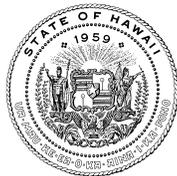


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

CHRISTINE M. SAKUDA
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
LUNA 'ENEHANA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES | KE'ENA HO'OLANA 'ENEHANA

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

February 14, 2025

Re: Governor's Message - GM 641- Chief Information Officer
(CIO) Term Expiration - 12/07/26

Aloha Senator Aquino,

Below are my responses to your questions regarding my nomination by Gov. Josh Green to the position of State Chief Information Officer (CIO) for use during the confirmation process by the Senate.

(1) Why do you wish to be Chief Information Officer (CIO)?

As someone with generations of family in Hawai'i, my desire to become the State CIO is rooted in my deep commitment to enhancing the lives of the people. My aspiration to become the State CIO is driven by a profound dedication to leveraging information technology for business transformation and connecting our communities through IT. I envision IT as a pivotal tool in transforming government services, optimizing operations, and fostering a more connected society. With over 25 years of experience in leading digital transformation initiatives, I have witnessed how technology can revolutionize public services, making them more accountable, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the people of Hawai'i.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of the Chief Information Officer (CIO)?

As the first native Hawaiian woman to take on this role, it is both an honor and a responsibility for me to fulfill the duties of the State CIO in accordance with HRS §27-43.

The State CIO is responsible for organizing, managing, and overseeing statewide information technology governance, developing and implementing IT strategic plans and standards, coordinating IT budget requests, and ensuring compliance with governance processes and enterprise architecture policies.

The following responsibilities support the State CIO's responsibility of developing, implementing and managing the state IT strategic plans and governance:

1. Leading the State's IT community in delivering cost-effective technology solutions to support responsive government services for the people of Hawai'i;
2. Ensuring that investments in technology have maximum enterprise value and make sense both strategically and operationally;
3. Fostering connections across various state departments to promote shared services and economies of scale in IT;
4. Promoting resiliency;
5. Creating more opportunities in government and across the state for technology professionals;
6. Reducing silos and strengthening connections with communities, including the public, the commercial marketplace, other government and nonprofit organizations; and
7. Leading with ALOHA and setting an example for future generations to lead.

The State CIO is also the administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, a division of the Department of Accounting and General Services. The State CIO's role encompasses more than just technology, it is about understanding the IT needs across state government and empowering the state's IT workforce to meet the evolving demands of technology to include IT planning and governance, modernizing IT programs, and operating critical infrastructure, systems, and processes.

- (3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities as Chief Information Officer (CIO) why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as the Chief Information Officer (CIO)?

I have more than 25 years of experience in leading enterprise-level IT initiatives including leading community IT systems development, managing stakeholder relations, and collaborating with IT vendors to implement a range of technology modernization projects.

I have a strong background that aligns with the role of Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Hawai'i.

1. **Extensive Experience in IT Leadership:** I have over 25 years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in both healthcare and government sectors.

This experience is crucial for a CIO, where strategic direction and management of IT resources are key responsibilities.

2. **Dedication to Hawai'i's Community:** I am dedicated to cultivating IT systems that connect community stakeholders to help Hawai'i thrive. This aligns with the role of a CIO, which involves enhancing government services and fostering innovation and efficiency in public service delivery.
3. **Leadership in Government IT Transformation:** As the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), I built momentum inside and outside of state government to transform disparate legacy systems into a modern, integrated delivery-driven system. This experience is directly relevant to the CIO role to oversee the implementation of IT governance and policies that drive digital transformation initiatives.
4. **Strong Community and Civic Involvement:** My previous involvement in various committees and boards, such as the State Information Technology Steering Committee, the TRUE Initiative, the Broadband Hui, the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange, and the Hawai'i Health Connector demonstrates my commitment to improving IT governance and secure access to information systems. This experience is valuable for a CIO to collaborate with state departments and agencies to align IT strategies with the overall goals of the state.
5. **Proven Track Record in IT Project Management:** My work with the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE) and the Hawai'i Primary Care Association (HPCA) showcases my ability to manage large-scale IT projects and initiatives. This experience is essential for a CIO in overseeing the implementation of IT policies and ensuring the security and privacy of state data.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

Given my deep connection to Hawai'i, I am aware of the state's unique challenges and opportunities. It is with a commitment to the spirit of ALOHA that I aim to enhance government operational excellence through trusted partnerships, shared resources, and technology leadership by:

- Ensuring critical IT infrastructure and services are reliable and secure, and
- Promoting innovative use of technology and data across the executive branch.

Specific goals informed by the State IT Strategic Plan include:

1. **Optimize Process Efficiency** - by enhancing digital services for constituents,

integrating IT planning and budgeting, and improving business processes;

2. **Modernize Systems** - by enhancing IT service management, setting architecture standards, and improving vendor delivery;
3. **Maximize the Value of Shared Services** - by establishing a strategy for shared services, cost-sharing, managing a statewide IT service catalog, and optimizing the ERP system to enhance business capabilities;
4. **Provide Business Continuity and Resilience** - by identifying and mitigating risks related to legacy applications, non-digital processes, Internet connectivity, and recovery efforts;
5. **Build a Modern IT Workforce** - by improving HR processes, creating career opportunities, updating IT job classifications and pay scales, and planning long-term workforce needs;
6. **Enhance Cybersecurity Protection** - by protecting critical infrastructure and data, fostering inter-departmental collaboration, providing training, and implementing security standards; and
7. **Optimize the Responsible Use of Data and AI** - by protecting privacy, ensuring security and compliance, improving quality and reliability, and promoting accessibility, transparency, equity, and ethical practices.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit as the Chief Information Officer (CIO)?

- **Strategic Leadership:** I have experience leading organizations and initiatives, including my role as the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange. My work includes driving digital transformation and advocating for a digital state government that is accessible, accountable, and responsive to the people of Hawai'i;
- **Accountable Partnerships:** Developing partnerships across various departments and stakeholders is critical for success. A constant theme throughout my career is the ability to partner with key stakeholders to implement a unified vision. I've lead by encouraging collaboration on initiatives where standardization, data-sharing, and economics benefit from doing things together; and
- **Value-Driven Innovation:** My commitment to prioritizing innovations that deliver the most value to the business and its customers highlights my innovative mindset.

- (6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit as the Chief Information Officer (CIO)?

As the executive director of the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE) I successfully established the HHIE as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and managed two multi-year statewide federally funded contracts worth \$12M. I also implemented a statewide clinical health information exchange network that supported over 1,200 users and delivered Health IT consulting services to more than 800 healthcare providers.

My ability to transition the organization from a federally-funded dependency model to a fee-for-service model demonstrates my strategic planning and financial management skills. Additionally, my work on the state Health Care Privacy Harmonization Act, which aligns state health information privacy laws with federal laws, showcases my legislative advocacy and policy development expertise.

These experiences highlight my capability to lead complex projects, manage large budgets, and navigate regulatory environments, all of which are crucial for driving IT transformation and improving public services in the state.

- (7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service as the Chief Information Officer (CIO)? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interests. If a conflict of interest were to arise, I would cooperate with leadership and relevant stakeholders to ensure transparency and honesty in all my actions. I would take responsibility for any potential conflicts and communicate openly with my leadership and team.



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 Hawai'i

Before the
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224, and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 641

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology:

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 641, as corrected by Governor's Message No. 652, appointing Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) touches every corner of state government, providing information technology (IT) governance and computer and telecommunication services to the executive branch. In addition to managing these services, ETS also leads innovative technology projects and practices to strengthen transparency, efficiency, and accountability across the State.

Christine Sakuda brings extensive experience developing and implementing IT solutions, including in tandem with the State. As executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a non-profit that supports technology modernization initiatives within state government, Sakuda worked alongside business and IT leaders to identify and address the State's systemic technology challenges. Throughout her time at THG, Sakuda demonstrated a deep commitment to developing the state leadership necessary to support an efficient, modern government, hosting trainings, workshops, and webinars to increase the State's capacity to manage IT resources and implement complex modernization projects. Sakuda's dedication to not just process and technology but the people that drive them will ensure that IT policies and initiatives are not only functional and cost-effective but accessible and user-friendly.

Testimony of Office of the Governor
Governor's Message No. 641
March 7, 2025
Page 2

Now as the State's current Chief Information Officer, Sakuda continues to drive forward a vision of a modern IT ecosystem centered on supporting the State's workforce and priorities. Her collaboration with state departments and agencies lays a strong groundwork for more efficient, interconnected public service delivery, and her experience leading modernization efforts is an invaluable asset to the State as it works to modernize a number of its outdated legacy systems. As her first six months in office have shown, Sakuda possesses the leadership, expertise, and experience to strategically guide the State's IT resources to meet the growing demands of the 21st century. For these reasons, we urge the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Governor's Message No. 641, as corrected by Governor's Message No. 652.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

February 27, 2025

To: The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Labor and Technology Committee

Date: Friday, March 7, 2025
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 224, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: G.M. 641, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

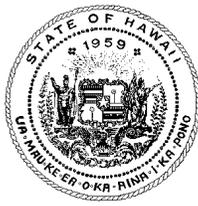
The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Ms. Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Since 1998, Ms. Sakuda has been a technologist who has analyzed and strategized efforts to improve information technology (IT) programs and systems in telemedicine, telehealth and transformation initiatives focused on people and streamlining processes. She leads with strategic direction and possesses the knowledge and experience to successfully lead the ETS.

Ms. Sakuda's strength is that she is keenly aware of the challenges that Hawaii faces today and those that we will most likely face in the future and the critical role that IT can play in meeting those challenges. She is particularly well qualified and an ideal selection. Her experience gives her a unique perspective to address the IT challenges of the State. We have had the honor of building a strong partnership with her and we continue to appreciate her thoughtful and diligent analysis of our IT projects like the Unemployment Insurance modernization and Disability Compensation Division's Electronic Case Management System. We are certain that her experience, expertise, and dedication will be an asset to the State and as such, we unconditionally support her appointment and urge you to confirm her.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 641.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
AND REHABILITATION**
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'omalu Kalaima
a Ho'oponopono Ola*
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Pamela J. Sturz
Deputy Director
Correctional Institutions

Sanna Muñoz
Deputy Director
Rehabilitation Services
and
Programs

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 641
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF CHRISTINE SAKUDA
TO THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES.

by
Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Friday, March 7, 2025; 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Via Video Conference

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

I submit testimony in very strong support of the nomination and confirmation of Christine Sakuda to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, for a term ending December 7, 2026. Ms. Sakuda has a diverse and wide-reaching work background in the technology field.

Ms. Sakuda's previous work experience as the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE), Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), and in her current position as the Chief Information Officer for the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) make her the ideal candidate to serve the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

She possesses prerequisite expertise, in-depth knowledge, honed leadership and managerial skills, interpersonal, and decision-making skills required for the position.

I strongly urge the committee to recommend advice and consent for this highly qualified nominee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in very strong support for Governor's Message No. 641 and Ms. Sakuda.



JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

BRIAN K. FURUTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

Statement of
BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
GM641 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-7-2026. (Position corrected by GM652)

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and the members of the committee:

The Department of Human Resources Development (HRD) supports the nomination and confirmation of Ms. Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Ms. Sakuda is well-qualified to lead in this capacity as she has a proven track record of working with the public sector and other large organizations in Hawaii to make them more effective through the strategic use of technology. Her professional background and experiences as the Executive Director at Transform Hawaii Government and the Hawaii Health Information Exchange have afforded her the opportunity to gain extensive knowledge of Hawaii's state and local government and its public policy as it relates to technology. This will serve the state well today and in the future.

We look forward to collaborating closely with Ms. Sakuda on several current and future projects involving our departments.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



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

Date: 03/07/2025

Time: 03:00 PM

Location: CR 224 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Labor and Technology

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Bill Title: GM 0641 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. (Position corrected by GM652)

Purpose of Bill:

Department's Position:

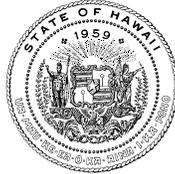
The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) strongly supports the nomination of Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer. Ms. Sakuda possesses over twenty years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in health care and government. She is dedicated to cultivating IT systems that connect community stakeholders to help Hawaii thrive.

Ms. Sakuda's career demonstrates her ability to lead and execute complex IT initiatives. As the Executive Director at Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), she built momentum to transform the state's disparate legacy systems into a modern, integrated, delivery-driven government. She collaborated with business and IT leadership to alleviate systemic challenges, provided early capital for key IT transformation initiatives, built leadership capacity within the state IT workforce, and advocated for key legislative policies that advanced IT transformation. Her prior role as the Executive Director for the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE) further illustrates her capacity to establish and lead organizations, manage substantial contracts, implement governance models, and develop key initiatives, including a statewide clinical health information exchange network.

Ms. Sakuda's extensive involvement in community and civic activities, including her current role as Chair of the State Information Technology Steering Committee, the Information Privacy & Security Council, and the Access Hawaii Committee, underscores her commitment to public service. Her experience as an Omidyar Fellow at the Aspen Institute and her participation in the Hawai'i Executive Collaborative - TRUE Initiative further demonstrate her leadership capabilities and collaborative approach. Given her wealth of experience, leadership skills, and dedication to the betterment of

Hawaii, the Department strongly recommends the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as the state's Chief Information Officer.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

MARCH 7, 2025, 3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 641

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 641.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) **supports** the Governor's nomination of Christine Sakuda to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). Ms. Sakuda will serve as the State of Hawai'i Chief Information Officer (CIO) leading ETS which is a DAGS division. Her background, leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in healthcare and government for the past twenty years, makes her an excellent choice for the CIO position.

Ms. Sakuda's career in IT transformation initiatives started with Akimeka, LLC serving as marketing/training director and then as operation manager. She then became

information officer and telehealth director for the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE). Ms. Sakuda then became the first executive director for the HHIE followed by becoming the first executive director for Transform Hawai'i Government (THG). Her leadership in both HHIE and THG was instrumental in moving forward major IT transformation initiatives that benefit the public and the State of Hawai'i.

Having worked closely with Ms. Sakuda over the past few years, I've found her to be professional, knowledgeable, collaborative, and experienced. She approaches every challenge as an opportunity always searching for ways to successfully navigate through complex issues. Her past experience has provided her the necessary foundation to lead the state in the CIO role particularly as we tackle major transformation projects such as replacing the 50+ year old financial management system (FAMIS), upgrading our HR/Payroll system, and other ERP-related initiatives. These major projects require a CIO that is forward-thinking, flexible, and willing to go the extra mile to support not just the team but the entire organization. Christine embodies these traits and has the prerequisite skills to be that type of leader in this role.

Ms. Sakuda's leadership, knowledge, work experience and community service makes her an ideal candidate to serve as the State Chief Information Officer. She is passionate about and dedicated to cultivating IT-systems that connect community stakeholders together to help Hawai'i thrive. It is for these reasons that I humbly request your consideration and vote in support of her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 641
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE POSITION
OF CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
CHRISTINE MAII SAKUDA
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 7, 2026

Governor's Message 641 submits for consideration and confirmation, Christine Maii Sakuda, to the position of Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Hawai'i. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this nomination.**

Ms. Sakuda brings over 20 years of expertise in IT modernization, including leadership roles in both the public and private sectors. As the first female Native Hawaiian CIO, she is an experienced strategist dedicated to enhancing government technology and data security. Her previous leadership at Transform Hawai'i Government and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange demonstrates her ability to drive innovation, improve public services, and foster collaboration across agencies.

Ms. Sakuda also chairs the State Information Technology Steering Committee, the Information Privacy & Security Council, and the Access Hawai'i Committee, further underscoring her deep commitment to Hawai'i's digital future.

Her expertise, leadership, and dedication make her an outstanding choice for CIO. Under Ms. Sakuda's leadership, the DLNR IT Office anticipates continuing collaboration with ETS to enhance and secure department services. We respectfully urge the Committee to confirm her nomination.

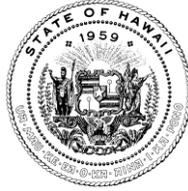
Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Christine Maii Sakuda.

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

**Testimony of
DEAN I HAZAMA
Deputy Director for the
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
Conference Room 224**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 641, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026**

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Christine Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I have known and had the pleasure of working with Ms. Sakuda for many years in her role as Executive Director for Transform Hawai'i Government (THG). Her experience in working with State agencies and other stakeholders is what the Office of Enterprise Technology Services and State need in moving forward with various IT initiatives needed to better serve the professionals, businesses and the citizens of Hawai'i. In addition, her familiarization in working with other departments and the Legislature will be invaluable for continuing positive relationships required as the State's Chief Information Officer.

Christine Sakuda has always demonstrated her willingness to help those in need, is unafraid to tackle the tough issues but most importantly, she is the best person for this position.

As Governor Green's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our State in a direct and forthright manner, she will be an integral part of the team to achieve the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII



KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

TESTIMONY OF KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
Conference Room 224

GM 641 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Health (DOH) **supports** GM641, relating to the consideration and confirmation of Ms. Christine Sakuda's appointment as Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Ms. Sakuda's extensive experience in information technology (IT), including health IT, spans over 20 years in which she has led numerous organizations, such as the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange, in transforming IT systems to connect community stakeholders, such as health care providers and federally qualified health centers statewide.

DOH respectfully asks for your consideration and support of Ms. Sakuda's nomination to continue her work at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Her expertise in information technology systems and experience in working with state and federal governments is an asset to the State.



STATE OF HAWAII

Executive Office on Early Learning

Ke'ena Ho'okele Ho'ona'auao Pae Kamali'i o Hawai'i Moku'aina
2759 South King Street, Room C6
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

TO: Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

FROM: Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: Testimony on G.M. No. 641 – Christine Sakuda, Chief Information Officer,
Office of Enterprise Technology Services

Committee: LBT
Date: Friday, March 7, 2025
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Conference Room 224

Executive Office on Early Learning's Position: **SUPPORT**

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) offers the following comments in support of the appointment of Ms. Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

As the office responsible for coordinating Hawai'i's early learning system – which spans multiple programs across various departments – collaboration with state agencies is essential to our mission. A critical component of that collaboration is access to empirical data to inform policy decisions that will strengthen Hawai'i's early learning system. The EOEL appreciates Ms. Sakuda's support for statewide data integration and a governance framework, and we look forward to partnering with ETS on these initiatives under her leadership.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these comments in support of Ms. Sakuda's confirmation as the Chief Information Officer.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA
Office of the Director
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

March 4, 2025

TO: The Honorable Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **GM 641- Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. (Position corrected by GM652)**

Hearing: March 7, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the Governor's nomination of Christine Sakuda as State's Chief Information Officer, with the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

PURPOSE: The duties of the Chief Information Officer are to organize, manage, and oversee statewide information technology governance per sections 27-43, 27-43.5, and 27-43.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Governor Green appointed Ms. Sakuda as the State's Chief Information Officer in August 2024. Ms. Sakuda has been a strong advocate for change and innovation. Her professional experience and leadership roles as the Executive Director of Transform Hawaii and Hawaii Health Information Exchange, her organizational planning work, and her participation on information and data related committees and working groups, provide a broad foundation and knowledge base upon which to lead departments as the State's Chief Information Officer.

March 4, 2025

Page 2

DHS has several major IT modernization projects ongoing that aim to transform our eligibility systems to improve access to benefits, provide the human services workforce with the necessary technology to address residents' complex needs, and provide oversight to improve program efficiencies. DHS looks forward to working with Ms. Sakuda and continuing the partnership with the Office of Enterprise Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



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

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

Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
GM 641
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee,
CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.**

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

I support the confirmation of Ms. Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

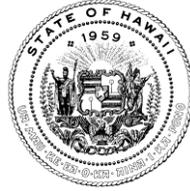
Since being appointed to the role as Chief Information Officer for the State of Hawai'i, Ms. Sakuda has provided the strategic direction to drive digital transformation that enhances our government. Most recently, Christine was the Executive Director at Transform Hawai'i Government where she collaborated with businesses and leaders to alleviate systemic challenges and implemented change management and communications strategies to support government transformation.

Christine has also dedicated much of her time to serving on a number of committees and boards, including the State Information Technology Steering Committee, Information Privacy & Security Council, Access Hawai'i Committee, and Hawai'i Executive Collaborative TRUE Initiative, among others, which demonstrates her commitment to helping Hawai'i thrive.

Testimony of James Kunane Tokioka
GM 641
March 7, 2025
Page 2

Christine has more than twenty years of experience leading transformation initiatives and is dedicated to cultivating systems that connect stakeholders and fostering innovation and efficiency in public service.

For these reasons, I offer my strong support for Ms. Christine Sakuda's confirmation as Chief Information Officer at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services and look forward to continued collaboration.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

Testimony of Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
Conference Room 224, and Via Videoconference

G.M. 641 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the committee:

My name is Nadine Y. Ando, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the confirmation of Christine Sakuda to Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Christine Sakuda brings over 20 years of experience leading IT transformation initiatives in both the healthcare and government sectors. In her current role as Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, she sets the strategic direction and manages the state's IT resources. She oversees the implementation of IT policies, ensuring the security and privacy of state data, and drives digital transformation initiatives to enhance government services. This experience highlights her strong leadership capabilities in managing government agencies.

Prior to her role as CIO, Ms. Sakuda served as the Director of Transform Hawaii Government (THG), where she led efforts to modernize public services through innovative technology, processes, and leadership. Under her direction, THG successfully transformed digital government services, addressed systemic challenges, and advocated for key legislative policies to advance IT transformation across the state.

Before her tenure at THG, Ms. Sakuda was the Executive Director of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, where she played a critical role in implementing electronic health records and establishing a statewide health information exchange system. Her ability to lead complex projects and foster collaboration across sectors has consistently produced impactful results for Hawaii's public services.

Ms. Sakuda's qualifications for the CIO position are exemplary. She holds an MBA from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Santa Clara University. Additionally, she is an Omidyar Fellow, serves on the Executive Committee of the TRUE Initiative, and is the Vice Chair of the State's Information Technology Steering Committee. These accomplishments reflect her deep expertise and commitment to driving progress in Hawaii's technology landscape.

Ms. Sakuda has demonstrated a strong commitment to improving the Enterprise Technology Services ETS and advancing the state's IT infrastructure. Her extensive experience, leadership, and proven track record of success make her an ideal candidate for the position of Chief Information Officer.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Ka 'Oihana 'Auhau
P.O. BOX 259

HONOLULU, HAWAII'1 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

TESTIMONY OF
KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

G.M. 641, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

DATE: Friday, March 7, 2025
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 224

Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Ms. Sakuda has over 20 years of experience as a leader in enterprise information technology (IT), with previous roles as the Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government and Executive Director of the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange.

Since August 2024, Ms. Sakuda has been serving as the Chief Information Officer at ETS, during which time she has led the strategic direction and management of the State's IT resources, overseen the implementation of IT policies, ensured data security and privacy, and collaborated with State departments, including the Department of Taxation, in furtherance of aligning the State's IT goals.

I am confident that Ms. Sakuda has the knowledge, experience, and leadership skills to effectively serve as the Chief Information Officer. I therefore urge the Committee to confirm Ms. Sakuda's appointment. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 641.



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
elections.hawaii.gov

SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

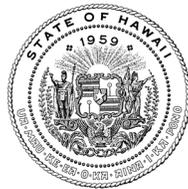
TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 641
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

March 7, 2025

Chair Aquino and members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Christine Sakuda.

I had the privilege of working with Ms. Sakuda when she was at Transform Hawaii Government. She has shown herself to be knowledgeable as well as committed to modernizing our legacy computer systems. Ms. Sakuda will bring her experience and expertise to continue the modernization of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, which plays an integral role in the cybersecurity and success of Hawaii's elections. Their office has provided installation, monitoring, equipment, and technical support throughout the election process.

We look forward to working with Ms. Sakuda and the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, and respectfully ask for your consideration in confirming Ms. Sakuda. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Ms. Sakuda as Chief Information Officer for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 641

March 7, 2025
3:00 p.m.
Room 224 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Christine Sakuda to the position of chief information officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. I am working with Christine Sakuda in my professional capacity as Director of Finance.

Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Ms. Sakuda is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Ms. Sakuda has been serving as the chief information officer at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services since August 2024. Prior to that, she was the Executive Director at Transform Hawai'i Government for seven years. She has nearly 20 years of experience leading IT transformation initiatives in healthcare and government. Her work experience will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
Director

VACANT
Deputy Director
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 641
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF CHRISTINE SAKUDA
TO BE THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER FOR
THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

By

Mike Lambert, Director

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Senator Henry J. C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Friday, March 7, 2025; 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 224 & Via Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Christine Sakuda to be the Chief Information Officer, The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). Ms. Sakuda has extensive work experience in government and community non-profit organizations focusing on clinical health information exchange network. Her experience in leadership positions and positive changes implemented by her resulted in the organization's operation more efficient makes Ms. Sakuda more than qualified to lead ETS.

Ms. Sakuda's impressive educational accomplishments and vast organizational and community accolades deserves the support and trust in her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 641 and Ms. Christine Sakuda.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 641

March 7, 2025
3:00 p.m.
Room 224 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the appointment of Christine Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. In my capacity as Deputy Finance Director, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Christine in both her current capacity as State CIO, as well as her former capacity as Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government.

Christine is an incredibly accomplished and capable professional who has made a significant impact in every position she has held. She has over 20 years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in healthcare and government, including implementing the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange, a statewide clinical health network. In her more recent position as Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government, she played a pivotal role with state agencies, including the Department of Budget and Finance, in advancing state IT transformation projects.

As a leader, Christine has been exceptional. One of her most remarkable attributes is her visionary and transformational leadership. She has a unique ability in fostering collaboration amongst diverse teams and inspiring others. She is both driven and compassionate, and she understands the importance of teambuilding and buy-in

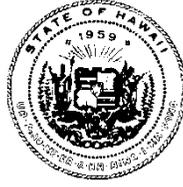
across multiple agencies in being able to successfully deliver statewide technology services and improvements.

I have had ample opportunity to work with Christine on modernizing our Enterprise Financial System, updating various state modernization plans, and coordinating statewide IT initiatives. I find her leadership to be very direct and clear, yet also empowering to the staff and teams that she interfaces with. She is very effective in driving innovation and growth yet has an approachable and empathetic demeanor which fosters trust and collaboration.

The role of CIO can be very challenging, especially as the state seeks to modernize many of its outdated systems. Christine is able to inspire and motivate those around her, set direction, and navigate challenges with grace and strategic insight. I am confident that her confirmation as the State's CIO will bring continued and much needed progress and innovation to our state's IT landscape, and I have no doubt that she has and will continue to be an outstanding CIO for the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:

25:OED

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 PM
Conference Room 224, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 641

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER OF THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026**

Honorable Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee on Labor and Technology, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 641, to consider and confirm Ms. Christine Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I am honored to be working alongside with her in Governor Green's Administration. She is an integral part of a team that is committed to addressing the many issues facing our State and I believe that she will be able to effectively fulfill her role through her life experiences and professional expertise.

There is no doubt in my mind that she will continue to bring a fresh perspective on how to deliver services, improve the experience of those we serve, and strive to maximize taxpayer dollars efficiently and effectively.

The HPHA urges the Committee to pass GM 641 and confirm Ms. Christine Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STEPHEN F. LOGAN
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

PHILLIP L. MALLORY
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GM 641

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

BY

MAJOR GENERAL STEPHEN F. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on GM641 in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Ms. Christine Sakuda's appointment to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Ms. Sakuda has a combined 35 years of experience leading information technology transformation initiatives in government and non-profit organizations and brings invaluable experience and expertise as the Chief Information Officer to the State. She has already been providing strategic direction and management of the state's IT resources and has been overseeing the implementation of the state's IT policies, data security and digital transformation since the middle of last year. Ms. Sakuda will continue to put the state on the right path to ensure secure and efficient delivery of IT-related public services that align and support the Governor's priorities.

My team and I have already been seamlessly working with Ms. Sakuda. She has been particularly instrumental in supporting our efforts to improve the overall cyber security posture of our department by helping us retire our legacy active directory infrastructure and migrate our data to be aligned with the state's strategic plan. I am confident in Ms. Sakuda's ability to collaborate with state departments and agencies, coordinate and establish complicated contracts, and manage and lead large

organizations, and under her leadership ETS will be postured and prepared to handle the known and unknown information challenges and threats the state will face in our future.

Most importantly, I believe Ms. Sakuda to be a person of integrity and ethical responsibility, and someone who is committed to public service. Her leadership will undoubtedly strengthen ETS and enhance the state as a whole, and I would be honored to work alongside her under Governor Green.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

MG Stephen F. Logan, Stephen.f.logan@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1001



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 7, 2025
3:00 P.M.
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
State Capitol

In consideration of
Governor's Message 641
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chief Information Officer, Office of
Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine Sakuda

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Ms. Sakuda is a proven leader with over two decades of experience in IT transformation across healthcare, government, and nonprofit sectors. Her leadership at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) has been instrumental in driving strategic IT initiatives, ensuring data security, and fostering collaboration among state agencies. Prior to this role, she successfully led Transform Hawai'i Government (THG) and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE), spearheading initiatives that strengthened IT infrastructure, streamlined operations, and improved data integration across sectors.

HDOT recognizes the critical role of strong IT governance in transportation systems, and we are confident that Ms. Sakuda's expertise will further efforts to improve efficiency, security, and accessibility in state operations. Her experience, vision, and dedication to public service make her exceptionally qualified to lead Hawai'i's IT transformation.

We respectfully urge the Committee to confirm her appointment.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEAN M. MATSUKAWA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

**FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025
3:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224 & VIDEOCONFERENCE**

GOVERNORS MESSAGE NO. 641

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Chief Information Officer, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chairperson Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer (CIO). Christine has over 20 years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives and in her current role as the Acting CIO, she has helped to infuse a culture of collaboration throughout her team and into the broader Department.

Respectfully requesting your vote to confirm the nomination of Christine Sakuda to serve as the CIO. She is qualified, well-respected, and the right person for the position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Tel: (808) 586-0554
email: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>

TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
MARCH 7, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 641

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 641. The State Procurement Office (SPO) is in **strong support** of the nomination of Christine Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

The SPO has the honor of its partnership with Ms. Sakuda since her August 2024 appointment to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, toward the transformation of technology systems and business processes. As the CIO, she has demonstrated exceptional leadership in driving initiatives to modernize management processes for the State of Hawaii.

With 25 years of experience in leading enterprise-level IT initiatives, Ms. Sakuda brings a wealth of expertise. Her background includes overseeing community IT systems development, managing stakeholder relationships, and collaborating with IT vendors to implement a wide range of technology modernization projects. In her previous role as the Executive Director of Transform Hawaii Government, she was committed to transforming the State into a more integrated and delivery-focused entity.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that your committee confirm Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 641.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STEPHEN F. LOGAN
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

PHILLIP L. MALLORY
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GM 641

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

BY

BRIGADIER GENERAL PHILLIP L. MALLORY
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

MARCH 3, 2025

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on GM641 in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Ms. Christine Sakuda's appointment to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Ms. Sakuda has a combined 35 years of experience leading information technology transformation initiatives in government and non-profit organizations and brings invaluable experience and expertise as the Chief Information Officer to the State. She has already been providing strategic direction and management of the state's IT resources and has been overseeing the implementation of the state's IT policies, data security and digital transformation since the middle of last year. Ms. Sakuda will continue to put the state on the right path to ensure secure and efficient delivery of IT-related public services that align and support the Governor's priorities.

The Hawaii Department of Defense has already been seamlessly working with Ms. Sakuda. She has been particularly instrumental in supporting our efforts to improve the overall cyber security posture of our department by helping us retire our legacy active directory infrastructure and migrate our data to be aligned with the state's strategic plan. I am confident in Ms. Sakuda's ability to collaborate with state departments and agencies, coordinate and establish complicated contracts, and manage and lead large organizations, and under her leadership ETS will be postured

and prepared to handle the known and unknown information challenges and threats the state will face in our future.

Most importantly, I believe Ms. Sakuda to be a person of integrity and ethical responsibility, and someone who is committed to public service. Her leadership will undoubtedly strengthen ETS and enhance the state and I would be honored to work alongside her under Governor Green.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Brig Gen Phillip L. Mallory, Phillip.L.mallory@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1003

JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Ka 'Oihana 'Auhau
P.O. BOX 259

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

**TESTIMONY OF
GARY S. SUGANUMA, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION**

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

In consideration of G.M No. 641

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine Sakuda

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

DATE: Friday, March 7, 2025
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 224

Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

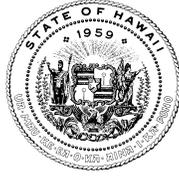
Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Ms. Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I believe Ms. Sakuda's past experience with IT transformation initiatives, including her leadership role as the Executive Director of Transform Hawaii Government, makes her an excellent candidate to lead ETS. I have personally met with Ms. Sakuda to discuss the Department of Taxation's IT goals and needs and found her to be extremely helpful, knowledgeable and innovative. Our Department's IT Officer has also worked with Ms. Sakuda during her time at Transform Hawaii Government and found her to have a strong understanding of department IT challenges, as well as being highly motivated to help address those issues. I have no doubt that Ms. Sakuda will do a great job leading ETS.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 641.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawaii'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawaii'i*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRPERSON, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. LAMBERT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawaii'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
HEARING ON MARCH 7, 2025 AT 3:00PM IN CR 224**

IN SUPPORT OF

GM 641

for consideration and confirmation to the
Office of Enterprise Technology Services,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA,
for a term to expire 12-07-2026

March 6, 2025

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands looks forward to working with Christine Sakuda and we respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



March 7, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Re: GM 641 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of GM 641, the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer for the State of Hawaii.

I have known Christine for over 15 years, having served as a founding board member for the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE) while she served as its executive director. Her work in the healthcare space has been innovative and vital to addressing this everchanging landscape. Both in my personal and professional capacity, I find Christine to be diligent, community minded, and compassionate.

With more than 20 years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in healthcare and government, Ms. Sakuda has overseen critical projects including the establishment of the HHIE and addressing the critical challenge of universal broadband access. She also served on the State's transition taskforce for the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Ms. Sakuda holds a Japan Executive MBA from the University of Hawaii and a BS in Marketing from Santa Clara University. Her professional experience combined with her educational background give her the perfect mix of skills and leadership required to serve as the State's CIO. She is adept at navigating complex issues that require innovative solutions while building consensus and trust amongst stakeholders.

Thank you for the opportunity to support GM 641. We appreciate your consideration of Christine Sakuda for her confirmation as CIO of the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Diesman
Senior Vice President
Government Policy and Advocacy



holomua

COLLABORATIVE

OUR MISSION

To support and advance public policies that make Hawai'i affordable for all working families.

OUR VISION

Collaborative, sustainable, and evidence-based public policies that create a diverse and sustainable Hawai'i economy, an abundance of quality job opportunities, and a future where all working families living in Hawai'i can thrive.

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Meli James, *Board Chair*
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Josh Wisch
President & Executive Director

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HolomuaCollaborative.org

Page 1 of 2

Committee: Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Bill Number: GM 641 – Christine Sakuda, Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services
Hearing Date and Time: March 07, 2025, 3:00pm (Room 224)
Re: Testimony of Holomua Collaborative – Support

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support** of GM 641, and the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Holomua Collaborative and its related organization Holomua Collective are dedicated to working toward solutions that keep local working families in Hawai'i. A significant component of our efforts involves bringing together leaders from the government, non-profit, for-profit, and labor sectors to identify areas for collaboration and have in-depth, meaningful discussions about how to reduce the high cost of living in the state. We then work to translate these discussions into tangible, actionable solutions.

In her roles as the Chief Information Officer and at Transform Hawai'i Government before that, Ms. Sakuda has been an important part of the discussions surrounding government modernization and efficiency.

One of the cornerstone areas of our work is creating a thriving government for all working families. This is premised on the idea that a thriving government is an essential part of addressing our cost-of-living issues. ETS plays a crucial role in ensuring the state operates efficiently, transparently, and effectively. As a leader, Ms. Sakuda brings extensive executive experience and knowledge of information technology, with a collaborative leadership style that fosters meaningful change. She has seen and worked with government systems both internally and externally, a perspective that will benefit her in this role.

Ms. Sakuda's qualifications are extensive. She has served as Executive Director for the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange and Information Officer for the Hawai'i Primary Care Association. Before leading ETS, she was the Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government, where she worked to accelerate government business and IT transformation. Additionally, her volunteer work—including as a founding board member of TRUE Initiative and contributions to the Hawai'i Health Connector and Hawai'i Health Information Exchange—demonstrates her long-standing commitment to leveraging technology for public benefit.

With her strong executive leadership and technology expertise, Ms. Sakuda is well-suited to continue leading ETS. Since stepping into the role in August 2024 she has demonstrated the skills and vision necessary to modernize Hawai'i's technology systems for the 21st century.



We value servant leadership in Hawai'i and Ms. Sakuda exemplifies this principle. She is knowledgeable yet humble, decisive yet collaborative, and always credits her team's success. Her dedication to the community is evident through her participation in various task forces, steering committees, and cultural organizations such as Hālau Hula Kamamolikolehua.

Ms. Sakuda is precisely the leader ETS needs to drive innovation and modernization in state government. We strongly endorse her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joshua Wisch', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Joshua Wisch
President & Executive Director



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Labor and Technology

Testimony By
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 7, 2025

**GM 641 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO unequivocally support the appointment of Christine Maii Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer of the Hawaii Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Ms. Sakuda has a solid background in information technology (IT) in both the public and private sectors in Hawaii and is an excellent choice to assist in leading our state as we move to transform our IT infrastructure. Her State experience, coupled with her work with the non-profit world, make her the ideal candidate to help lead our state forward.

I have had the distinct pleasure of serving with Ms. Sakuda as one of the original board members of Transform Hawaii Government (THG), where she served as Executive Director. During her tenure at THG, our organization established itself as an effective advocate of upgrading the State's IT capacity, as well as encourage continued funding for the transformation of Hawaii's IT. Beyond demonstrating her expertise in IT matters, Ms. Sakuda proved to be a visionary leader and skilled in developing relationships to advance her cause. In short, Ms. Sakuda proved to be someone who was easy to work with, but more importantly one who could lead and gain the support of others.

Our state is working to transform our IT capacity and abilities, and I strongly believe that Ms. Sakuda is the kind of leader that we need. On behalf of the HGEA, as well as on a personal basis, I offer our unequivocal support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as Chief Information Officer and request the favorable advice and consent of the Senate for this appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director



**Testimony in Support of Christine Sakuta, Gubernatorial Nominee
Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services, State of
Hawaii
Senate Labor and Technology Committee, March 7, 2025**

Dear Honorable Senate Labor and Technology Committee Members,

I am honored to provide my strong recommendation for Christine Sakuta, Gubernatorial Nominee, to serve as State of Hawaii Office of Enterprise Technology Services Chief Information Officer. Over the course of her career, Christine has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership in information technology, innovative problem-solving, and a deep commitment to public service, with over twenty years of experience successfully leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in health care and government.

Christine possesses a rare combination of technical expertise and strategic vision. Her ability to modernize IT systems, streamline operations, and ensure data security is well known. Her efforts have consistently resulted in improved efficiency, cost savings, and enhanced user experiences in the organizations she has served. She understands the unique challenges of public-sector IT infrastructure and has proven her ability to work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders to deliver results.

Beyond her technical accomplishments, Christine is a leader who inspires trust and confidence. She is known for fostering a culture of innovation and inclusion, encouraging her teams to think creatively and work cohesively toward common goals. Her strong communication skills and forward-thinking mindset make her particularly well-suited to lead the State of Hawaii's digital transformation efforts and to ensure that the State's IT systems are secure, resilient, and aligned with the needs of its residents.

As the State of Hawaii seeks to modernize and strengthen its information technology infrastructure, Christine Sakuta is the ideal candidate to lead these efforts. Her track record of success, combined with her deep commitment to serving her community, makes her the perfect choice for the role of Chief Information Officer.

Thank you for considering this testimony in support of Christine Sakuta. I have every confidence that her leadership will bring significant value to the State of Hawaii and its citizens.

Sincerely,
Deborah Giles
Executive Director



SERVCO PACIFIC INC.
2850 PUKOLOA ST. STE. 300
HONOLULU, HI 96819 USA

O. 808.564.1300
F. 808.564.1393

SERVCO.COM

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Friday, March 7, 2025; 3:00 P.M.
Conference room 224 & Videoconference

RE: GM 641 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026 – In Support

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

I support the nomination and confirmation of Christine Sakuda as the Hawaii State Chief Information Officer (CIO). Christine's extensive experience in IT transformation, coupled with her proven leadership in both the public and non-profit sectors, makes her exceptionally qualified for this crucial role. Her deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities facing our state, particularly in connecting community stakeholders through innovative IT solutions, will be invaluable as she leads the strategic direction and management of Hawaii's IT resources.

As a TRUE Board member, I have had the privilege of working with Christine and witnessed her dedication, collaborative spirit, and unwavering commitment to advancing the interests of our community. Her ability to foster innovation, ensure data security and privacy, and drive digital transformation initiatives is truly remarkable.

I am confident that Christine Sakuda will excel as the state's CIO, and ask for your support.

Peter Dames
President & CEO



Parents And Children Together

BUILDING THE RELATIONSHIPS
THAT MATTER MOST

ParentsAndChildrenTogether.org

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 641

TO: Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee, & Members,
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO
DATE: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Parents and Children Together (PACT) supports GM 641, the gubernatorial nomination of Christine Sakuda to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Christine Sakuda has been serving in the position of Chief Information Officer for the State of Hawai'i since August 2024 and has a long professional history of leadership in transforming information technology systems and building capacity for the state to modernize. Ms. Sakuda is a trusted resource in information technology for multiple sectors, including healthcare and non-profit organizations. We would like to see her continue in this position and advance the initiatives of her office.

Founded in 1968, PACT is a statewide community-based organization providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 15,000 people across the state annually, we help identify, address, and successfully resolve challenges through our 20 programs. Among our services are early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.



March 7, 2025

Senator Henry Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Labor and Technology

RE: GM 641, Christine Sakuda, Office of Enterprise Technology Services

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

We are in **strong support** of the nomination of Christine Sakuda to service as the director of the Office of Enterprise Technology service, the state's chief information officer.

My name is William Kumagai and I serve as the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a nonprofit organization that advocates for a more accessible and responsive state government that leverages technology to help citizens, communities, and businesses throughout Hawai'i thrive. In collaboration with state government partners, we strive to keep modernization a top priority. Christine Sakuda served as THG's first executive director and it was through her visionary leadership that THG forged an important collaboration with the state.

With the changing needs of our community and our collective desire to be more resilient, we believe Hawaii must urgently address our state's aging technology infrastructure. Successfully delivering government services to Hawai'i residents requires investments in people, processes, and technology. Christine is uniquely positioned as a former non-profit business executive who has extensive leadership experience and a deep commitment to making Hawaii a better place for our future generations. She was instrumental in helping ensure that our state's information technology strategic plan was developed, setting out an important North Star for modernization. In addition, she has been an exemplary and active member of the state's IT Steering Committee and commissioned a study in which more than 100 state government technology leaders identified the progress and opportunities for enterprise-wide modernization. That study underscored what legislators instinctively knew to be true: leadership is a necessary ingredient to successful technology modernization.

The pandemic showed us that technology underpins virtually every government service and that Hawai'i residents demand broadband access, digital learning, and services when and where needed, provided by state government. The legislature made a commitment to support the implementation of a new state financial management system, a new unemployment insurance system and other ongoing IT infrastructure improvements to meet these new demands. Only by ensuring that we have a strong and competent leader in the CIO role can we continue this positive momentum to create more bright spots through public-private collaboration. Christine Sakuda is just such a leader. Please confirm her nomination.

With best wishes and aloha,

William Kumagai
Executive Director
Transform Hawai'i Government
web: www.TransformHawaiiGov.org



Randy Perreira
President

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

888 Mililani Street, Suite 501 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: (808) 597-1441
Fax: (808) 593-2149

The Thirty-Third Legislature
The Senate
Committee on Labor and Technology

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO

March 7, 2025

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM641 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
CHRISTINE SAKUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the committee:

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 76 affiliate labor organizations representing over 69,000 union members across Hawaii in industries including healthcare, construction, hospitality, entertainment, transportation, and government. The Hawaii State AFL-CIO serves its affiliates by advocating for the rights of working families, promoting fair wages, safe working conditions, and policies that strengthen Hawaii's workforce.

We support GM641, confirming Christine Sakuda to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services for a term to expire on December 7, 2026.

Ms. Sakuda brings over two decades of experience leading IT transformation efforts in government and healthcare. Her expertise in cybersecurity, data governance, and digital infrastructure has strengthened critical services that the public relies on. She has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring that public sector technology meets the evolving needs of government operations. Additionally, Ms. Sakuda's leadership at Transform Hawai'i Government and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange reflects a deep understanding of the challenges in modernizing IT systems. She has successfully collaborated across sectors to advance digital transformation efforts.

We respectfully request the committee's favorable consideration of Christine Sakuda's confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Perreira".

Randy Perreira
President

Statement of
Meli James
Cofounder
Mana Up
before the

Committee on Labor and Technology Hawai'i State Senate Hawai'i State Capitol

415 S Beretania St
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). My name is Meli James, and as a co-founder of Mana Up, an initiative dedicated to fostering Hawai'i-based entrepreneurs and scaling local businesses through innovation and technology, I recognize the critical role that digital transformation plays in driving economic growth and creating opportunities for our community. Ms. Sakuda's leadership in modernizing Hawai'i's public sector technology is not only vital for state government efficiency but also has far-reaching benefits for our business ecosystem, ensuring local companies have the infrastructure needed to compete in a global economy.

Ms. Sakuda has long been a champion of technology-driven solutions that increase accessibility, efficiency, and transparency. Her extensive experience in enterprise IT modernization—including her leadership at Transform Hawai'i Government (THG) and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE)—demonstrates her ability to bring together stakeholders, streamline complex systems, and foster cross-sector collaboration. These efforts align closely with our mission at Mana Up to create a more supportive environment for Hawai'i's entrepreneurs, where technology and innovation can serve as powerful tools for growth and success.

Additionally, Ms. Sakuda's appointment is historic. As the first female Native Hawaiian CIO, her leadership marks an important step toward greater diversity and inclusion in state government. Representation at this level not only inspires future generations of local leaders but also ensures that decisions impacting our business and technology landscape are made with a deep understanding of Hawai'i's unique needs and opportunities.

Her vision for modernizing state enterprise systems, such as the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) roadmap and the Enterprise Financial System (EFS) Project, is critical to ensuring a stronger, more connected Hawai'i. These advancements will enable greater efficiencies that ultimately benefit local businesses, entrepreneurs, and residents alike.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer. Her leadership and expertise will undoubtedly be an asset to the State of Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of her nomination.

Sincerely,



Meli James
Cofounder, Mana Up



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Connect via email: info@hopeserviceshawaii.org

HOPE Help Line: 808-935-3050

March 4, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
Senate President
Senate Labor and Technology Committee
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 409
State Capitol, Honolulu, HI

Subject: Support for the Confirmation of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer (GM641)

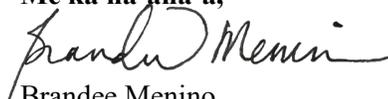
Aloha Honorable Senate President Kouchi,

I am honored to submit this testimony in strong support of Christine Maii Sakuda's appointment as Hawai'i's next State Chief Information Officer (CIO). Christine is a visionary technology and public service leader, deeply committed to bridging systems and people to drive meaningful change for our communities.

Her extensive experience in information technology, healthcare data systems, and public-private collaborations has already impacted Hawai'i. Through her leadership, she has fostered innovation, improved access to critical services, and championed efforts to modernize technology in a way that uplifts all residents of our state.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Me ka ha'aha'a,



Brandee Menino
Chief Executive Officer

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chief Executive Officer
Brandee Menino

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/4/2025 11:55:00 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Lopez	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

My name is Anne Lopez and I write in very strong support of Ms. Sakuda's confirmation. While I have wroked with Ms. Sakuda since August 2024, I have been aware of work since 2015 when she was the Executive Director of Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE) and I was the general counsel for Hawaii Health System Corporation. In that capacity, Ms. Sakuda lead the successfull effort to create the statewide clinical health information exchange. This exchange was crucial to efforts to collect health data that allowed healthcare providers to meet their local and federal reqporting requirements. Since August of 2024, I have worked on a few projects with Ms. Sakuda. Because I am not fluent in IT, I am not always clear in my ability to articulate what it is I need from IT. Ms. Sakuda consistently helped me determine how IT could help me meet my goals and then she worked with me closely to help ensure success. Ms. Sakuda is just the type of person who helped my department and me to complete our work. I urge the committee to support Ms. Sakuda's conformation. Thank you, Anne

Blake K. Oshiro, Esq.
222 S. Vineyard Street, Suite 401
Blake.Oshiro@808cch.com

Sen. Henry Aquino, Chair
Sen. Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Members of the Labor and Technology Committee

Support for GM641 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Members -

I write in strong support of Christine Sakuda's confirmation to serve as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the state at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I worked closely with Ms. Sakuda over the last few years when she was the Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government (TIG) and I served as Senior Advisor in Governor Green's Office. We collaborated on the Enterprise Financial System project, one of the state's largest proposed modernization technology projects. We often worked together to strategize and plan how to utilize TIG's expertise and resources to help with the technology transformation, not just on the EFS project, but overall for our state government more comprehensively.

I was truly impressed by Ms. Sakuda's ability to understand, plan and act under "change leadership" principles, the difficulties and challenges of achieving "real" change in long-standing systems, and the time and energy investment it takes to overcome those challenges. Her clear communication style is bolstered by her ability to see a vision and outcome, such that she is able to lead people towards that goal.

I believe that a CIO has one of the more challenging positions as an agency leader because technology continues to change and evolve. As such, the state's technology support and needs must also change. And change, is not easy for state government. But, I believe Ms. Sakuda has the right skills and attributes to take on this role and lead our state's technology needs through these necessary changes.

I hope that you will look favorably upon his appointment to this position. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 9:58:55 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Dorios	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

Members of the Committee, I am writing to express my unequivocal and enthusiastic support for the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Hawai‘i. I have had the privilege of knowing Chris both professionally and personally, and I can confidently say that she is the best possible candidate for this role.

Professionally, Chris has demonstrated an unparalleled depth of knowledge, leadership, and dedication to advancing Hawai‘i’s information technology landscape. With over two decades of experience leading IT transformation efforts in government and healthcare, she possesses a rare combination of strategic vision and hands-on expertise. She has built meaningful relationships with key stakeholders across the public and private sectors, earning their trust and fostering collaboration essential for modernizing and securing Hawai‘i’s IT infrastructure. Her track record at the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Transform Hawai‘i Government, and the Hawai‘i Health Information Exchange showcases her ability to navigate complex challenges and drive results that benefit the people of Hawai‘i.

Beyond her technical and leadership qualifications, Chris is simply an outstanding human being. She genuinely cares about the well-being of our state and its residents, always prioritizing work that enhances public service and community impact. Her integrity, work ethic, and collaborative spirit make her a role model in government leadership. On a personal note, she has also had a profound influence on my own life—I arguably would not be married to my wonderful wife, if not for Chris’s wise advice which helped me convince my father-in-law to let me marry his daughter (but that’s another story).

Chris’s confirmation as CIO is a no-brainer. She has the experience, the relationships, the leadership skills, and the heart to excel in this role. I urge the committee to confirm her

appointment without hesitation, as she will undoubtedly continue to serve the State of Hawai'i with distinction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this exceptional nominee.

Sincerely,

Sam Dorios

GM-641

Submitted on: 2/21/2025 4:20:43 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark M. Hanohano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui,

Christine Sakuda's achievements and contributions in/to her profession clearly indicates that she is profoundly qualified and her journey identifies an extremely capable professional well versed in communications and information.

Me ka mahalo piha,

Mark M. "Dutch" Hanohano

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony on Governor's Message GM 641
Consideration and Confirmation as the Chief Information Officer
Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine Sakuda

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Senator Henry Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Friday, March 7, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

It is with great honor that I submit testimony in support of Christine Sakuda, as Chief Information Officer for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Ms. Sakuda is a proven leader in finding innovative solutions to the state's information technology challenges. She listens to agencies' concerns regarding outdated software platforms, aging hardware and other IT issues, and is ready to collaborate with state departments to increase government effectiveness and efficiency through the use of technology.

When Ms. Sakuda first became the Chief Information Officer, she made it a point to visit each department to listen to their concerns, and to ascertain how she could assist in her new role. This gesture demonstrated her willingness to partner with user agencies and take steps to transform government service delivery. More importantly, it instilled confidence and trust in her ability to lead the state through innovative strategies and sensible policy changes.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of GM 641 and the confirmation of Christine Sakuda.

Sincerely,
Melanie Martin
Deputy Director for Administration
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

GM-641

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 11:06:20 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kalani Kaanaana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 27, 2025

Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai‘i State Senate
Hawai‘i State Capitol
415 S Beretania St
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). As a seasoned leader in technology modernization and an advocate for the transformation of public services, Ms. Sakuda is uniquely qualified to lead Hawai‘i’s digital future.

With extensive experience in enterprise-level IT initiatives, Ms. Sakuda has demonstrated exceptional leadership in developing community IT systems, stakeholder collaboration, and technology implementation. Her work as the founding Executive Director of Transform Hawai‘i Government (THG) and her tenure at the Hawai‘i Health Information Exchange (HHIE) underscore her ability to modernize complex systems, improve efficiency, and facilitate cross-sector collaboration. Her background in both nonprofit and private-sector IT strategy provides a strong foundation for addressing the challenges within state government technology infrastructure.

Furthermore, Ms. Sakuda’s appointment is historic. As the first female Native Hawaiian CIO to hold this role, her leadership represents a significant step toward diversity and inclusion in state government. Her deep-rooted commitment to serving Hawai‘i and improving public sector technology reflects her passion for ensuring a more effective and responsive government for future generations.

Ms. Sakuda has consistently demonstrated her ability to bring people, processes, and technology together to achieve transformative outcomes. Her vision for the state's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) roadmap, as well as her leadership in the Enterprise Financial System (EFS) Project, reflects her commitment to long-term, sustainable IT modernization efforts. She is not only a strategic thinker but also a hands-on leader who understands the complexities of digital transformation and the importance of community engagement.

Her track record of success, combined with her collaborative leadership style, makes her an excellent candidate for this crucial position. I have full confidence that under Ms. Sakuda's guidance, the Office of Enterprise Technology Services will continue to enhance state technology infrastructure, ensuring improved accessibility, efficiency, and security for all Hawai'i residents.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer. Her leadership and expertise will undoubtedly be an asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of her nomination.

Sincerely,
Kalani Kaanaana

February 27, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: In Support of the Nomination of Christine Sakuda to the Position of
Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Technology Services
GM 641
Hearing Date/Time: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.**

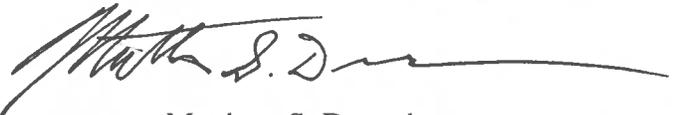
Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Christine Sakuda for the position of Chief Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. I currently serve as the First Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i, but I am submitting this testimony in my personal capacity.

In the short time that I've known her, CIO Sakuda has proven herself to be a dedicated, hard-working, and knowledgeable leader. She has personally met with directors, deputies, and staff from each department to learn about each department's existing information technology infrastructure, as well as future IT needs. Her experience leading large-scale IT initiatives leaves her well-positioned to make lasting and effective changes to the State's IT capabilities.

CIO Sakuda is exceptionally well-qualified for this position and I urge the committee to support her nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew S. Dvonch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew S. Dvonch

Testimony of Valerie M. Kato, Deputy Director of the Department of Health

In SUPPORT of Governor's Message 641

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the State Chief Information Officer
Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee,
CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire at 12-07-2026.

SENATOR HENRY J.C. AQUINO, CHAIR

SENATOR CHRIS LEE, VICE CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Room Number: 224

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in my individual capacity in **strong support** of the nomination and confirmation of Christine Sakuda to serve as the State Chief Information Officer and administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Christine has a wealth of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in healthcare and government, including her work as the Executive Director of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, revolutionizing the way Hawaii shares clinical health information. Recently, I have had the opportunity to work with her and her team to discuss the IT initiatives of the Department of Health. She is truly an innovator who is intelligent, diplomatic, efficient, and committed to public service. I look forward to working with Christine in the Executive Department. She is a strong leader who will be a critical asset to ETS in its mission to advance IT initiatives with the greatest potential to increase efficiency, reduce waste, and improve transparency and accountability in state government.

Therefore, I respectfully ask for the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer and administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony.

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/2/2025 9:21:22 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Solemsaas, Ed.D	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou

It is with great enthusiasm that I write in support of Christine Maii Sakuda’s nomination as the State Chief Information Officer. Having known Christine as a fellow member of Omidyar Fellows Cohort VII, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand her exceptional leadership, deep commitment to public service, and unwavering dedication to advancing technology for the greater good of Hawai‘i.

Christine’s extensive experience in health and data governance, coupled with her strategic vision, makes her uniquely qualified to serve in this critical role. Her ability to secure and manage data for the State of Hawai‘i will be instrumental in strengthening our state’s digital infrastructure, ensuring the integrity and security of sensitive information, and fostering a culture of evidence-based decision-making. In an era where data is the foundation of effective governance, Christine has demonstrated an unparalleled ability to leverage technology to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in public policy.

Moreover, Christine has a proven track record of bringing together cross-sector stakeholders to collaboratively address complex challenges. Her leadership in promoting data-driven solutions has not only empowered organizations but has also contributed to more informed policymaking that directly benefits Hawai‘i’s communities. I have no doubt that, as the State CIO, she will continue to be a catalyst for innovation, ensuring that our state remains at the forefront of secure and forward-thinking digital transformation.

I strongly urge you to support Christine Maii Sakuda’s nomination for this vital role. She is a visionary leader who will serve the State of Hawai‘i with integrity, expertise, and a steadfast commitment to leveraging data for the betterment of all.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any further insights into Christine’s qualifications and leadership capabilities.

Sincerely,

Rachel Solemsaas, Ed.D.

Hilo Resident & Former Chancellor, Hawai‘i Community College

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/3/2025 11:31:07 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edward Ontai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and LBT Committee,

I strongly support the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer heading the State Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I've known and worked with Christine for many years dating back to when she was the Executive Director for the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE), and more recently as the Executive Director for Transform Hawaii Government (THG).

In both executive positions, Christine has demonstrated with upmost integrity and capability to move those respective organizations in a positive direction. And most importantly, ensuring those organizations had impact to to our community.

I also know Christine on a personal level, and I can attest that she is 100% committed to our island State and community, but is humble enough to recognize where she needs help. And in this fast evolving world of technology that we now live in, it will be how she's able to collaborate and communicate with her stakeholders that will be the most important contributor towards her success. I believe she does have those attributes as a people person to work with all parties, and be a leader for the State as it embraces more digital solutions.

As the President of one of the longest running and largest Hawaii-based IT consulting firms on-island, I've always shared with my clients that the technology part of the problem is usually the easiest part to solve. But, its the People and Processes that are often the most neglected and hardest nut to crack when adopting a digital transformation.

Again, I believe Christine fully understands this dynamic, and is the best person to lead the State through its various digital modernization efforts.

Mahal nui,

Eddie Ontai

DataHouse, President

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/3/2025 1:23:58 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregory P Suenaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Chairs Senator Henry J.C. Aquino and Senator Chris Lee,

I am writing to express my full support for the appointment of Christine Sakuda to the position of Chief Information Officer within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Having had the privilege of working closely with Mrs. Sakuda at the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, I can confidently attest to her exceptional qualifications, integrity, and unwavering commitment to public service.

One of the most compelling reasons for supporting Mrs. Sakuda is her deep dedication to government transparency, public trust, fiscal accountability, and sustainability. She has consistently demonstrated the ability to leverage technology in innovative ways to drive efficiency and improve service delivery. Furthermore, she has been a tireless advocate for the responsible use of technology to enhance public sector operations and better serve the needs of the community.

Mrs. Sakuda possesses a profound understanding of the complexities of public policy and governance. She approaches challenges with a collaborative and inclusive mindset, always seeking to engage stakeholders and build consensus. Her leadership style fosters cooperation, making her an ideal candidate for the CIO role, where these qualities are critical to success.

In conclusion, I am confident that Christine Sakuda will be an outstanding addition to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, bringing the expertise, vision, and leadership needed to advance the state's technological initiatives. I offer my strongest endorsement for her appointment and trust that she will serve the state with distinction.

Thank you for considering my testimony in support of Christine Sakuda's appointment.

Sincerely,
Gregory Suenaga

suenagag@gmail.com

**Testimony in Support of the Confirmation of Christine Sakuda
March 3, 2025**

Dear Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for the confirmation of Christine Sakuda as Chief Information Officer (CIO) for Hawaii. Having closely followed Christine's remarkable career and accomplishments, I am confident that she is the ideal candidate to lead our state's technological transformation, improve government access, and enhance the quality of services for all citizens.

Christine has a proven history of leadership and a deep commitment to accelerating technology innovation in Hawaii. Her work with Transform Hawaii Government and the Hawaii Health Information Exchange demonstrates her ability to tackle large-scale modernization initiatives with a fearless approach and a dedication to delivering successful outcomes for our state.

Since its inception in 2019, Christine and I have served together on the board of TRUE, a non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating technology adoption and fostering a more diversified and sustainable economy for Hawaii. During this time, I have seen firsthand her passion for stronger technology adoption and her ability to work collaboratively with leaders from both the private and public sectors. Christine has always been mindful of Hawaii's unique needs and culture, ensuring that technological advancements benefit all residents.

As CIO, Christine will undoubtedly continue this vital work, advocating for policies and initiatives that foster technological progress while making government services more user-friendly, inclusive, and equitable. Her wealth of experience, strong leadership, and forward-thinking vision will be invaluable assets to our state.

I urge you to support Christine's confirmation as CIO. Her leadership will guide Hawaii into a new era of government technology, improving access to services and information for all citizens, and making government more responsive and accountable to the people it serves.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Deena W. Tearney

Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Point

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/3/2025 10:10:44 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darcie Yukimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 27, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology^[SEP]

Hawai'i State Capitol^[SEP]

415 S Beretania St.^[SEP]

Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief

Information Officer, GM 641

Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic and wholehearted support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). Her appointment would mark a historic and meaningful milestone for Hawai'i—not only because she would be the first Native Hawaiian woman and Kumu Hula to hold this role, but because she is the right leader at the right time to drive innovation, collaboration, and excellence in our state's technology infrastructure.

Christine has spent her career ensuring that Hawai'i's technology systems serve its people effectively. Through her leadership at Transform Hawai'i Government and Hawai'i Health Information Exchange, she has demonstrated an unparalleled ability to modernize public services, streamline systems, and bring together diverse stakeholders to solve complex challenges. Her deep understanding of enterprise technology—paired with her ability to bridge government, business, and community needs—makes her uniquely qualified to lead ETS into the future.

Beyond her professional expertise, Christine is a leader who operates with integrity, vision, and a steadfast commitment to serving Hawai'i. She approaches her work with the same values she upholds as a Kumu Hula—discipline, collaboration, and a deep respect for the communities she serves. She does not just advocate for change; she builds consensus and inspires those around her to be part of the solution.

Her confirmation would be a significant step forward for the State of Hawai'i, ensuring that our technology services are guided by a leader who understands both the complexities of enterprise systems and the unique needs of our island communities. I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for this role—her leadership will be an invaluable asset to Hawai'i's future.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of her nomination.

Me Ke Aloha,

Darcie Yukimura

Principle

DAY Consulting, LLC

Date: March 4, 2025

To: Honorable Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair, Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Honorable Chris Lee, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

From: Sondra Leiggi Brandon, DNP, MBA, MPH, PMHNP-BC, FNP-C, APRN

RE: GM 641

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the committee,

I'm writing to enthusiastically support, GM 641, for confirmation as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Hawaii's Office of Enterprise Technology Services. I've had the distinct pleasure of observing Christine's remarkable career and contributions to our state, and I'm confident she's the ideal candidate for this critical role.

Christine possesses an exceptional depth of experience in enterprise IT transformation, spanning both public and private sectors. For over two decades, she's spearheaded significant IT modernization projects, with a particular emphasis on improving Hawaii's government and healthcare systems. In her current capacity, she's consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership in driving digital transformation, enhancing government services, safeguarding state data, and fostering innovation across numerous departments. Her strategic approach and ability to align IT resources with the state's broader objectives are truly impressive, as she relentlessly pushes for efficiency and modernization within Hawaii's IT infrastructure.

Her previous leadership roles, notably as Executive Director at Transform Hawai'i Government (THG) and the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE), highlight her ability to deliver impactful change. At THG, she played a pivotal role in driving the modernization of the state's outdated systems, advocating for crucial legislative policies that improved IT governance and workforce development. During her tenure at HHIE, she successfully transitioned the organization to a self-sustaining model, all while supporting over 1,200 healthcare providers through health information exchange networks.

Beyond her technical proficiency, Christine is deeply committed to public service and community development. Her participation on numerous boards and committees, including her leadership as Chair of the State Information Technology Steering Committee and the Information Privacy & Security Council, demonstrates her dedication to ensuring Hawaii's technology infrastructure is both current and future-ready.

In my view, Christine Sakuda's unique blend of technical expertise, leadership skills, and unwavering commitment to public service make her an exceptional choice for CIO. Her continued leadership will undoubtedly ensure that Hawaii remains a leader in digital transformation, delivering superior services to the people of our state.

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/4/2025 5:59:59 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benjamin Ancheta Jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to offer my support for the confirmation of Christine Maii Sakuda as CIO of the State of Hawaii. Christine has been at the forefront of innovation and technology in Hawaii, and a consistent advocate for modernization at the State of Hawaii. She is knowledgeable about the issues and constraint,s as evidenced by her experience interacting with the State of Hawaii through Transform Hawaii Government.

I cannot think of a better person to serve as the State's Chief Information Officer.

Sincerely,

Ben Ancheta

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/4/2025 8:17:53 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Corby	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of Christine's appointment as the Governor's Chief Information Officer for the State of Hawai'i.

Throughout her distinguished career, Christine has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership in both technology and public service. Her unique ability to bridge technical systems with human needs has resulted in meaningful, tangible improvements for the communities she serves. Christine possesses that rare combination of technical expertise and interpersonal intelligence that is essential for success in this critical role.

What truly sets Christine apart is her remarkable talent for making everyone she works with feel valued and understood. In meetings large and small, she creates an environment where all voices are heard and respected. This inclusive approach has enabled her to build cohesive, high-performing teams that deliver results even in challenging circumstances. More importantly, Christine doesn't just listen—she inspires action, motivating those around her to contribute their best work toward shared goals.

As a leader, Christine tackles complex problems with both analytical rigor and creative thinking. She has repeatedly demonstrated her ability to navigate complicated technological landscapes while keeping the focus firmly on the people those systems ultimately serve. Her strategic vision is always balanced with practical implementation skills, ensuring that ambitious plans become reality.

Christine's deep connection to Hawai'i as a Native Hawaiian and kumu hula brings an invaluable cultural perspective to this position. Her understanding of Hawaiian values and traditions will ensure that technological advancement in our state respects and honors our unique cultural heritage while embracing innovation. This cultural grounding, combined with her technical expertise, makes her uniquely qualified to guide Hawai'i's digital future.

As a community organizer, Christine understands the diverse needs of Hawai'i's people across all islands and demographics. She has consistently demonstrated her commitment to ensuring that technological solutions serve everyone in our community, not just those with the most resources or technical knowledge.

Her role as a mother further informs her commitment to building systems that will serve future generations well. Christine approaches her work with both immediate needs and long-term sustainability in mind.

I firmly believe that under Christine's leadership as Chief Information Officer, the State of Hawai'i will make significant progress in modernizing our information systems, improving digital access for all residents, and finding innovative solutions to our most challenging problems. Her appointment will ensure that Hawai'i benefits from her unique blend of technical expertise, cultural wisdom, and compassionate leadership.

I urge you to confirm Christine's appointment.

Best,

Amanda Corby

aacorby@gmail.com

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/4/2025 8:24:57 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Forest Frizzell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 27, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology^{[[1]]}

Hawai'i State Capitol^{[[1]]}

415 S Beretania St.^{[[1]]}

Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief

Information Officer, GM 641

Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). Christine Maii Sakuda brings extensive experience in public service, demonstrating a deep commitment to advancing the State's goals. Her leadership as Executive Director of Transform Hawaii Government and Hawaii Health Information Exchange showcases her ability to implement meaningful change and foster collaboration across sectors. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Christine Maii Sakuda is widely respected for her integrity, vision, and dedication to serving the people of Hawai'i. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will greatly benefit the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Forest Frizzell

CEO

Shifted Energy

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/4/2025 10:41:01 PM

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

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

Comments:

Ms. Christine Maii Sakuda is a committed community—and now State—leader who has dedicated her career to improving local systems that impact the health, work, and lives of those who call Hawai'i home or work, visit, and interface with those who do. She is ethical, collaborative, and brings her array of experiences, knowledge, and connections to this significant public servant role.

As someone who led a state department and recognizes how important it is to have qualified and collaborative leaders in key roles, I respectfully ask the Committee to recommend Ms. Christine Maii Sakuda for full confirmation. Mahalo.

Testimony in Support of Christine Maii Sakuda’s Appointment as Hawaii State Chief Information Officer
Before the Senate Labor and Technology Committee
March 4, 2025

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Senate Labor and Technology Committee,

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony in strong support of Christine Maii Sakuda’s appointment as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Hawai’i. Chris is a proven leader in enterprise IT transformation, with over two decades of experience in healthcare, government, and nonprofit sectors. Her deep expertise, visionary leadership, and unwavering commitment to public service make her exceptionally qualified for this critical role.

As the current CIO of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), Chris has led efforts to modernize the state's IT infrastructure, enhance data security and privacy, and drive digital transformation initiatives. She has championed innovative, community-centered technology solutions that improve government services and accessibility for all residents of Hawai’i. Her leadership has already fostered stronger collaboration among stakeholders and positioned the state for a more connected and resilient digital future.

Chris's impact extends beyond her current role. As the former Executive Director of Transform Hawai’i Government (THG), she successfully mobilized resources and legislative support for IT transformation across state agencies. She has also played a pivotal role in healthcare technology, having served as the Executive Director of the Hawai’i Health Information Exchange (HHIE), where she implemented a statewide clinical health information exchange network and harmonized state and federal health information privacy laws.

Her educational background—including a Japan Executive MBA from the University of Hawai’i and a BS in Marketing from Santa Clara University—coupled with her participation in executive leadership programs at the Aspen Institute and Omidyar Fellows, underscores her ability to lead at the highest levels.

Beyond her professional achievements, Chris’s dedication to civic engagement is evident in her leadership roles on key technology committees, including Chair of the State Information Technology Steering Committee, Chair of the Information Privacy & Security Council, and Chair of the Access Hawai’i Committee. Her service reflects her commitment to ensuring technology policy aligns with the best interests of the people of Hawai’i.

As the first female Native Hawaiian CIO of the State of Hawai'i, Chris brings a unique and vital perspective to this role. Her leadership is grounded in a deep understanding of Hawai'i's diverse communities and the need for technology solutions that are inclusive, secure, and forward-thinking.

For these reasons, we strongly urge the committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda as the State of Hawai'i CIO. Her vision, expertise, and proven leadership will undoubtedly strengthen our state's IT infrastructure and ensure a more digitally connected and innovative Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Christine Sakuda's appointment.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Hampe, Kim Thayer, and Jeanne Skog

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 641
Relating to the confirmation of Christine Maii Sakuda
Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Chief Information Officer and Administrator
State of Hawai'i
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

March 7, 2025 3:00pm
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee,

I am honored to submit testimony in **strong support** of Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator for the State of Hawai'i Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Her deep commitment to using technology as a tool to make government more efficient is evident in her over two decades of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives across healthcare and government.

Ms. Sakuda has consistently demonstrated visionary leadership and a desire to modernize state systems to improve efficiency, accessibility, and security. As the current CIO, she plays a critical role in shaping the state's IT strategy, ensuring robust cybersecurity measures, and spearheading digital initiatives that enhance public service delivery. Her leadership could not come at a more critical time as advancements in technology are moving at a speed that creates both security issues and efficiency opportunities for Hawai'i.

Having had conversations with Ms. Sakuda when she served as the Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government, I know she is no stranger to the bureaucratic silos that can unintentionally cause archaic systems to continue. Ms. Sakuda understands that people are the center of government advancements and that government workers must be prioritized when making change. While many would give up in the face of bureaucratic challenges, Ms. Sakuda was driven to find areas of collaboration that would lead to technology solutions.

Previously, Ms. Sakuda was Executive Director of the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange. I served with Governor Neil Abercrombie at the time and there was no question of her desire to tackle the complex issues. Under her leadership, a statewide health data-sharing network was established, improving care coordination for more than 1,200 healthcare providers. Her work in digital transformation has always been centered on improving lives, whether in healthcare, government services, or broadband equity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Christine Sakuda. She is someone who not only has the expertise but also the heart to truly make a difference for Hawai'i. I strongly urge her confirmation as Chief Information Officer and Administrator for the State of Hawai'i Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Donalyn Dela Cruz

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/5/2025 1:34:55 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Benabese	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the confirmation of Christine Sakuda. Having first met and worked with Christine back in 2017, I have found her to be a professional that is very knowledgeable, collaborative and passionate about improving state government. She has the experience, knowledge and leadership skills to lead the office of enterprise technology services. Christine will be a definite asset to the State of Hawai'i. I humbly ask that you support for her confirmation.

Mahalo,

Tony Benabese

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/5/2025 9:27:22 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Coleen Moderow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 05, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Hawai‘i State Capitol

415 S Beretania St.

Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief

Information Officer, GM 641

Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Christine Maii Sakuda brings extensive experience in public service, demonstrating a deep commitment to advancing the State’s goals. Her work in leading two non-profits showcases her ability to implement meaningful change and foster collaboration

across sectors. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Christine Maii Sakuda is widely respected for her integrity, vision, and dedication to serving the people of Hawai‘i. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Coleen Puanani Moderow

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/5/2025 8:54:29 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawehi Moderow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 05, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Hawai'i State Capitol

415 S Beretania St.

Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer, GM 641

Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha nui e Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Christine Maii Sakuda has extensive experience in public service and demonstrates a deep commitment to advancing the State's goals. Her work leading two non-profits, Transform Hawai'i Government and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange, showcases her ability to implement meaningful change and foster collaboration across sectors.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Christine Maii Sakuda is widely respected for her integrity, vision, and dedication to serving the people of Hawai'i. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda as the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Melyssa Kawehi Moderow

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/5/2025 5:40:07 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miyoke Ng	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Miyoke Ng and I'm testifying in my personal capacity in SUPPORT of Governor's Message No. 641, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chief Information Officer, Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine M. Sakuda, for a term to expire December 7, 2026.

Christine Sakuda joined the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), Office of Enterprise Technology Services (OETS) in August 2024 and has brought her solid and proven information technology experience and collaboration skills. Christine exemplifies the spirit of aloha in the way she works and has shown a true passion to help the State of Hawaii move forward in its modernization efforts. Christine is a true asset to DAGS OETS.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer, GM 641

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my **strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda** as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Christine Maii Sakuda has more than two decades of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives both in the health care sector and in government. Her leadership as Executive Director of Transform Hawaii Government and Hawaii Health Information Exchange showcases her ability to implement meaningful change and foster collaboration across sectors.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Christine Maii Sakuda is widely respected for her integrity, vision, and dedication to serving the people of Hawai'i. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will greatly benefit the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.



Amy Miller

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/5/2025 4:44:03 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Meoh-Leng Silliman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the Governor’s nomination of Christine Sakuda to serve as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) in the Department of Accounting and General Services, Office of Enterprise Technology Services (OETS).

I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Sakuda for a few years in her capacity as Executive Director for Transform Hawai‘i Government and, most recently, in her current capacity as CIO in OETS since August 2024. I have found her to be responsive, professional, and knowledgeable. Additionally, with over twenty years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in healthcare and government, I believe Ms. Sakuda is well prepared to lead enterprise-wide modernization efforts to meet the technological needs of our state government; I have confidence in her ability to assume the responsibilities of CIO.

I respectfully recommend that the committee act favorably on GM 641. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**Testimony to the State Senate
Labor and Technology Committee
Chair, Henry Aquino
Vice-Chair Chris Lee
March 6, 2025
RE: GM 641, Christine Maii Sakuda**

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee and LBT Committee members,

I strongly support the confirmation of Ms. Christine Maii Sakuda for State Chief Information Officer and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, GM 641.

When Ms. Sakuda was Executive Director of Transform Hawaii Government (THG). I, then President and CEO of the Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO), was a member of THG's Leadership Committee. This group helped to advise THG on how it would implement its mission of modernizing business processes and underlying technology systems by providing education, advocacy and resources for the state to serve the public more efficiently. This aligned with HANO's efforts to strengthen the partnership between state government and Hawaii's nonprofit organizations in their joint commitment to serve communities across the state.

In working with Ms. Sakuda, I found her to be extremely knowledgeable and focused in meeting her mission, and thoughtful and strategic as to how she approached these issues. She is a strong communicator - diplomatic, respectful and clear, always practicing the tenets of ALOHA. As a leader, she can take bold strides, but also meet people where they are in their understanding of complex processes and concepts.

She cares deeply about the mission of ETS, committed to meeting the same goals of THG but now with a broader agenda and reach from within state government. Much of her work is about change, progress and modernization, but in ever-changing, unstable global, political, economic and social environments which will impact the State of Hawaii greatly. Ms. Sakuda has the insight, adaptive leadership skills, commitment and tenacity to serve ably in this capacity.

I again strongly support Ms. Sakuda's confirmation to do the great work before her and the State of Hawai'i. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on her behalf.

Sincerely,

Lisa Maruyama
LTM Consulting

Melissa Pavlicek, J.D.
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2530
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as Director of
The State Office of Enterprise Technology Services, GM 641

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee,

My name is Melissa Pavlicek and I am a resident of Honolulu and a small business owner. I am writing in support of Christine Sakuda's nomination to serve as the state Chief Information Officer, a position she currently holds on an interim basis. Christine is exceptionally qualified to serve as Hawai'i State Chief Information Officer due to her extensive experience in IT transformation, leadership in government and nonprofit sectors, and dedication to improving public service through technology. She is deeply committed to public service and cares deeply and personally about the people of Hawai'i.

With over twenty years of expertise in enterprise IT transformation in healthcare and government, Christine has demonstrated the vision and leadership skills needed to implement large-scale, impactful digital solutions. Her many years leading nonprofit organizations further underscore her capacity to build partnerships and drive initiatives that benefit the community.

As the current CIO at the State of Hawai'i's Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), she has already proven her leadership by overseeing IT policies, ensuring cybersecurity, and advancing digital transformation efforts. Her role requires a deep understanding of IT governance, strategic planning, and cross-agency collaboration, all of which are critical for ensuring efficient and secure state operations. She truly believes in inclusiveness, listening, and servant leadership.

Christine has worked directly with business and IT leadership, provided funding for crucial IT projects, and advocated for policies that modernized government systems. Her experience in both advocacy and implementation make her uniquely positioned to navigate the intersection of technology, policy, and public service. We have advocated together for prioritizing and resourcing the state's IT infrastructure.

Christine brings a diverse perspective and a deep commitment to leveraging technology to connect and empower Hawai'i's communities. Her leadership ensures that IT advancements serve all residents, especially in a state where geographical challenges necessitate innovative digital solutions. Given her proven track record in IT strategy, government innovation, and stakeholder collaboration, Christine Maii Sakuda is the ideal candidate to continue leading Hawai'i's IT modernization efforts as State Chief Information Officer. Please confirm her nomination.

Makalena Y. Shibata
98-522 Kilipohe Street
‘Aiea, Hawai‘i 96701

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai‘i State Capitol
415 S Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief

Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

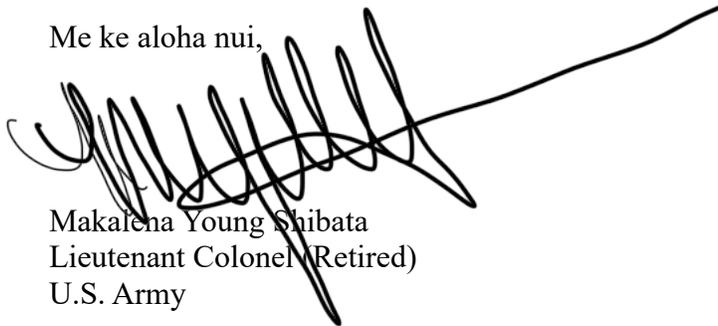
I heartily support the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I have known Chris for nearly 30 years and can attest to both her leadership and her extensive experience in public service. Her commitment to advancing the State’s goals is undeniable as evident in over a decade of leading two nonprofits: Transform Hawai‘i Government and Hawai‘i Health Information Exchange. Her servant leadership is a testament to this shared goal and clearly showcases her ability to implement impactful changes while fostering collaboration across sectors.

I believe in Chris and know that she will be focused on aligning the State’s IT initiatives with strategic plans and a sensible budget to ensure technology investments deliver government services to us, the people of Hawai‘i, when and where it is needed. Chris’ character is proven and it is her unparalleled candor, compassion, and commitment to serving all people of Hawai‘i that make her the perfect candidate to lead the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I, therefore, urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of State Chief Information Officer as her leadership and expertise would be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai‘i. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination. If you need further information, please contact me at makalena.shibata@gmail.com.

Me ke aloha nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Makalena Young Shibata', written over a horizontal line.

Makalena Young Shibata
Lieutenant Colonel (Retired)
U.S. Army

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

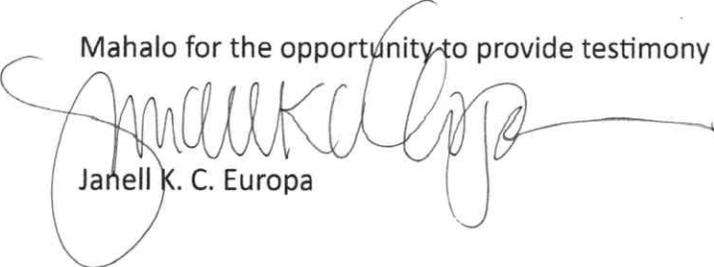
I have had the privilege of knowing Chris on a personal level for the past 25 years. During this time, I have witnessed firsthand her incredible strength, resilience, and unwavering determination. Chris has consistently overcome obstacles with grace and perseverance, demonstrating an inspiring ability to tackle challenges head-on. Her attention to detail is truly impressive, and she approaches each task with full focus and dedication. What stands out most about Chris is her ability to maintain a pleasant and positive attitude, no matter the circumstances. She brings both intelligence and kindness into every situation, which makes her the perfect candidate for this position.

Chris brings extensive experience in public service, with a deep commitment to advancing the state's goals. Her work demonstrates an exceptional ability to implement meaningful change and foster collaboration across sectors, further positioning her as the perfect fit for this role.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Chris is widely respected for her integrity, visionary leadership, and dedication to serving the people of Hawai'i. I am confident that under her leadership, the Office of Enterprise Technology Services will thrive and continue to drive innovation across the state.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise, leadership, and commitment to public service will be an invaluable asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.


Janell K. C. Europa

Rochelle Takata
95-1064 Puuanu St.
Mililani, HI 96789

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025, at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

Although I know Chris on a more personal, rather than professional level, I believe that she brings the experience in public service and the deep commitment that is needed to advance the State of Hawai'i's IT goals and initiatives. Over the course of almost 30 years, I have seen her tirelessly and diligently work toward any goal that she sets her mind to. I have witnessed her overcome and persevere through numerous obstacles that have stood in her way. All the while still being her pleasant, positive and kind self. Chris has a dedication and love for the people and culture of Hawai'i. Her leadership and knowledge will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of State Chief Information Officer.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Rochelle Takata



GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 9:50:57 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ben Trevino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Christine Sakuda to service as the director of the Office of Enterprise Technology service, the state’s chief information officer (CIO).

When I think of “leadership with aloha”, I think of Christine. Having spent my career at the intersection of technology and public service, she is a rare leader who both understands how, and is committed to, applying technology to its highest purpose: the improvement of the lives of the people of Hawai’i.

I have worked alongside Christine as a collaborator in the civic technology realm — building a community of volunteers and professionals who are committed to developing technology in the public interest. In her role at THG we collaborated on a public presentation by Taiwan’s Minister of Digital Affairs, Audrey Tang, to share stories of large scale community engagement using digital tools.

Christine and I have also collaborated as Omidyar Fellows — a collective of Hawai’i-based leaders committed to working together in service of our island home. As Network Coordinator for the Omidyar Fellows, I know Christine is a steady contributor to our community, including most recently as a lead facilitator for our Health, Science and Technology “Leaders Lab”, guiding 20 leaders in the space through a one-day intensive experience to identify and build their practical leadership skills.

Through the dozens of initiatives, big and small, that Christine and I have worked on together, she has consistently been a **visionary, purposeful, and action-oriented** collaborator.

I believe Christine will deliver unparalleled service as an outstanding CIO. Specifically, I think she will bring these strengths to bear on the role.

Leadership: Christine is not afraid to take on big challenges — because she believes in the people around her and in our collective ability to rise to connect to a higher purpose and rise to meet the moment.

Strategy: Christine is a peerless listener — able to hear what is being said and what is not being said — and she uses this to inform action that achieves desired outcomes while strengthening the relationships of all involved.

Balance: Christine has always held equal compassion for the individuals developing and maintaining technology and those who use it; for civil servants working inside government and for every-day citizens who rely on it. Because she applies empathy judiciously and evenly across the system, she is able to see the system (and pathways to improvement) with exceptional clarity.

Excellence: As a CEO / executive director and kumu hula, Christine is well-practiced at showing up and bringing her best to every situation.

I am confident that Christine Sakuda will serve the people of Hawaii with distinction and dedication in this role. I wholeheartedly recommend their confirmation and urge the Committee to vote in favor of their appointment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide my supportive testimony.

me ke aloha,

Ben Trevino

Network Coordinator, Omidyar Fellows
Volunteer, Code for Hawaii / Code with Aloha

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Pohai Louca*
Town, State: *Kumu Hala of Hala Hula Kamamalikolehua*
Honolulu, HI.

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Dita Ramler-Reppun*
Town, State: *Kailua, Hawaii*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Richard Steele

Town, State:

Kaneohe, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

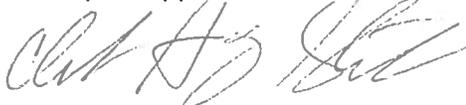
Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Chieko Steele 

Town, State: 47477 Kialua Kamehameha, HI 96744

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Walter Merian

Town, State:

Kaneohe, Hawaii

Mahalo!

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

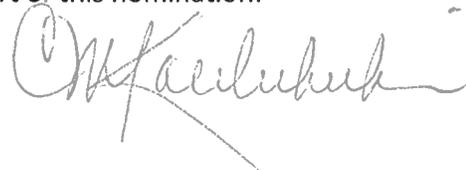
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I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: CAROL M. KAUWUKUKUI



Town, State: KAILUA, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Pauline Sato

Town, State:

Honolulu, Hawaii



March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Tracy R. Kelihoomalu

Town, State: Kāhala, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Town, State:

Janice Marie Kanani
~~USE THE PLANNARY~~
HONOLULU, HI 96814

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Kawehi Kelipuleste

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Kawehi Kelipuleste

Town, State: Kaneohe, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.



Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: 

Town, State:  Kaneohe, Hi. 96744

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.



Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Marty Martensen*
Town, State: *Hono, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.



Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Susan Todani

Town, State:

Honolulu, HI 96821

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
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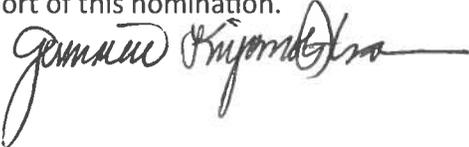
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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Germaine Kiyomoto-Isara* 
Town, State: *Honolulu, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Jessica Kang
Town, State: Honolulu, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
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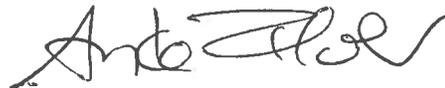
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:



Town, State:



March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *U'i Puaoli de Sa*

Town, State:
Honolulu, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Ashley Panoke "Makaelani"
Town, State: Kaneohe, HI 96744

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Cyndy K. Hennessey-Aylett*
Town, State: *Waimuku, Hawaii*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: 
Town, State:
Kailua, Hi

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Debra Z Makarani*

Town, State: *Honolulu, Hawaii*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Michele Haruno

Town, State: Honolulu, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Valerie Achua*
Town, State: *Ewa Beach, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Honolulu, HI 96813

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I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:


Town, State: Honolulu, HAWAII

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
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March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Darshan Kishore*
Town, State: *Hilo, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Mary Castillo*
Town, State: *Honolulu, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Colleen Man

Town, State:

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *MONY LANI COBY*

Town, State: *PEARL CITY*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Louise Coby*
Town, State: *Halehi*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Lendra Stone*
Town, State: *Honolulu, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: Madeline Roop

Town, State: 2040 Lanikuli drive, Honolulu, HI

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
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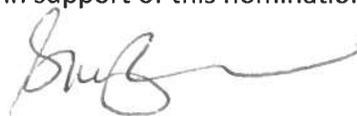
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Ginen Pacarun*

Town, State: *Kailua, HI*



March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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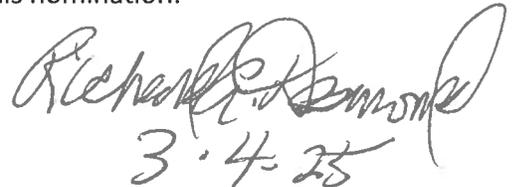
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

RICHARD A. DESMOND



Town, State:

HONOLULU HI

3-4-25

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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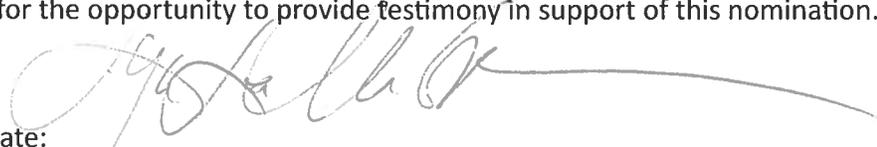
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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:

Town, State:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine Maii Sakuda", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
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Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name: *Napua Thatcher*
Town, State: *Kaneohe, HI*

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
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I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for many years through our hula community. I have observed Christine's integrity, leadership skills, compassion and commitment to the people of Hawai'i. We need policy leaders who understand the needs of our community and have a deep love for our 'āina. Her leadership will be instrumental in leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

Name:



Town, State:

Honolulu, HI

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 10:15:34 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aki Marceau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing with strong support for the confirmation of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. This would be a historic appointment as she would be the first Native Hawaiian woman, and Kumu hula in the role, inspiring current employees, residents and visitors, and the next generation of young leaders. In addition to these accomplishments, Ms. Sakuda offers two decades of expertise in organizational management and deploying innovative enterprise-level information technology initiatives. She has demonstrated the desirable skill of navigating the change of legacy infrastructure to new systems across multiple entities. It is my joy to submit strong support for Ms. Christine Sakuda as State Chief Information Officer.

Best regards,

Aki Marceau

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 11:14:15 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 6 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Subject: Testimony in support of Christine Maii Sakuda for State Information Officer GM 641

Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee and members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology:

This testimony is submitted in support of Christine Maii Sakuda for State Information Officer, whom I have known and interacted with for decades— since the 1980’s. During this time, Ms. Sakuda has always shown herself to be a committed participant and leader in numerous projects. Her compassion, integrity and love for our islands have made a difference in our community.

I strongly urge this Committee to confirm Ms. Sakuka.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Cordially yours,

Catherine Chang

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 11:29:18 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Omura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Todd Omura, and I am testifying in my personal capacity in support of the appointment of Christine Sakuda to serve as the Chief Information Officer for the State of Hawai'i.

I have known Ms. Sakuda since 2017 and have had the opportunity to witness her dedication and expertise in the field of information technology in Hawai'i firsthand. During this time, Ms. Sakuda held multiple influential positions, demonstrating her commitment to the state's technological advancement.

As the Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), Ms. Sakuda performed a pivotal role in building momentum to modernize the state's IT systems. Her emphasis on collaboration with both business and IT leadership was key in assisting the state with IT transformation initiatives. Her work at THG also included building leadership capacity within the state IT workforce, implementing change management and communications strategies, and advocating for crucial legislative policies that advanced IT transformation.

During this time, Ms. Sakuda has also been a member of the state Information Technology Steering Committee (the organization which provides consultancy and guidance to the state CIO) for several years, holding various positions; initially as a member, then Vice Chair, and now Chair.

Her background in government business and IT transformation enabled a seamless transition to the state as CIO in August, 2024.

Six months into her role as CIO, Ms. Sakuda quickly acquired a detailed understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities within Hawai'i's public sector. Her collaborative approach and proactive outreach have enabled ETS to stay in sync with Departments and stakeholders in this dynamic and fast-paced environment. Ms. Sakuda's history of leading organizations like THG demonstrates leadership capabilities, and involvement in various community and civic roles further highlights her commitment to helping the public.

I believe Ms. Sakuda is the right person to serve as the Chief Information Officer and assist Governor Green's administration in meeting today's challenges.

I respectfully request that you recommend approval of her nomination as the CIO for the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 641.

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 12:39:16 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arnold Kishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support the nomination of Christine Sakuda to be the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and head of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services in the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I have served on the State of Hawaii Information Technology Steering Committee with Christine and have worked with her on previous Transform Hawaii Government (THG) initiatives to modernize state government where she demonstrated strong team building and collaboration skills, innovation-focused vision for the future, and commitment to public service.

Christine, as State CIO, will blend those attributes with her long leadership experience in the tech profession to bring together the people, processes, and technologies that will improve overall state government planning, productivity, and operations. Collectively, those accomplishments will deliver enhanced services to the people of our state.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of confirming Christine Sakuda as the State CIO.

**Testimony of Catherine P. Awakuni Colón
Before the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Friday, March 7, 2025
3:00 P.M.
Conference Room 224 and Videoconference**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

On Governor's Message No. 641, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026.

Aloha Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón and I am testifying in **support** of the appointment of Christine Sakuda to serve as the State's Chief Information Officer, leading the Office of Enterprise Technology Service (ETS).

Ms. Sakuda brings more than twenty years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation in health care and government. I first met Ms. Sakuda when I was the director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and when she led Transform Hawaii Government (THG). As THG's Executive Director, I was impressed by Ms. Sakuda's collaborative approach and sincere desire to support the State of Hawaii employees. Now that she leads ETS, I am confident that she is in the right place at the right time, offering realistic solutions to challenging systems that need resources and attention.

I found Ms. Sakuda to be competent, responsive, ethical and respectful in her dealings with me as the director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Since then, I have also spent time learning more about Ms. Sakuda through our participation in the Omidayar Fellows Program. Through my subsequent interactions with her, Ms. Sakuda has shown herself to be someone who is at the State to support ETS and its employees, employees of other State departments, and the community they collectively serve.

I respectfully request that you recommend approval of Ms. Sakuda's nomination as the Chief Information Officer. Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 641.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
SENATOR HENRY AQUINO, CHAIR
SENATOR CHRIS LEE, VICE CHAIR
Friday, March 7, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol

Personal Testimony of Deborah Kim Morikawa, Deputy Director
Department of Health
In SUPPORT of Governor's Message 641

I am writing in my individual capacity to express my strong support of the nomination and confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, **Christine Sakuda**, to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

As the Executive Director of Transform Hawaii Government (THG), Ms. Sakuda has been a driving force behind digital transformation efforts that enhance government responsiveness, operational efficiency, and public service delivery in Hawai'i. Her expertise in enterprise technology solutions, data governance, and system modernization will be invaluable in ensuring that the state's IT infrastructure remains secure, resilient, and forward-thinking.

Beyond her technical acumen, Ms. Sakuda is a collaborative leader with a deep commitment to public service. She understands the critical role technology plays in modernizing government operations and has consistently demonstrated her ability to bring together diverse stakeholders to drive meaningful and lasting change. Her ability to navigate complex IT challenges with both strategic vision and pragmatic execution will be a tremendous asset to ETS.

Her leadership, expertise, and forward-thinking approach make her exceptionally well-qualified for this role. I am confident that her contributions will strengthen the state's technology services and advance Hawai'i's digital future.

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 S Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as State Chief
Information Officer, GM 641
Hearing Date: March 7, 2025 at 3:00 PM, Room: 224

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Christine Maii Sakuda as the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Administrator of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

I have known Christine for two years. She is a proven leader, innovator, and driver of positive change in our community. Her character and determination combined with her professional experience in Information Technology make her ideal for this critical role in state government.

Christine has shown her commitment to Hawaii through 15 years of community leadership in both public and non-profit capacity. Her leadership as Executive Director of both Hawaii Health Information Exchange and Transform Hawaii Government, and chairperson and board membership in respected community organizations like Hawaii Executive Collaborative and Access Hawaii Committee, demonstrate her ability to collaborate among private, government, and non-government sectors in the advancement of key objectives.

Mahalo for your consideration of this outstanding citizen and leader. I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Christine Maii Sakuda for the position of State Chief Information Officer. Her expertise and leadership will be a tremendous asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.


COURTNEY M. SUGAI
Colonel, U.S. Army
Fort Shafter, Hawaii

LATE

Written Statement of
Jeannine Souki
Senior Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & TECHNOLOGY

March 7, 2025, 3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224, and Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF:

GM 641 - SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 7, 2026

To: Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee

Re: **Testimony in support of GM 641**

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

I am pleased to testify in support of Governor's Message 641, which nominates Christine Sakuda as the Office of Enterprise Technology's Chief Information Officer. Ms. Sakuda's extensive experience and commitment to technological innovation make her an exceptional candidate for this role.

As Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government, Ms. Sakuda led initiatives to help modernize government operations and improve public services. Her leadership in the Hawai'i Digital Government Summit has fostered collaboration with the state's digital transformation.

Ms. Sakuda's inclusive leadership style and ability to build partnerships are valuable to this role. Her dedication to continuous learning ensures she stays at the forefront of technological advancements, benefiting the organization.

For these reasons, I urge your committee's support to recommend Ms. Sakuda's confirmation to lead the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

LATE



1000 Bishop Street, Suite 701
Honolulu, HI 96813
info@pacxa.com | www.pacxa.com
P: 808-585-0444 | F: 808-537-9300

March 7, 2025

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: GM641, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE SAKUDA, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. (Position corrected by GM652)

DATE: Friday, March 7, 2025, 3:00 PM, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee:

My name is Kelly J. Ueoka, and I am the President and CEO of Pacxa, a locally owned and operated technology consulting firm. I am writing in strong support of Christine Sakuda's nomination and confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. I have known Christine for over 10 years in her professional capacity as Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government, Executive Board Member of the TRUE initiative, and more recently, as the State of Hawai'i interim CIO.

As the Executive Director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), Christine built momentum for IT transformation in state government. She collaborated with business and IT leadership, provided seed resources for key IT initiatives, and advocated for legislative policies advancing IT and Business Transformation. She thoroughly recognizes the need to advance Hawai'i's technology skills, industry, and strategic focus on being competitive. This is paired with the many other successes she has affected on the local technology industry in a unique geography, while staying true to our local culture and values.

Please support GM641 (position corrected by GM652) and Christine Sakuda's nomination to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KJ. Ueoka'.

Kelly J. Ueoka
President, Pacxa

LATE

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/6/2025 7:45:04 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sunshine Topping	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of Christine Sakuda for the State CIO position. In the time that I have known Christine, her passion for this State, and for serving the people of this state has been clear. She is a visionary leader, an excellent tactician, and has been serving in this capacity since last July, helping to bring unity and direction to this incredibly important workforce.

This role for Christine culminates over ten years of prior experiences at Transform Hawai'i Government and the Hawai'i Health Information Exchange which both lay a strong foundation for this leadership position. In addition to her professional experiences related to technology transformation and public policy, Christine demonstrates a strong sense that business leadership and the values of our local community are important qualities to help manage our state's IT workforce. I am also very excited for her to be the first Native Hawaiian woman to serve in the role of the State CIO which I believe will help infuse a mindfulness of our obligations to care for the people of Hawai'i and improve access to government services and information, when and where needed.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Sunshine Topping

LATE

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/7/2025 10:56:23 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candace J. Park	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In the short time that Christine Sakuda has been the CIO, she has already brought so much to ETS that was previously lacking. Christine is definitely what ETS needed, but she will also add so much more with her energy, professionalism, and knowledge. Please confirm Christine Sakuda's nomination. Thank you.

LATE



The Senate Committee on Labor, and Technology

March 7, 2025

Room 224

3:00 PM

RE: GM 641, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine Sakuda, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026

Attention: Chair Henry Aquino, Vice Chair Chris Lee and Members of the Committee

The University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA), the exclusive bargaining representative for all University of Hawai'i faculty members across Hawai'i's statewide 10-campus system, **supports GM 641**, to confirm the appointment of Christine Sakuda to Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Ms. Sakuda brings over twenty years of experience leading enterprise IT transformation initiatives in health care and government. Her knowledge and expertise in data governance, cybersecurity, and digital infrastructure has enhanced government services, and fostered innovation and efficiency. Ms. Sakuda's extensive experience reflects her dedication to building the State's IT workforce and leading the way for IT modernization.

UHPA appreciates the opportunity to **support** the appointment of Christine Sakuda to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. L. Fern'.

Christian L. Fern
Executive Director
University of Hawaii Professional Assembly

**University of Hawaii
Professional Assembly**

LATE

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/7/2025 12:52:11 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharyn Sakuda Fong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Christine Sakuda for appointment to the office of Enterprise Technology Services for the State of Hawaii. I have known Christine for over 35 years and can speak to her excellent character and ability, and dedication to the people of Hawaii. Christine has been an advocate for providing equity and access to services that will make life fuller for all our citizens. She understands the importance of leveraging technology as a means for government to better serve the people of Hawaii, especially Native Hawaiians and marginalized communities.