration, and vision. He has a

remarkable ability to bring people together and find solutions that benefit all stakeholders. A prime

example of this was his role in facilitating a mutually beneficial agreement between the Stadium

Authority and the University of Hawai'i ensuring the football program's future home as the new

stadium. His leadership and forward-thinking approach will remain critical as the Stadium

Authority navigates the next phase of redevelopment.

For these reasons, I strongly support Eric Fujimoto's confirmation and respectfully urge

the committee to approve his appointment.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Andrews