



**HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

STERLING HIGA
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
Executive Director
Hawai'i Community Development Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, April 9, 2025
1:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GM735

**Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawai'i Community
Development Authority (Kakaako District), Gubernatorial Nominee,
MICHAEL CHINA, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee.

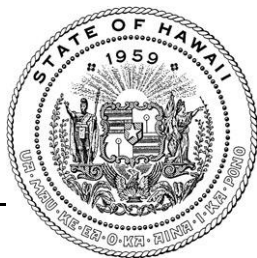
The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports GM735**, which considers the confirmation of **Michael China** as the Kaka'ako business representative on the HCDA Board.

We have had the privilege to work with Mr. China since this committee and the full senate confirmed him to serve on the HCDA board in 2024.

He has strong family values, which are evident in his participation as a board member, and he has expressed that he would like to serve on the HCDA Board as a way to give back to the community. He is an accomplished financial advisor, with his office a few blocks from the HCDA office within the Kakaako Community Development District. Mr. China also brings his professional experience and knowledge as a financial planner to the deliberations of the HCDA Board.

We look forward to continued collaboration with Mr. China as we strive to improve the live, work, and play lifestyle of the Kaka'ako Community Development District.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**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

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Testimony of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, April 9, 2025
1:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 735
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Hawai'i Community Development Authority (Kaka'ako), Gubernatorial Nominee,
MICHAEL CHINA, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and members of the Committee.

I support the confirmation of Mr. Michael China to the Kaka'ako Board of the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA).

Since 2011, Mr. China has been with Ho'ea – Wealth Advisory Group and was ranked as Top Wealth Management Team and Best in State Wealth Advisors for Next Gen by Forbes.

Michael is active in the community and spends his time with McKinley High School's Business Academy and has served as a Varsity DII Head Coach for Punahou School. He has also made positive contributions with Ho'ea – The Foundation.

With Michael's background in finance and real estate and his commitment to the responsible growth of the Kaka'ako district, I believe that he will be an asset to the organization. Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my support for Michael China's confirmation to the Kaka'ako Board of the HCDA.



April 1, 2025

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Water & Land

RE: Governor's Message No. 735
Hearing date: April 14, 2025 at 1:00 pm

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and members of the committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 735 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (Kakaako District), Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL CHINA, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.

Michael is a successful small business owner, with a strong presence in the Kakaako community. Throughout his career, he has developed significant proficiency as a leader and high-level experience in finance and real estate. These assets will be invaluable in helping to direct the responsible growth of the Kakaako area while still maintaining the character of Kakaako that the community strives to protect. In addition, Michael is a person of strong moral character and integrity, and has always exhibited a commitment to stick to the values he has developed being born and raised in Hawaii. Furthermore, having served on the Authority since last year, Michael's experience and contributions have been invaluable to the mission of HCDA.

I know that Michael will be a huge asset, and I strongly urge this committee to confirm Michael to the HCDA board.

Mahalo,

Michael Iosua