Josh Green, M.D. Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

DBEDT DIRECTOR

**DANE K. WICKER**DBEDT DEPUTY DIRECTOR



CHAIR, STADIUM AUTHORITY

CHRIS J. SADAYASU INTERIM STADIUM MANAGER

**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. 616
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STADIUM
AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANDREW PEREIRA,
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. Andrew Pereira. Mr. Pereira has been serving as an interim Board Member since July 2024 and has played a very active role in progressing the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) project. Mr. Pereira is very familiar with the project due to his previous work with the NASED Communications Team. He has been meeting with legislators, councilmembers and other stakeholders to communicate the importance of the NASED project's success.

G.M.616 (EDT) March 11, 2025

Page 2

Additionally, Mr. Pereira's expertise in communications and public relations, together

with his knowledge of the construction industry's priorities will guide the Stadium Authority in

its development and management of the NASED project.

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

confirming gubernatorial nominee, Mr. Andrew Pereira, 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. Pereira.



SYLVIA LUKE



### DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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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

# 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 616** 

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW PEREIRA, 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. Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority.

Mr. Pereira has received a number of recognitions, including the George Mason Outstanding Business Reporting Award by Smart Business Hawai'i and the Small Business Hawai'i Entrepreneurial Education Foundation and two Emmy nominations by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Andrew has previously served as the executive producer at KHNL News 8, investigative reporter at KHON-TV and KITV-4 Island News, Communications Director and Public Information Officer at the City and County of Honolulu, and Vice President at Communications Pacific. He is currently the Director of Public Affairs at the Pacific Resource Partnership where he provides guidance on government policy and legislation to strategic partners at the county, state and federal levels, in addition to private sector businesses. Andrew also has experience leading the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) communication efforts while he was at Communications Pacific.

Testimony of James Kunane Tokioka GM 616 March 11, 2025 Page 2

With three decades of strategic communications experience, Andrew is a strong collaborator and detail-oriented leader. His skills and background will be an asset to the Stadium Authority.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my strong support.



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

Senate Committee on Economic Development & Tourism

Governor's Message 616: Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to

The Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Andrew Pereira

March 11, 2025

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

On behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association (HLTA), I support Governor's Message (GM) 616 and the confirmation of Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority.

Having worked with Andrew during his time as a journalist and public relations professional, I can personally attest to his hard work, dedication, and passion for public service. With 30 years of experience in media, government, and communications, Andrew has demonstrated strategic expertise, community engagement, and policy insight—all essential for the Stadium Authority.

His tenure as Communications Director and Public Information Officer for the City & County of Honolulu gave him direct experience in government operations, stakeholder engagement, and public outreach. Additionally, his work at Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) and CommPac further showcases his leadership in public-private partnerships, crisis communications, and strategic development. His role in projects like the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) underscores his ability to navigate complex infrastructure initiatives.

Andrew's deep institutional knowledge and public service commitment make him highly qualified for this role. HLTA supports his confirmation and urges the committee to advance his nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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N. CALIFORNIA · N. NEVADA · HAWAII · UTAH

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair and Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Tourism Hawai'i State House Senate Hawai'i State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: STRONG SUPPORT FOR GM 616- SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STADIUM AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANDREW PEREIRA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028.

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

My name is Ana Tuiasosopo, and I am a Trustee and District Representative for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 3, representing heavy equipment operators, mechanics, surveyors, and other skilled tradespeople in Hawai'i's construction industry. I submit this testimony in <u>strong support of GM 616.</u>

As a former football player for the University of Hawai'i, Aloha Stadium is near and dear to my heart. For years I had the privilege of playing in front of friends and family. I wish to see the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) move forward and be built. Mr. Pereira's extensive experience and long history with NASED makes him the perfect appointee for this position. On any public works project, communication with stakeholders and the public is key to ensure the project runs as smoothly as possible. Mr. Pereria's expertise in the field of Public Relations can help guide and assist in that effort.

We therefore humbly ask for your consideration and confirmation of GM- 616. We support Mr. Pereira.

Mahalo,

Ana Tuiasosopo,

Trustee/District Representative

International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 3



# HAWAII REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

March 11, 2025

TO: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

RE: Strong Support for the consideration and confirmation to the Stadium

Authority of Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW PEREIRA, for a term to expire

06-30-2028.

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

The Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters (HRCC), writes to express enthusiastic support for the appointment of Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority. Mr. Pereira's extensive background in communications, public affairs, and community engagement uniquely positions him to make significant contributions to the Authority's mission.

Currently serving as the Director of Public Affairs at the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), Mr. Pereira has demonstrated exceptional leadership in addressing critical issues affecting our community. Notably, he has been instrumental in conducting comprehensive surveys to gauge public sentiment on matters such as affordable housing, crime, and the cost of living. These efforts have provided valuable insights that inform policy decisions and reflect his commitment to understanding and addressing the concerns of Hawai'i residents.

Prior to his tenure at PRP, Mr. Pereira amassed nearly 30 years of experience in communications, including roles as Vice President at CommPac and Communications Director for the City and County of Honolulu. His career also encompasses a distinguished period as an investigative reporter and producer, during which he was recognized as Hawai'i's best political reporter in TV news by The Washington Post's Chris Cillizza of The Fix and earned multiple awards for his journalism.

Mr. Pereira's educational background in political science from the University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu complements his professional experience, providing a solid foundation for understanding the complexities of public policy and governance.

Given his proven track record of effective communication, public engagement, and dedication to the betterment of our community, I am confident that Andrew Pereira will be an invaluable

#### STATE HEADQUARTERS & BUSINESS OFFICES

asset to the Stadium Authority. His appointment promises to enhance the Authority's efforts in serving the people of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Mitchell Tynanes Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF ANDREW PEREIRA'S NOMINATION BY GOVERNOR GREEN TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF THE STADIUM AUTHORITY

Andrew Pereira served as the City and County of Honolulu's communications Director during my second term as Mayor. I worked with him every day of the work week and many weekends addressing the numerous challenges facing our island community. His dedication of hard work and putting out an excellent work product never failed. Andrew was reliable and consistent in his approach to tackling the hard problems and communicating with the media outlets of Hawaii and at times with our nation's major media outlets. He remained steady even under immense pressure and tight deadlines. He has a wide perspective to understanding the issues facing our state and the nation given his years of working for some of the major tv news networks in Hawaii and covering major stories impacting our state. It was during this time, I believe, that he developed a very analytical approach to explaining complex and difficult stories. For example, Andrew's analytical approach helped the City and County of Honolulu when communicating the difficulties faced by Honolulu's controversial rail project and this helped move the project forward to its next stage.

I believe the talents I described above will serve the Stadium Authority well should he be confirmed to the Board of the Stadium Authority. Given the challenges the Stadium Authority is currently facing regarding the building of a new stadium, entertainment and housing complex, Andrew will be able to provide a unique and needed perspective to the Board on how to best communicate these challenges to our broader community. I addition, his deep understanding of the interrelation between politics, development and community will help the Stadium Board in moving forward with building this vast and complex stadium project.

On a personal level, Andrew is a great person to work with. He has a great sense of humor and is fun to be around. He will work collaboratively with the other board members and the staff of the Stadium authority and when necessary, with the broader community.

It is my sincere hope that Andrew Pereira is confirmed to serve on the Board of the Stadium Authority.

Sincerely,

Kirk Caldwell

### 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. 616** 

# SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STADIUM AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANDREW PEREIRA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2028

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

I am honored to submit testimony in strong support of Andrew Pereira's confirmation to the Stadium Authority. His extensive experience in public relations, government affairs, and media communications makes him uniquely suited to contribute to the oversight and strategic direction of the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED).

With over 30 years in communications, Andrew has demonstrated a deep commitment to transparency, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement. As Director of Public Affairs at Pacific Resource Partnership, he provides guidance on government policy at all levels, helping organizations navigate complex legislative environments. His expertise in public awareness campaigns and community outreach will be invaluable in strengthening public trust in Aloha Stadium's redevelopment.

During his tenure as Vice President at COMMPAC, Andrew supported NASED's communications and public relations needs, giving him firsthand knowledge of the challenges and opportunities in stadium redevelopment and land-use planning. Additionally, as Communications

G.M. 616 (EDT) March 11, 2025

Page 2

Director for the City and County of Honolulu, he managed high-level messaging on key municipal

issues, further demonstrating his ability to engage diverse stakeholders effectively.

Andrew's background as an investigative journalist underscores his commitment to

accountability and transparency. His ability to analyze complex issues and communicate with broad

audiences aligns with the Stadium Authority's mission of responsible public resource management.

Beyond his professional qualifications, Andrew is collaborative, ethical, and community-driven. His

track record of working with business leaders, policymakers, and the public makes him a strong

asset to the Stadium Authority. On a personal note, Andrew was always supportive of me when I

was serving as Stadium Manager and always available for consultation and willing to provide

advice and assist with strategy.

For these reasons, I strongly support Andrew Pereira's confirmation and urge the

committee to approve his appointment.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Andrews

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

> Tuesday, March 11, 2025 1:00 pm Confrence Room 229

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support** for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, Andrew Pereira.

I had the privilege of working alongside Andrew at Pacific Resource Partnership on key issues impacting the construction industry. Throughout our collaboration, I witnessed firsthand his professionalism, strategic thinking, and deep commitment to addressing complex challenges with thoughtful and effective solutions.

Andrew has long been a trusted voice in our community, first as a broadcast news producer and reporter, then as a communications professional in city government. In his current role as Director of Public Affairs at Pacific Resource Partnership, he continues to demonstrate his ability to navigate policy discussions, engage stakeholders, and drive meaningful progress.

Andrew is a dedicated and results-driven leader who approaches every challenge with integrity, strategic insight, and a collaborative mindset. His ability to bring people together, analyze complex issues, and communicate effectively will be an asset to the Stadium Authority.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to confirm Andrew Periera to the Stadium Authority.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Charles

Sincerely,

Chris Delaunay



GM616

March 10, 2025

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai
Members of the Senate Committee on
Economic Development & Tourism
Thirty-Third Legislature, Regular Session of 2025

RE: STRONG SUPPORT for GM 616 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW PEREIRA, for a term to expire 06-30-2028

Hearing Date: March 11, 2025, at 1:00 PM

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to express my support for <u>STRONG SUPPORT</u> for GM 616 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Stadium Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW PEREIRA, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

Andrew is an experienced leader and trusted communications professional. Over the past 20+ years, Andrew has developed a solid reputation as organized and collaborative with significant experience in strategic public affairs, community engagement and policy. Indeed, he is highly skilled in bringing together and coordinating various groups. This is key to the NASED project as the Stadium Authority prepares to execute on one of the biggest projects in state history. Andrew has also been instrumental at moving the project along for the past four years.

On a personal note, I have had the pleasure of knowing working with Andrew for several years. Andrews has always had a knack for problem solving and ensuring input from a wide variety of stakeholders. He also has proven his commitment to serve the community and is a person of integrity and productiveness, professionalism, willing to do what it takes to get the job done in an ethical manner. Simply put, Andrews possesses the skills and desire to continue to be a great leader for the NASED project.

For these reasons, I strongly support GM 616 and urge you to confirm Andrews's nomination to the Stadium Authority.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michael L. Iosua, Partner Imanaka Asato, LLLC



March 10, 2025

Chair Lynn DeCoite
Vice Chair Glenn Wakai
Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Thirty-Third Legislature, Regular Session of 2025

RE: GM 616 - Stadium Authority Gubernatorial Nominee Andrew Pereira

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in <u>STRONG SUPPORT</u> for the consideration and confirmation of Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority, as submitted by Governor Josh Green.

For many years, Andrew served as a trusted voice in our community as a broadcast news producer and reporter, then as a communications professional in our city government. In his current role as director of public affairs at Pacific Resource Partnership, we have the privilege of working with him on issues affecting the construction industry and housing.

Andrew is the consummate professional, always thoughtful and deliberate in his approach to communications, problem solving and collaboration.

We respectfully urge the committee to confirm Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority, a position he will dutifully serve for the betterment of our community.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tracy Tonaki

President, D.R. Horton Hawaii

Chair Lynn Decoite
Vice-Chair Glenn Wakai
Committee on Economic Development
Hawaii State Senate

Re: GM 616, Nomination of Andrew Pereira to Stadium Authority

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

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto and I am submitting this testimony in strong support of the nomination of Mr. Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority. Andrew is a highly respected professional with a wealth of experience in media, communications, and public policy, and his commitment to the betterment of our community makes him an outstanding candidate for this position. I have had the honor of knowing and working with him for several years throughout different stages of his career.

His background in journalism and public relations has provided him with an in-depth understanding of the issues that impact our state, including the importance of responsible and strategic development of public infrastructure. His ability to analyze complex matters, engage stakeholders, and effectively communicate issues will be an asset to the Stadium Authority as it navigates the future of Aloha Stadium and other projects.

Furthermore, Andrew's expertise in community engagement ensures that he will be a thoughtful and inclusive decision-maker. He has consistently worked to amplify the voices of Hawaii's residents, businesses, and community members, recognizing that the success of the stadium project relies on collaboration and transparency.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in support of GM 616.



March 10, 2025

Members of the Hawaii State Legislature EDT Committee,

I am Connie Mitchell and I have served as Executive Director at IHS, The Institute for Human Services, Inc. for the last 18 years. IHS is a private, non-profit organization that has delivered a full continuum of homeless services for the last 45+ years. As such, we interface with all forms of media and the government continuously.

I am writing today in support of Andrew Pereira's appointment to the Hawaii Stadium Authority. I have known Mr. Pereira for over 15 years in his many capacities in the communications field, first as a reporter, then in his position at the City and County of Honolulu and other private roles or positions he has held. I have always found him to be respectful, knowledgeable and responsible when it comes to interfacing with individuals with whom he might be interviewing or collaborating.

Most recently, I have had the pleasure of interfacing with Andrew in his current role as Director of Public Affairs at Pacific Resources Partnership. IHS has been the beneficiary of one of PRP's many community service projects, namely providing our shelter keiki with backpacks and school supplies when school begins. This has been a valued partnership and Andrew has played an important role in advocating and encouraging a continued partnership between our two organizations in recent years. That partnership also includes paving a way for formerly homeless youth to enter the construction industry.

The Stadium Authority would be well served to include a seasoned public relations professional like Andrew Pereira among their team members. Please confirm his appointment to the Stadium Authority.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my recommendation on his behalf.

Connie Mitchell Executive Director

IHS, The Institute for Human Services, Inc.

mure mitchell



#### March 11, 2025

Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism Hawai'i State Legislature Hawai'i State Capitol Honolulu, HI

**Subject: Testimony in Support of Andrew Pereira for Stadium Authority Confirmation** 

Dear Chair Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, and Members of the Committee.

I am writing to express my strong support for the confirmation of Andrew Pereira to the Stadium Authority. Andrew's extensive experience in public affairs, media relations, and policy advocacy makes him an outstanding candidate for this position.

With a career spanning over three decades in journalism, communications, and government service, Andrew has demonstrated exceptional leadership, strategic vision, and a deep commitment to the people of Hawai'i. His work as Director of Public Affairs at Pacific Resource Partnership and his tenure as Communications Director for the City and County of Honolulu highlight his ability to navigate complex policy discussions, engage diverse stakeholders, and drive meaningful outcomes.

Andrew's deep understanding of public engagement, infrastructure development, and community needs will be invaluable to the Stadium Authority as it oversees the redevelopment of the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) and ensures that this vital project serves both residents and visitors. His ability to effectively communicate and collaborate with government officials, business leaders, and the public will help ensure transparency and success in the Authority's decision-making processes.

I am confident that Andrew's expertise, integrity, and dedication will greatly benefit the Stadium Authority and the future of Hawai'i's sports and entertainment infrastructure. I strongly urge his confirmation.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Lam, Principal

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