



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Hawaii*

*PJJK Federal Building
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 6-100
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850*

*(808) 541-2850
FAX (808) 541-2958*

October 23, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi, and
Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
State of Hawaii Capitol Building
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Support for Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching.

Dear Senator Taniguchi, and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee:

Please allow me to express my strong support for the confirmation of Mr. Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Mr. Ching now for approximately 26 years. I first worked closely with him during the 1980s on many investigations and prosecutions while we were at the Honolulu City Prosecutors Office. I have also stayed in touch with Mr. Ching while he has been in private practice, in which he has specialized in labor issues.

Mr. Ching is person who is knowledgeable in labor issues and is a person whom I consider to be an workaholic. He is also a very dedicated professional with a positive attitude, and this serves to motivate those around him. His outstanding leadership skills makes him a man of integrity, but most of all, Mr. Ching is a man of his word.

For these reasons, I strongly believe that Mr. Ching's nomination as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations was a very good choice. I feel he is the right person for the job, and he will make all of us very proud of his accomplishments.

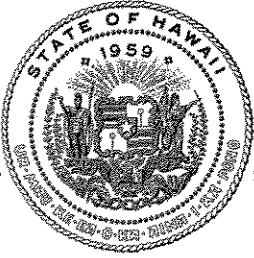
Thank you for allowing me to express my strong support for Mr. Ching's confirmation.

With Much Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward H. Kubo, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Edward H. Kubo, Jr.
United States Attorney

cc: Senate President Colleen Hanabusa



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
THEODORE E. LIU
DIRECTOR
MARK K. ANDERSON
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: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

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

**Statement of
Theodore E. Liu
Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Friday, October 26, 2007
9:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 225**

in consideration of

**GM 3
of
DARWIN CHING
as
DIRECTOR OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

Chair Taniguchi and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

I appear before you in strong support for the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as the Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (DLIR).

In my view, based on my experience as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), there is no more important issue impacting Hawaii citizens' future quality of life than workforce development.

We all know Hawaii's low unemployment rate and the difficulty of employers to find employees. To remedy this structural problem, importation of workers or in-migration is not an

effective solution. We need to increase workforce participation, including re-training and re-entering into the workforce those who have “given-up” or who are chronically unemployed.

We also know that employers are having difficulty finding staff with the right level of skills. Skill-sets and the requirement of the jobs of the 21st Century are evolving more rapidly than ever before, driven by fast- changing technologies, technological and operational processes.

Mr. Ching has the commitment, background and experience to lead the DLIR to meet these workforce challenges.

What is notable about Mr. Ching’s qualifications for the DLIR Director position is that he brings together an educator’s and a labor law practitioner’s experience and perspective. I believe this is a rare combination and a very necessary one. Hawaii’s workforce development policies need to be driven by both the K-12 and the incumbent workforce. Mr. Ching brings both to the position.

In my extensive interactions with Mr. Ching over the past 3 months, I have been very impressed with his energy, focus and collaborative approach. Immediately following his interim appointment, Mr. Ching sought me out to discuss how workforce development policy and economic development policy needed to be more integrated. We have had many subsequent discussions on these policy matters and I am very confident that intra-departmental cooperation on workforce will be very strong and productive under Mr. Ching’s leadership

I would respectfully request that the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor advise and consent to Mr. Ching’s nomination.

Thank you.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



ROBERT G. F. LEE
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

GARY M. ISHIKAWA
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

October 23, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I am writing to express my support on the confirmation of Mr. Darwin L. D. Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). Appointed by the Governor, Mr. Ching has served as the Interim Director since August 9, 2007.

Mr. Ching had a solo law practice that specialized in criminal justice, personal injury, business and family disputes, and family law. He has represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of DLIR, and the Labor Board of Appeals. Mr. Ching has been a local arbitrator for the State of Hawaii. His arbitration work involved cases with the Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA), and the United Public Workers (UPW).

Most recently, Mr. Ching served on the State Board of Education from 2005-2006. During this period, he led the contract negotiations with HGEA, Units 6 and 10.

Mr. Darwin L. D. Ching clearly has the leadership and 31 years of experience to lead the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I ask you and the Judiciary and Labor Committee to confirm him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Lee".

ROBERT G.F. LEE
Major General
Hawaii National Guard
Adjutant General

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



ROBERT G. F. LEE
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

GARY M. ISHIKAWA
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

October 23, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I am writing to express my support of the confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). He has served as the Interim Director since August 9, 2007.

Mr. Ching brings 31 years of legal experience to the director position. His solo law practice specialized in criminal justice, personal injury, business and family disputes, and family law. Through the years, he has represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of DLIR, and the Labor Board of Appeals. He has also served as a local arbitrator for the State of Hawaii on cases involved with the Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA), and the United Public Workers (UPW). Mr. Ching served on the State Board of Education from 2005-2006, where he chaired the contract negotiations with HGEA, Units 6 and 10.

Mr. Darwin L. D. Ching will serve with distinction as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. His broad and varied experience base adds to his leadership capabilities to the director's position. I ask you and the Judiciary and Labor Committee confirm him as the director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary M. Ishikawa".

GARY M. ISHIKAWA
Brigadier General
Hawaii National Guard
Deputy Adjutant General

cc: Senator Hanabusa

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



MICAH A. KANE
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

BEN HENDERSON
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

KAULANA H. PARK
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P.O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi and the Members
Of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Chairman Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Mr. Darwin Ching's confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Darwin for more than 10 years. He brings a unique combination of personal and professional experiences that make him more than qualified to serve the State of Hawaii in this capacity.

Personally, Darwin's strength stems from his innate ability to understand and respect other people's perspectives on issues. While he may not agree with them, he is able to create an environment that welcomes people's participation, and in turn results in a "we" place rather than "I" place. I believe this is a critical trait for a director in order to be successful in government.

Professionally, it's without question that Darwin possesses the experience necessary to oversee such an important department like the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. His legal background in labor relations, coupled with his personal strengths will allow him to navigate through the tough situations he will face within the Department. He is respected by both the business and labor community and I believe is suited to bring both communities together for a common goal.

I hope you give Darwin your favorable consideration in this appointment. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

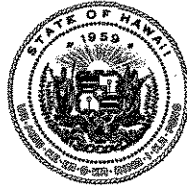
Aloha and Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Micah A. Kane".

Micah A. Kane, Director
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

C: Senator Colleen Hanabusa, President of the Senate

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



BARRY FUKUNAGA
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
MICHAEL D. FORMBY
FRANCIS PAUL KEENO
BRENNON T. MORIOKA
BRIAN H. SEKIGUCHI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

October 26, 2007

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

BILL NUMBER: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 3

TITLE: SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DARWIN CHING FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-6-2010.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:

We strongly support the nomination of Darwin Ching for the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

COMMENTS:

This position calls for a leader who can successfully balance the competing interests of government, businesses, unions, and Hawaii's employees. Darwin Ching has clearly demonstrated his ability to balance these responsibilities, making him an excellent choice to lead this department.

Ching is very knowledgeable about State and Federal labor laws. As a former deputy attorney general and an attorney in private practice, he has appeared before the various boards and hearings officers in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

He is well respected by both the State and the Labor Unions. When he served on the Board of Education, Ching was involved in labor negotiations with the Hawai'i Government Employees Association. He is fair and open minded, considering all sides of an issue, before making a decision.

Given his diverse background and demonstrated leadership, Ching is an asset to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. We respectfully request that the committee confirm Darwin Ching as the Director of this department.



**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Director of the Department of
Labor and Industrial Relations, Governors Message No. 3,
DARWIN CHING.**

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

October 26, 2007

9:30am

Room229

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** the appointment of Darwin Ching as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Ching brings a wide scope of experience from his 31-year career as a former Board of Education member, private practice attorney, prosecuting attorney with the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, and a deputy attorney general with the state Attorney General's office. In addition, his experience includes serving as a labor arbitrator on public sector grievance cases and a labor negotiator in collective bargaining sessions in behalf of the Department of Education.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is a broad and diverse agency responsible for ensuring and increasing the economic security, well-being, and productivity of Hawaii's workers. The department promotes access to employment and strives to alleviate the economic hardship of workers during periods of disability or temporary unemployment, protects the employment rights of workers, and assures a safe and healthy workplace. It is committed to protecting the rights of working people while ensuring the interest of businesses and employers.

Mr. Ching is ably qualified and brings a wealth of relevant experience in dealing with a wide range of stakeholders who draw upon this department's resources. We wish him much success in administering the operations of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of Mr. Ching's appointment as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
THEODORE E. LIU
DIRECTOR
MARK K. ANDERSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2355, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

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

October 23, 2007

To: **The Honorable Brian Taniguchi**
The Honorable Clayton Hee
and Committee Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

Regarding: **Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director**
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Aloha,

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I believe Darwin's background and experience in dealing with both sides of labor issues, his understanding of Hawaii's challenges in education and workforce development, and his calm and consistent leadership skills make him an excellent choice as Director of this key department.

Workforce readiness and workforce development are the most important issues our state faces as it competes in a global economy. I believe Darwin will lead the department in the right direction to fully recognize and develop Hawaii's workers' true potential.

I ask that you recommend and support his confirmation. Mahalo

Sincerely yours,

Steve Bretschneider
Chief Marketing Officer, DBEDT

cc: The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



Darwin LD CHING
INTERIM DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

October 25, 2007

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Elaine Young, Administrator
Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching,
As Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

I would like to take this opportunity to write in strong support for the confirmation of Darwin Ching, the gubernatorial nominee, as the Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have been a state employee for 41 years and it has all been in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. This is my thirteenth year in my current position as the Administrator of the Workforce Development Division. Interim Director Ching is the twelfth Labor Director that I have had the opportunity to work with. Directors come to the department with different and various leadership styles, temperament, agendas, strategic plans, visions, goals, objectives and priorities because they sincerely believe that they are going to be the one to make changes to make the department better. As a career civil service employee, I have had the opportunity, especially within the last twenty years to work very closely with the Directors and their immediate office staff.

Interim Director Ching began working for the department in early August 2007, approximately eleven weeks ago. During that brief period, I have observed several positive characteristics that have impressed my staff and me. He is sincerely interested in all staff and their concerns and has expressed this in his meetings with all DLIR staff statewide. He is a good listener and communicator. I have first hand experience about Director Ching's style as I participated in meetings with other administrators to express concerns and issues and suggest solutions. He

S.B. 1929, S. D. 1
March 20, 2007
Page 2

listens, absorbs the information, participates actively in the discussions and has even made decisions to resolve the issue(s) by the end of the meeting. Incidentally, he strongly believes that productive meetings are usually no more than one hour long which definitely promotes my personal philosophy of "no wasting of time".

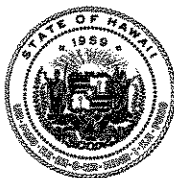
In his introductory address to DLIR employees he has repeatedly expressed that he is team oriented and a team player. From the very beginning he expressed to DLIR's Administrators and Office heads that he would be depending on them to assist him because he felt that they were the experts in their programs areas. He said he would be consulting a lot with us and he has been practicing that daily. I find that refreshing and invigorating.

It is probably due to his professional education and attorney background that he is curious and a quick learner. He has already shown his ability to make decisions when provided all the available facts and because of this, approval and processing of documents by his office has been improved.

One very important goal that he has expressed is to build the capacity of the incumbent DLIR staff so that they will be equipped to do their jobs better and to be prepared to move up to higher positions within the department in the immediate future. This has definitely improved staff morale in my division. Being action oriented, he has a team working on providing an initial staff training course before December 31, 2007.

Director Ching sincerely has tremendous energy and a compassionate heart. I feel that based on what he has expressed as his priorities and what he has done in the brief period at the department, he will do well as the next Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supporting testimony for Mr. Darwin Ching.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
HAWAII OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 425
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-9116 / Fax: (808) 586-9104
Email: dliir.hiosh@hawaii.gov

October 19, 2007

The Honorable Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
The Honorable Brian Taniguchi

RE: Testimony in Support of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director, Department of Labor & Industrial Relations

Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee:

The Hawai'i Occupational Safety and Health (HIOSH) Advisory Committee, comprised of 29 individuals representing employers, unions, insurance, medical, and safety and health organizations committed to worker injury and illness prevention, who volunteer their time to provide advice and guidance to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations urge the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Ching has demonstrated his commitment to worker health and safety through a balanced approach of outreach and training coupled with fair and effective enforcement. During the very short period that he has been interim director he has reached out to all of the department's stakeholders to forge and strengthen common purposes and goals. We believe he is very aware that the workers in this State depend on the department to provide a floor of protections that enable every worker to provide for his or her family and for Hawai'i's future. His cooperative and collaborative approach signals improved communications between the



Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members

October 19, 2007

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department and its stakeholders and we welcome the opportunity to work with him in furtherance of worker health and safety, more productive workplaces and improved labor-management relations.

At the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health (HIOSH) Advisory Committee meeting yesterday, members unanimously approved support for the confirmation of Interim Director Darwin L.D. Ching of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

The following were present at the meeting and voted in support:

Charlotte Hiraiwa for Lani Bjork, Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel
Reynard Burgess, Parsons
Patrick Cheng, Airgas Gaspro
Tristan Aldeguer for Joaquin Diaz, Dick Pacific Construction Co., Ltd.
Jim Peck for Thomas Goob, American Industrial Hygiene Association
Tracy Hayashi, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund
Janelle Kanuha-Marshall, Marine Corps Community Service
Charles Kelley, Outrigger Enterprises, Inc.
Paul King, Actus Lend Lease, LLC
Timothy Lyons, The Legislative Center
Jon Kumashiro for Robert Nakamatsu, Department of Human Resources Development
James Newberry, American Society of Safety Engineers
Joseph O'Donnell, Ironworkers, Local 625
Michael Redman, HEMIC
Daniel Vasilash, General Contractors Association of Hawaii
Alan Hiramatsu for Thomas Vendetta, ISWC Division, C&C
Clayton Winger, Monarch Insurance Service
James Zane, McCabe, Hamilton & Renny Co., Ltd.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Darwin Ching's confirmation as director of the Department of Labor and industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



CHARLES KELLY
HIOSH Advisory Committee Chair

c: Darwin L.D. Ching



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN L.D. CHING
DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LeCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR


PAMELA MARTIN
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WAGE STANDARDS DIVISION
850 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 340
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8777/Fax: (808) 586-8766
Email: dlir.wages@hawaii.gov

October 24, 2007

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Pamela Martin, Administrator 
Wage Standards Division, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**Testimony in Support of
Darwin Ching**

I am the current administrator for the Wage Standards Division (Division), Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and have been working with Interim Director Darwin Ching since his appointment in early August. I have found Interim Director Ching to be a good listener and responsive to our Division's needs.

I have also attended several meetings with him where members of the construction industry have addressed pressing issues surrounding Chapter 104, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Interim Director Ching has been well received and is a good representative of the DLIR.

Finally, I believe that his attitude towards the people in our Division and DLIR is supportive of their success and he is working with the all the divisions to improve their opportunities to succeed. Already he has brought different divisions together in unique ways to allow each division to benefit from the strengths of others outside their division. I believe he will be an excellent Director of Labor and I strongly urge your confirmation and support.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN L.D. CHING
INTERIM DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LACLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ELAINE YOUNG
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 333
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-9066 / Fax: (808) 586-8822
Email: dilr.workforce.develop@hawaii.gov

October 25, 2007

TO: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

DATE: Friday, October 26, 2007
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

FROM: Norma V. McDonald, Oahu Branch Manager *Norma V. McDonald*
Workforce Development Division, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching,
As the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

I am in support of the confirmation of Darwin Ching who is the gubernatorial nominee for the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Although Mr. Ching has only been "on the job" as the interim director since early August 2007, he has already personally visited and spoken with the front-line staff at all of the Workforce Development Division Oahu offices and used videoconference meetings to address and listen to our workers assigned at our neighbor island offices. Further, my staff have informed me that they received letters from the Director in response to questions that he could not answer immediately and which needed research for correct and appropriate answers. In the forty years that I've worked for this Department, this is the first time that I have witnessed a Director make an earnest effort to communicate with his front-line staff at the beginning of his appointment, albeit an interim one.

Mr. Ching resume speaks well of his professional background and his contributions to the community, but it is his open communication, willingness to listen, and positive attitude that have led me to write this testimony for the Committee's consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Darwin Ching.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNORDARWIN L.D. CHING
INTERIM DIRECTORCOLLEEN Y. LACLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTORELAINE YOUNG
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
HAWAII BRANCH
1990 KINOOLE STREET #102
HILO, HAWAII 96720
Phone: (808) 981-2860/ Fax: (808) 981-2860
www.hawaii.gov/labor/wdd
Email: bhanagami@dir.state.hi.us

October 24, 2007

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Friday, October 26, 2007

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Blayne Hanagami, Hawaii Branch Manager
Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
1990 Kinoole Street Suite 102
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching,
As Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

I am writing to support the confirmation of Darwin Ching, the gubernatorial nominee, as the Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As the branch manager for the last seventeen (17) years and thirty-one (31) years as a Department employee, I have worked for many directors during this period and had the distinct opportunity to appreciate the varying temperaments, leadership styles, and priorities of the directors who have come and gone.

Mr. Ching, whom we have had the privilege of meeting during his brief tenure here thus far, immediately impressed me and my staff with his sincere concern of the welfare each of us working on the front line. He has shown an extraordinary sensitivity towards the customers we now serve and the conditions in which our employees work. As our interim director, he has already rejuvenated the enthusiasm our employees here on the Big Island—without exception!

His professional background and personal characteristics, I humbly believe, will enable him to lead our Division, Department, and its employees during this critical era when the effective development of our work force—from the highly skilled to those severely challenged—will

likely determine the economic well being of our economy.

Based on his initially-expressed priorities and shared vision, I am convinced our business community will openly embrace our new leader and our renewed direction as we collaboratively work with employers, business organizations, policy-makers, community agencies, and all job seekers in a making our Big Island and State second to none!

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Darwin Ching.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Clayton Hanojani". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed text.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN CHING
INTERIM DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ELAINE YOUNG
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

KAUAI BRANCH
3-3100 KUHIO HIGHWAY, SUITE C-9
LIHUE, HAWAII 96766
Phone: (808) 274-3056 / Fax: (808) 274-3058

October 25, 2007

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Tracy Hirano, Kauai Branch Manager
Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

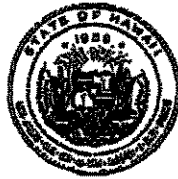
**Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching,
As Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

I would like to send my support through this letter toward the confirmation of Darwin Ching, the gubernatorial nominee, as the Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Interim Director Ching has showed that he is caring and deeply interested in the well-being of the employees of this department and the work that we do. Within the first weeks of his term, he introduced himself to Kauai's DLIR employees via a series of video conferences and most recently circulated a training survey asking each employee what kind of training he or she would need to do their jobs better. These demonstrations of employee support can only have a positive effect on the morale of our employees which will transfer into having a positive effect on the services we provide to the public.

I feel that Interim Director Ching will be an excellent leader who will lead the DLIR into becoming a top department of State government. Thank you for providing this opportunity to testify in support of Interim Darwin Ching.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN CHING
INTERIM DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LACLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ELAINE YOUNG
ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
KAUAI BRANCH
3-3100 KUHIHO HIGHWAY, SUITE C-8
LIHUE, HAWAII 96766
Phone: (808) 274-3056 / Fax: (808) 274-3059**

October 25, 2007

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Carol Kanayama, Program Officer
Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching,
As Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

I am testifying to support the confirmation of Darwin Ching as the Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have worked for the Department for over thirty years and have had the opportunity to experience different Directors.

Mr. Ching has been on board for less than three (3) months as Interim Director, but he has already proven himself a capable leader who inspires his employees with compassion for their well-being, and one who leads by example. A skillful listener and mediator, he sets people at ease, listens well, and easily reconciles differences. Somehow, he manages to facilitate and achieve a "win-win" situation for everyone with fairness and equity, no matter how strongly divided they may be at first.

Thus, he demonstrates how difficult decisions can be made without creating division, and, instead, by creating unity. He is practical in his approach while looking toward the future. He wastes no time and quickly grasps the nature and core of complex issues. I feel he will make a positive difference for the Department and the State of Hawaii, and I urge your support for his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Darwin Ching as the Department's future Director.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN L.D. CHING
INTERIM DIRECTOR
COLLEEN Y. LeCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ELAINE YOUNG
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
Maui Branch
2084 Wells Street, Suite 108
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Affiliated with
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

October 25, 2007

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
And Member of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Kevin K. Kimizuka, Maui County Branch Manager *KKK*
Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching,
As Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

In am writing to support the confirmation of Darwin Ching, the gubernatorial nominee, as the Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Since his first day as Interim Director on August 9th, 2007 Darwin has made every attempt to understand the purpose and the mission of the Workforce Development Division, one of three divisions that make up the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. He has introduced himself and made himself available to every WDD and DLIR employee statewide. As he is aware of the many challenges faced by our local staff in delivering much needed services, he has vowed to support us and provide us with the additional knowledge and tools to enable us to provide a higher quality of service to our customers.

In this short period that Darwin has been with us, he has proven his dedication to provide support at every level in the department. We are very excited and look forward to working with Darwin. His focus to provide opportunities to strengthen each and every individual will provide for a more committed team of employees that make up the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Darwin Ching.

BRYAN J. BAPTISTE
Mayor



MATTHEW S. K. PYUN, JR.
County Attorney

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF KAUAI, STATE OF HAWAII
MO'IKEHA BUILDING
4444 RICE STREET, SUITE 220
LIHU'E, KAUAI, HAWAII 96786-1300
TEL (808) 241-6315
FAX (808) 241-6319

Deputies
Harrison K. Kawate, First Deputy
Rosa Flores
Margaret H. Sueoka
James K. Tagupa

October 22, 2007

Via Facsimile: 586-6461

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations,
State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am writing to express my support for the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Ching has worked with the County Attorney's Office on Kauai for many years, representing various employees and department heads in matters which touched upon personnel and civil service issues, workers compensation, personal injury, police liability, and more. We have always been extremely happy with the work he has done for us. I cannot overemphasize the consistently high quality of his work, his ethics, and his ability to work with our employees.

If Mr. Ching is confirmed as Director, I am confident the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations will gain an outstanding Director, though our office will lose one of our finest outside counsel.


Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and
Committee Members

-2-

September 22, 2007

I sincerely hope that you will confirm Mr. Ching. I believe he will be an outstanding leader.

Sincerely,



MARGARET SUEOKA
Deputy County Attorney

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797/email: senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099/email: darwinching@hawaii.gov)

TERRY E. THOMASON

**44-166 Nanomeha
Kaneohe, HI 96744**

October 23, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director Department
of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations ("DLIR") because of his 31 years of practice as a respected local attorney and because of his past work in employment law matters.

Mr. Ching has represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of the DLIR and the Labor Board of Appeals as well as local arbitrators. He also has served as a local arbitrator for the State on cases involving the Hawai'i Government Employees Association (HGEA) and United Public Workers (UPW). Finally, he served as the chair of the labor negotiations team for the HGEA units 6 and 10 while he was a member of the Hawai'i Board of Education in 2005 and 2006.

More importantly, Mr. Ching is a thoughtful and patient man who will listen to the views of others when setting DLIR policies. He understands the need to communicate and cooperate with the legislature, unions, employers, and individual employees when implementing the statutes he will administer. The legislature can be assured, Mr. Ching will provide even-handed and skilled leadership at DLIR, and he will work with the legislature to establish the best possible programs for Hawai'i's workers.

I urge the Committee to confirm Mr. Ching promptly.

Very truly yours,



Terry E. Thomason

October 25, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Mr. Ching a little more than 25 years, on a professional and social level.

Professionally, I met Mr. Ching while we were both deputy prosecuting attorneys for the City and County of Honolulu.

Mr. Ching was always a zealous advocate, and fair in his dealings with his adversaries. He was not one to shy away from confrontation, but he also listened to reason.

These were the qualities which provided the basis for Mr. Ching's rise to head the District and Family Court Division in the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney. Mr. Ching supervised approximately 20 deputy prosecuting attorneys, as a mentor and teacher.

Subsequent to the leaving the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Ching entered the private practice of law, first as a partner in a prestigious law firm and later as a solo practitioner. Mr. Ching's innate qualities as a passionate advocate and a reasonable negotiator resulted in successful practices.

I believe that Mr. Ching, as Interim Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, has brought these qualities with him and he will continue to exhibit the same as Director.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

/S/ WAYNE H. TASHIMA

WAYNE H. TASHIMA

Cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
Darwin L. D. Ching, Interim Director

From: Lei [leiahuisa@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:17 AM
To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi
Cc: Sen. Colleen Hanabusa
Subject: Darwin Ching Word.doc

October 22, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to write on behalf of Darwin Ching, a candidate for the position of State Labor Director.

As you are aware, Mr. Ching served on the Board of Education as the Oahu member-at-large from 2005-2006, where he was chair of the labor negotiations for HGEA units 6 and 10. During that time, he focused his attention on how the BOE handled the discipline problems in our public school classrooms/campuses, special education, Charter Schools, as well as being a great resource when it came to understanding the law. The BOE met every week, sometimes three times per week, and Mr. Ching was always in attendance.

As a first-hand witness to his work on the BOE, I can say that Mr. Ching displayed an exemplary dedication to the many issues. He was also very effective as a negotiator as his law background served us well. I think that the most important trait I can attest to is his "fairness" and "compassion" when it came to dealing with everyone. These included parents, principals, community advocates, and of course, the students.

I hope you will give Mr. Ching your favorable consideration for confirmation to this position. I am convinced that he will be an asset to this state if given the opportunity. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-383-5201.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lei Ahu Isa
Board of Education Member

From: Eliot Merk [eliot@jemerck.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 3:40 AM
To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi
Cc: Sen. Colleen Hanabusa; darwinching@hawaii.gov
Subject: Confirmation of Darwin Ching

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members

Judiciary and Labor Committee

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street, Room 219

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations because of his 31 years of experience. Mr. Ching is qualified for the following reasons:

- Darwin Ching was appointed by Governor Lingle to serve as Interim Director of the Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations since August 9, 2007
- Mr. Ching was a solo practitioner in the areas of criminal justice, personal injury, business and family disputes and family law
- Mr. Ching worked in the State Attorney General's Office and was assigned to the administration division and litigation civil rights and education cases for the Department of Education
- Mr. Ching represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of the DLIR and the Labor Board of Appeals as well as local arbitrators
- Mr. Ching served as a local arbitrator for the State on cases involving the Hawai'i Government Employees Association (HGEA) and United Public Workers (UPW)
- Mr. Ching served as a member of the State of Hawai'i Board of Education from 2005-2006 where he was the chair of the labor negotiations for the HGEA units 6 and 10

Sincerely,

Eliot Merk

J. E. Merk & Associates, Inc.
69 Railroad Avenue, Suite A-19
Hilo, Hawaii, 96720-4574
Phone: (808) 961-4755
Fax: (808) 969-2003
Cell: (808) 960-0780

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10/25/2007

From: Chuck Clarke [chuckclarke@chuckclarke.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 10:52 AM
To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi
Subject: Mr. Darwin Ching

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members

Judiciary and Labor Committee

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street, Room 219

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations because of his 31 years of experience. Mr. Ching is very qualified and I have always found him to be fair minded and fair handed.

Sincerely,

Charles Clarke

P.O. Box 2245

Kamuela, HI 96743

808 885-8533

Lois Miller

To: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov
Cc: senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov; darwinching@hawaii.gov
Subject: Testimony for Darwin Ching

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members

Judiciary and Labor Committee

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street, Room 219

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Seator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the nomination of Darwin L. D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations because of his 31 years of experience. Mr. Ching is qualified for the following reasons: A. Darwin Ching was appointed by Governor Lingle to serve as Interim Director of the Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations since August 9, 2007. B. Mr. Ching was a solo practioner in the areas of criminal justice, personal injury, business and family disputes and family law. C Mr. Ching worked in the State Attorney General's Office and was assigned to the adminstation division and litigation civil rights and education cases for the Department of Education D. Mr. Ching represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of the DLIT and the labor Board of Appeals as well as local arbitrators E. Mr. Ching served as a local arbitrator for the Hawaii Government Employees Assocaition (HEGA) and United Public Workers (UPW) F. Mr. Ching servied as a member of the State of Hawaii Board of Education from 2005-2006 where he was the chair of the labor negotiations for the HGEA units 6 and 10.

Sincerely



Lois Miller
88 Piikoi St #801
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96814
808-596-9472

Rene' Berthiaume

Chairman of the State Rehabilitation Council

Member, Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

P.O. Box 1115, Haleiwa, HI 96712 808-221-4137

October 24, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members

Judiciary and Labor Committee

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street, Room 219

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations because of his 31 years of experience. Mr. Ching is qualified for the following reasons:

I have personally worked with Darwin Ching on a number of committees and believe his leadership and fairness to the process is unquestionable. I believe he would be highly qualified to serve as the Director of DLIR. In addition, some of Darwin's other qualifications are

Mr. Ching was a solo practitioner in the areas of criminal justice, personal injury, business and family disputes and family law.

Mr. Ching worked in the State Attorney General's Office and was assigned to the administration division and litigation civil rights and education cases for the Department of Education.

Mr. Ching represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of the DLIR and the Labor Board of Appeals as well as local arbitrators.

Mr. Ching served as a member of the State of Hawai'i Board of Education from 2005-2006 where he was the chair of the labor negotiations for the HGEA units 6 and 10.

Sincerely

Rene' Berthiaume

October 22, 2007

sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawai'i State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter to you in support of Mr. Darwin L.D. Ching for the position of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the State of Hawai'i.

I have known Darwin for at least 10 years and I can attest that he has been a very caring, competent and honest person in all the activities and events on which we have worked together. As you can observe from Darwin's resume' he has been very involved in community and educational programs and activities which continue to strengthen our youth and community.

I consider Darwin to be the "people's" man who has continuously shown interest and compassion for the many residents of the Islands and know that he will bring a "caring" sense of responsibility to the job.

I ask that you kindly confirm Darwin Ching for the position of Director for the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i.

Warmest alohas and with appreciation,

Sandra Albano
Vice President, Travel Planners
748 Kokomo Pl.
Honolulu, HI 96825
Email: asaloha@pixi.com

October 25, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii**

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Darwin for many years. His background in education and his experience as a prosecutor and attorney in private practice provide him with a balance that makes him highly qualified to serve as the Director for the Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely yours,


JAY T. KIMURA

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (fax: 586-9099)

TESTIMONY

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
INTERIM SESSION OF 2007**

**October 26, 2007
9:30 a.m.**

**TESTIMONY ON DARWIN CHING, GUBENATORIAL NOMINEE, DIRECTOR OF THE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.**

**TO THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:**

**My name is Lani Nakazawa. I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as
Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. As the former County
Attorney for the County of Kaua'i, I worked with Mr. Ching, who was employed as Special
Counsel for the County at the time of my appointment. Mr. Ching represented the County
and/or County employees in several lawsuits involving employment law issues. Mr. Ching
was knowledgeable about labor issues, reliable, and responsive.**

**Please give Mr. Ching favorable consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to
present testimony on this matter.**

KEVIN H M CHONG KEE

1206 KAELEKU ST.
HONOLULU, HI 96825
(808) 395-8143

October 22, 2007

The Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi and Committee Members
Chairman, Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Darwin has demonstrated throughout his 31-year career as a dedicated public servant. He graduated from Kalani High School and attended the University of Hawaii. Teaching social studies at Kaimuki High School was just a start of a career which led him back to University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law and graduating in the school's first graduating class of 1976. He has served at various levels in the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, a deputy attorney general within the State of Hawaii Attorney General's Office and as an attorney in the private sector. Darwin has also served as a member of the State of Hawaii Board of Education.

As Interim Director, Darwin believes that his role at DLIR is to foster collaborative working relationships with labor unions, the state legislature, businesses and the community.

This is why I support Darwin L.D. Ching as the State of Hawaii's next Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mahalo,



Kevin Chong Kee

ERICA CHEE
4301 SIERRA DRIVE
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822
TELEPHONE: 391-6166

October 23, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

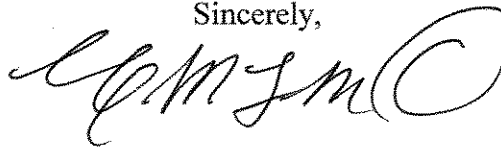
Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator and Committee Members:

I am Erica Chee daughter of Kevin Chee and Melinda Chee. I wholeheartedly support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Uncle Darwin has not caused me, nor my siblings any pain or hardship. To the contrary, he has fully supported my efforts to become a law student. He advised and counseled me and hired me as a research assistant.

My understanding is that he appeared on behalf of my father only once in Court and since then, has never appeared as counsel to avoid any appearance of impropriety, since he had been the former supervisor of the presiding Family Court Judge. Please do not be influenced by the allegations by my mother, Melinda Chee, against my Uncle Darwin. It is without hesitation that I strongly support his confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erica Chee', with a large, stylized circular flourish at the end.

ERICA CHEE

BRENNON T. MORIOKA
1335 Akiahala Street
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

October 26, 2007

TESTIMONY OF BRENNON MORIOKA

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

BILL NUMBER: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 3

TITLE: SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DARWIN CHING FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-6-2010.

POSITION: I strongly support the nomination of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

COMMENTS: I have come to know Darwin Ching both professionally and personally and he is man of great integrity and conviction. His diverse background working as an attorney and a former Board of Education member allows him to understand the importance of striking a balance of serving Hawaii's employees, while building a cooperative relationship with businesses, employers, and unions.

Darwin is not afraid to make the tough decisions that may be right, but not always popular. It's this ability, which will allow him to effectively lead a department that deals with a wide range of issues and opinions. He also has experience dealing with labor relations from his participation in negotiations with the Department of Education and the Hawai'i Government Employees Association, while serving on the BOE.

Finally, he is a willing and dedicated public servant, who has taken on various roles serving the state and has the leadership necessary to take this department to the next level. I respectfully request that this committee vote favorably on the confirmation of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Testimony via email: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Number of Copies: Please print 25

To: THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

INTERIM OF 2007

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, October 26, 2007
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A

In anticipation of receiving Governor's messages appointing nominees to various boards and commissions, your Committee will be holding a hearing to consider the background, experience, and qualification of the following individual:

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations , Gubernatorial Nominee, DARWIN CHING , for a term to expire 12-31-2010 .	Pending referral to JDL
---	-----------------------------------

Testimony From: Melinda Chee,



Member, Children's Rights Council of Hawaii

Subj: TESTIMONY REGARDING ISSUES RELATED TO THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF DARWIN CHING, as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for a term to expire 12-31-2010.

TESTIMONY STRONGLY AGAINST THE APPOINTMENT OF DARWIN CHING:

I am a private citizen, mother of four children and a member of the Children's Rights Council of Hawai'i. My children and I have suffered much pain at the hand of Attorney Darwin Ching. He served as Hawai'i Family Court Defense Counsel; representing his cousin, Defendant Kevin Chee (another Honolulu attorney), in post-Custody divorce issues. As Defense Counsel, Darwin Ching maliciously used his influence as "Good Friend of the Court" [See Ho'Ohiki Case # 1DV9501599, Court Minutes Date Feb. 04, 2004] to perpetuate defective, unconstitutional court actions in the Chee v Chee case.

Although Darwin Ching does not have a Family Law practice, he leveraged the Family Court to run roughshod over Plaintiff Melinda Chee and the 4 children of the Chee marriage. His actions represent the epitome of domestic cruelty!

There is a long line of unhappy Hawai'i Family Court customers. Systemic problems in the Hawaii Family court are widely recognized. Attorney Darwin Ching hobnobs with the Hawai'i Family Court, performing backstage actions under the cloak of his primary law practice.

The Hawai'i Legislature has been holding Special Hearings in both the Senate and House to investigate the abuses of legal interventions employed by the Family Court. Hawai'i Family Court Chief Judge Frances Q.F. Wong turns a deaf ear to the problems and blithely refers to the most unjust cases as "red herrings". The Red Herrings are now a school of fish upon which "Family Law" Attorney Darwin Ching is a predator.

Shocking issues involving the Hawai'i Family Court were uncovered in a 2002 audit of the Hawai'i Family Court, which the Hawai'i Family Court has

sequestered. Chief Justice Moon recognized the glaring problems of the Hawai'i Family Court in his State of the Judiciary address. He publicly admonished Justice Frances QF Wong by declaring: "Let the sun shine in!"

You are probably aware of an Article in the Hawai'i Bar Journal, February, 2004 titled "*Divorce Law in Hawai'i: An Update*", by eminent Hawai'i Family Law attorney, William C. Darrah. He states: "The situation has become SO BAD [emphasis added] that lawyers resort to presentation devices which in fact violate the Hawaii Rules of Evidence. (See *Kie v McMahel*, 91 Haw.438, 984 p.2d 1264 (App 1999)).

Unhappy Hawai'i Family Court customers are becoming increasingly frustrated by Judge Frances QF Wong's failure to recognize and correct the unjust and unconstitutional processes of the Hawai'i Family Court.

It is time for a change!! There have been many **BROKEN PROMISES** to the people of Hawai'i. Promoting Hawai'i "Family Law" Attorney Darwin Ching to the long term position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations assures ongoing corruption and practices profoundly odious. Now is the time to Do The Right Thing and choose another nominee, one who does not have insider affiliations with the Hawai'i Family Court.

With responsible aloha,

Melinda Chee

Member Hawai'i Children's Rights Council

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere" Martin Luther King Jr.

Testimony in Support of Nominee DARWIN L.D. CHING
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

TO: Senator Brian Taniguchi
and Members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor
Committee

FROM: Melissa R. Shimizu 
Senate District 8

Senator Taniguchi and Committee members, I am in
SUPPORT of the Governor's nomination of DARWIN L.D. CHING to
the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I am a resident of Hawaii Kai who is currently attending college
in California. I have known Mr. Ching for all of my life.

Uncle Darwin is a patient and compassionate man, who always
has time for family gatherings and for family members. He is one of
our family disciplinarians, and I must admit, I was a little afraid of
him while I was a youngster.

Uncle Darwin is one of the most dependable people I know.
When I was growing up my mother always has an emergency list
posted near each phone in the house. Uncle Darwin and Aunty
Linda's phone number was always on the list, as my mom and I
knew that if we ever needed help, if we called they would drop
whatever they were doing and come over to help.

Uncle Darwin is a good mentor and always encouraged me in all endeavors, especially tennis and in educational pursuits. He is a good father to my cousins, especially Darien who I admire.

Please favorably support the nomination of DARWIN L.D. CHING to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Testimony for DARWIN L.D. CHING
Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

TO: Senator Brian Taniguchi
and Members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor
Committee

FROM: Leilani Y. Mau
Senate District 8

Leilani Mau

Senator Taniguchi and Committee members, I am in SUPPORT of the Governor's nomination of DARWIN L.D. CHING to the Directorship of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known the nominee for close to 40 years, first as my nephew by marriage and second as my attorney.

Mr. Ching is a hard working, compassionate, self-made man. He has not had an easy life. He's experienced ups and downs, but has always overcome problems and adversities and comes out of each situation a better man. He is a good provider to my niece, Linda Ching. He is a great father to his three children, Darryl, Daren and Darien, who I am extremely proud of. He's an even greater grandfather to his grandchildren.

But most important to me, he is a good son-in-law to my older sister, Loretta. He is always generous with his time and efforts on behalf of Loretta. And through the years he always treated my sister equally just as her treated his own mother, even taking both mother and mother-in-law on family trips to Las Vegas.

Mr. Ching is a great lawyer. Even though my own daughter is a lawyer, whenever I have a legal problem I call Darwin. He's never judgmental. He always makes time for me and he is always patient. He always gets me the most positive results possible. And most important, he's never sent me a bill or invoice for professional services rendered!

In all seriousness, I know DARWIN L.D. CHING will serve the people of the State well. As I said before, he's hard working and he's smart and persevering. And while I will be losing my personal lawyer, I know the State will be gaining a great Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

CC: Senate President Colleen Hanabusa
Senator Sam Slom

October 22, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capital
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Darwin Ching is well qualified for the position and has the experience to make a positive difference in the community. He is aware of the needs of Hawaii to be continually educated and trained in order to stay competitive in the international business arena.

I have known Darwin Ching professionally for 15 years. I am continually impressed with his honesty, integrity and great attention to details. These and his many other attributes, knowledge and experiences will serve him and the people of Hawaii well when he is confirmed as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



James A. Nunley
92-1463 Alii Nui Drive 22H
Ko'Olina Resort, Hawaii 96707

Cc: Senator Colleen Hanbusa
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director

Via Facsimile: 586-6461

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair of the Labor and Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

1. Hardworking, team player that puts the best interest of others first.
2. Long term Hawaii resident that knows what the State of Hawaii needs.
3. Past supervision and management as a Deputy Prosecutor.
4. Experience in prior labor disputes.
5. Knowledge in State of Hawaii government as a former board member of the Department of Education.

Sincerely,



LAURA A. CAMARA
Resident of Hawaii Island

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797)
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye (via fax: 808-586-7339)
Darwin L. D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members

Judiciary and Labor Committee

Hawai'i State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street, Room 219

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations because of his 31 years of experience. Mr. Ching is qualified for the following reasons: *(choose from the following)*

- Darwin Ching was appointed by Governor Lingle to serve as Interim Director of the Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations since August 9, 2007
- Mr. Ching was a solo practitioner in the areas of criminal justice, personal injury, business and family disputes and family law
- Mr. Ching worked in the State Attorney General's Office and was assigned to the administration division and litigation civil rights and education cases for the Department of Education
- Mr. Ching represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of the DLIR and the Labor Board of Appeals as well as local arbitrators
- Mr. Ching served as a local arbitrator for the State on cases involving the Hawai'i Government Employees Association (HGEA) and United Public Workers (UPW)
- Mr. Ching served as a member of the State of Hawai'i Board of Education from 2005-2006 where he was the chair of the labor negotiations for the HGEA units 6 and 10

Sincerely,

Dr. Gordon Smith

Mrs. LuAnne Smith

Kapa'a, Kauai, Hawaii

808-823-0025

October 19, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi and Committee Members
 Judiciary and Labor Committee
 Hawaii State Capitol
 417 South Berntania Street, Room 19
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin H. D. Ching as director
 Department of Labor & Industrial
 Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin H. D. Ching,
 as director for the Department of Labor and
 Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

Mr. Ching is very honest, knowledgeable,
 dependable & very kind & caring of people.

Sincerely,
 Dorothy J. Morinaga
 1031 Maunahi Place
 Apt. 1003
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

CC: Senator Collen Hanabusa
 (Via Fax: 586-7797)
 Darwin H. D. Ching, Interim
 Director (Via Fax: 586-9099)

Kay Ahina
2029 Nuuanu Ave., Apt. 1709
Honolulu, HI 96817

October 23, 2007

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi and the
Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
State Capitol, 417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Darwin Ching's appointment as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.


I have known Darwin to be a good listener and hard worker. With his prior experience as an attorney and public servant, he has the management skill, background and leadership style necessary to lead the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Darwin is a courageous person willing to take on cases that others have declined. In particular, he took on a case of a young woman who had been discriminated against on the job. Other attorneys were not interested in taking her case because the monetary value was not much. Not Darwin—he believes in doing the right thing and fight for the underdog.

As chairman of a committee, I have observed him handle difficult people under stressful circumstances. Darwin is always fair and believes in letting everyone have their say. In addition, with Darwin's background as an attorney, his experience with the Board of Education and his community involvement, he has always demonstrated tremendous character.

I respectfully request that you appoint Darwin Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations because he is the right choice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Kay Ahina

C: Senator Colleen Hanabusa, President of the Senate

October 22, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

It is my pleasure to support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Darwin is a consummate professional in every sense of the word, and would be a great asset to the State of Hawaii in this position. His motives are pure - to make Hawaii a better place to live and work for all of it's residents.

Interpersonally, Darwin is a pragmatic leader and effective problem solver. He asks the hard questions and even more importantly, listens to the answers. He is a consensus builder, taking into account multiple points of view and reaching decisions that are equitable to all involved. Darwin is the natural choice when the task at hand requires an attention to multiple points of view, a thorough review of all perspectives, and an ultimate decision to be made.

Talking with Darwin, it is immediately evident that he is a warm, caring person who has mastered the art of being professional yet personable. Acutely aware of the importance of being culturally appropriate in balancing getting the job done with relationship building, people enjoy spending time with Darwin and working with and for him. His high moral character and commitment to ethical principals is easily apparent.

In summary, I recommend Darwin L.D. Ching as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations without any hesitation or reservation. His talents, skills, and character make him an obvious choice for this important position. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Leilani K. Ahina, PsyD
Clinical Psychologist

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY ROBERT N.E. PIPER
TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
ON
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 3

October 26, 2007

Chairperson Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Aloha mai kakou. My name is Robert N.E. Piper and I thank you for the opportunity and honor to submit this written testimony in strong support of Governor's Message No. 3 nominating Darwin Ching as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations for the State of Hawaii.

I am the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget & Finance. Although I have only had the privilege of working with Mr. Ching as the Interim Director of Labor and Industrial Relations for a short time, I have had numerous occasion to work with him in my previous capacity as a business attorney in private legal practice for well over six (6) years. In both of these capacities, my experience in dealing with Interim Director Ching has been nothing short of exemplary.

In fact, I consider Mr. Ching one of my legal mentors. I am aware of countless other attorneys who have greatly benefited from Mr. Ching's years of legal experience and his unselfish desire to share these professional lessons with younger, inexperienced attorneys – all for the benefit of a stronger legal community in Hawaii. Mr. Ching's reputation and integrity are above reproach, and his personal example of community service has been a beacon for countless others to follow.

I have been privy to Mr. Ching's approach to the business of his law practice, his legal clients, and his family. In my humble opinion, Interim Director Ching has balanced a strong commitment to quality of service and fiscal propriety with a deep sense of aloha and respect for others no matter what their position or political leaning. Through this personal example of professionalism and dedication to the mission of serving the people of Hawaii, Interim Director Ching will help to continue to set the tone for not only the staff of his department but for other members of the Lingle/Aiona Administration as well.

In my dealings with Interim Director Ching over the past years, I have come to consider him a personal roll model. He has an uncanny ability and skill in dealing with so many important issues that confront State government. He is a quick study, a strong communicator, and his experience in the labor and industrial relations area serves us all well. These attributes coupled with his openness towards staff and constituents will result in a well run department.

Sen. Brian Taniguchi

From: Kris Portillo [kportillo@m4law.com]
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2007 3:24 PM
To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi; Sen. Clayton Hee
Cc: Sen. Colleen Hanabusa; Darwin.Ching@hawaii.gov
Subject: Letter of Support for the Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching
Attachments: Darwin Ching Letter of Support.pdf

Dear Chairperson Taniguchi and Vice-Chair Hee,

Attached please find a letter for support for the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 529-7323. Thank you.

Robert G. Klein
McCarriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP
P.O. Box 2800
Honolulu, Hawaii 96803 2800
Dir. Tel. No. (808) 529 7323
Fax No.: (808) 524-8293
E mail: Portillo@m4law.com

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Kevin A. Souza
276 Paiko Drive
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

Sent Via Post and Email: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair of the Labor and Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi & Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I have known Mr. Ching for over ten years, both as an attorney and as a personal friend. I have also had the pleasure of observing Mr. Ching practice law in the District, Family and Circuit Courts. On each occasion, he has demonstrated a strong intellect and a unique understanding of the people of Hawai'i. More importantly, he has always been honest, straightforward, and committed to ensuring justice.

Mr. Ching is a consummate professional. He is unwavering in his commitment to public service, yet always finds time for his family and friends. He has served honorably and dutifully both as a Prosecuting Attorney and a Deputy Attorney General. Prior to joining DLIR, Mr. Ching merged his legal education and his passion for helping youth, by serving on the State Board of Education.

Mr. Ching brings to DLIR a lifetime of experience, and a passion to prepare Hawai'i's workforce to excel in the global marketplace. He will no doubt foster a strong working relationship with the labor unions, the state legislature, the businesses community, and the public. I believe that Mr. Ching's knowledge and experience, and his strong family and community involvement, will be a credit to DLIR. I urge you to confirm his appointment as Director of DLIR.

Very truly yours,



Kevin A. Souza, Esq.

3508 Mc Corrison St.
Honolulu, HI 96815

October 23, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 S. Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Senator Taniguchi:

re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching

This is to testify in favor of the appointment of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I first met Mr. Ching in the early 1980's while we both worked at the Department of the Attorney General. During that time, Mr. Ching faced a heavy work load because he was defending the State in civil rights and Department of Education civil cases.

I first became aware of Mr. Ching because he did not have his own office, but rather worked from the department's library because there was an shortage of office space. Despite this limitation I have known Mr. Ching as a person of highly professional and steady perseverance in defending and representing the State in various capacities.

Mr. Ching demonstrated he was a committed team player because he shared his litigation experience and knowledge with me whenever I was doing legal research at the library. I was always impressed with Mr. Ching's commitment to community affairs, in particular, the quality of public school education. His

Tel: (808) 254-1796; Cell: (808) 371-2429
Fax: (808) 254-1596; E-mail: rmiller@aya.yale.edu

Richard S. Miller
Professor of Law, Emeritus
315 Iliaina Street
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734-1807

October 24, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)
(Via Email: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

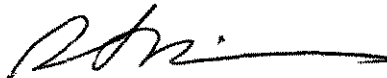
Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I have known Darwin Ching for many years. He was a student of mine at the William S. Richardson School of Law and I engaged in some legal work in support of one of his clients several years ago.

In my contacts with him I have always found him to be very friendly, courteous, and intelligent. My impression has been that he is an excellent lawyer. I have no reason to believe that he does not subscribe to the highest ethical standards, as established by the Rules of Professional Responsibility.

For these reasons I am happy to support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



Richard S. Miller

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director

Post-It® Fax Note	7871	Date	10/24	# of pages	1
To	Brian Taniguchi	From	Karen Knudsen		
Co./Dept.		Co.	EWC		
Phone #		Phone #	944-7195		
Fax #	586-6461	Fax #	944-7376		

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
 Judiciary and Labor Committee
 Hawaii State Capitol
 417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
 Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

I worked closely with Mr. Ching when he served on the Hawaii State Board of Education. During his tenure, I found him to be a very diligent, focused, and committed member of the Board. Mr. Ching was always very thoughtful and fair in his comments and actions.

Most notably, Mr. Ching spear headed an effort by the Board of Education to address the very serious issue of safety, including "bullying" in our schools. It was through his leadership as Chair of the Board's ad hoc Committee on School Safety that a comprehensive report was produced – a report that the Board and Department of Education continue to reference in our ongoing effort to eradicate bullying and address other safety issues at the school level.

I hope you will favorably consider Mr. Ching's confirmation as Director of DLIR. If you should have any questions, please call me at 944-7195.

Very Sincerely,



Karen Knudsen

Cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
 Darwin L.D. Ching

**Wesley R. Segawa
101 Silva Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720**

VIA FAX: 586-6461

October 24, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capital
417 S. Beretania St., Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Darwin L.D. Ching to serve as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

- I have known Mr. Ching for many years on a personal and business level.
- He is compassionate and sensitive to the needs of others on an individual basis.
- His education, training and experience in the practice of law and classroom teacher has prepared him to serve as the Director of this Department.
- His career experience in both the public and private sectors as a subordinate and business owner give him appropriate perspectives to serve as the Director of this Department.
- He is able to work with others with differing views and seek solutions that are in the best interest of all concerned.
- He has the appropriate leadership skills and maturity to lead the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony of support.

Sincerely,



Wesley R. Segawa

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax 586-9099)

Hawaii State Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Chair

Re: Supporting the Confirmation of DARWIN CHING for the Position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am Nadao Yoshinaga and I fully support the nomination and confirmation of Darwin Ching for the Directorship of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. He will be a fine director and I am confident of his ability to carry out the mandates of the department in the enforcement of labor laws.


I have known Mr. Ching for more than thirty years. Back in 1976, when the University of Hawaii School of Law was about to graduate its first class, my good friend, then Circuit Judge Toshimi Sodetani, had dropped by to see me when I was serving as the Chair of the Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board. Since this first graduating class marked a milestone for all of us who supported the growth and development of the University of Hawaii, Judge Sodetani thought that it would be good to hire a member of the first graduating class as his law clerk. He did not know any of the students and asked me for some names, if I knew any.

I asked several members of the graduating class if they had any recommendations. Two of the students recommended Darwin Ching. I contacted Judge Sodetani. After an interview, he was hired. Toshimi, on more than several occasions, would stop by and remark that he was very pleased with Darwin's work. Darwin also stopped on occasions and we would talk about the practice of law in general. I know that he has maintained his friendship with Judge Sodetani (now retired).

For those who might know something about my background, I have a great interest in the field of labor law and the condition of our workers. After graduating from law school in Chicago, I came back to Hawaii and joined the law firm of Bouslog and Symonds, Hawaii's foremost labor law firm. After several years of practice, I ran for political office and served in the State House and Senate from 1954-1974. During those years I served in various positions, including the chairmanships of the Labor and Ways and Means Committees. In the legislature I worked to reform the unemployment and worker's compensation laws. I also, with the help of my colleagues, worked to enact the temporary disability insurance law and the pre-paid health law, among other measures.

I bring this background up, not to reminisce, but to emphasize how important this Department of Labor is to me. For it is this department and its director that have been charged by this legislature to administer these laws. I have confidence in Darwin Ching to carry out the mission and I ask for the Senate's consent to his appointment.

Thank you.


Senator Nadao Yoshinaga (ret.)

October 24, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor & Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

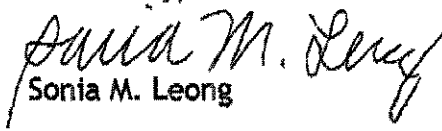
Dear Senator Taniguchi & Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

- 1) He will be fair and will listen to all sides.
- 2) He will do what he feels is best for the greater community.
- 3) He has integrity.
- 4) He has experience as a labor arbitrator and is familiar with many of the labor issues.

Thank you for the consideration and please feel free to call me if you have any questions. My contact information: phone 531-3125 & email hiaa@hawaii.rr.com

Yours truly,


Sonia M. Leong

Cc: Senate President Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7791)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099)

October 19, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)

(Via Email: senaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

1. He has practiced Law, both on the public sector as well as a private practitioner.
2. He has successfully advanced in his professional career as a researcher, as defense Attorney, Plaintiff Attorney and Counsel to many clients in Hawaii.
3. He will bring all of these experiences and wisdom as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



Kenneth K. Kanehiro, CPCU
1128 Ala Napunani Street, #705
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797/email: senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099/email: darwinching@hawaii.gov)

DEBRA A. KAGAWA

ATTORNEY AT LAW

A LAW CORPORATION

888 MILILANI STREET, SUITE 501-A
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TEL: (808) 535-0363 • FAX: (808) 599-3798

October 23, 2007

Via Facsimile: 586-6461

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I am a solo practitioner here in Honolulu, with a focus on labor and employment issues. I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Ching in civil litigation, and found him to be a very competent and dedicated advocate. Mr. Ching also served as a labor arbitrator in a grievance in which I represented one of the local public sector unions. He was professional throughout the proceeding, and issued an arbitration decision and award that was fair and well reasoned.

Mr. Ching's background and experience reflect an individual who has served on all sides of the court - - advocate for labor, advocate for employer, and neutral arbitrator. I am confident that with Mr. Ching's understanding and appreciation of labor and management issues, he will bring positive changes to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and foster collaborative working relationships with the labor unions, businesses, the state legislature, and the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support.

Very truly yours,



DEBRA A. KAGAWA

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099)

Date Oct. 22, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)

(Via Email: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

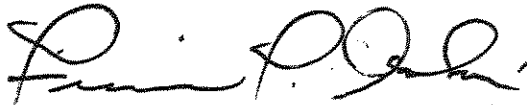
OCT 23 2007

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:
I believe him to be an outstanding community leader as well as great father & grandfather. He has dedicated his life to community services these past 35+ years with great dedication & hard work. I strongly recommend for this position & he is excellent choice to be the next Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,



Name Francis T. Aoki

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797/email: senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099/email: darwinching@hawaii.gov)



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL,
ORNAMENTAL AND REINFORCING IRON WORKERS**

Affiliated with A.F.L.-C.I.O.

LOCAL UNION NUMBER 625
94-497 UKEE STREET • WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

October 22, 2007

Hon. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Support of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I write to you as the Financial Secretary/Business Manager of the Ironworkers Union, Local 625.

Having been born and raised in Hawaii, Mr. Ching is a local product who was educated in our public schools and the University of Hawai'i where he attained his law degree in 1976. In addition, he has worked as a Public Prosecutor, Deputy Attorney General and as a lawyer in the public sector. Based on this background, I believe he is eminently qualified to be our new Director of Labor.

Please consider my thoughts when you review Mr. Ching's qualifications.

Sincerely,

Joe O'Donnell
Financial Secretary/Business Manager

RECEIVED
OCT 18 2007



October 18, 2007

The Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

via fax: 586-6461

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am writing this letter in support of the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I, probably unlike other testifiers, have not known Mr. Ching for a long time. In fact, I have just met him as the Interim Director for DLIR. Since his interim appointment on August 9, 2007, our construction industry, in several different forums, met with Mr. Ching about our issues and concerns. Mr. Ching was very sincere in addressing the challenges we have and I believe he can foster good working relationships. I also think that with his leadership and past experiences, he has the ability to demonstrate quality employment-related services to our State's businesses and residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Audrey Hidano

Cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director DLIR

via Fax: 586-7797
via Fax: 586-9099



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL,
ORNAMENTAL AND REINFORCING IRON WORKERS**

Affiliated with A.F.L.-C.I.O.

LOCAL UNION NUMBER 625
94-497 UKEE STREET • WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

October 22, 2007

Hon. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Support of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations


Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ironworkers Union, Local 625, I write to support Darwin L.D. Ching to be the new Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Looking over his background, I see that Mr. Ching is a former public school teacher and has served on the state's Board of Education. I believe that it would be beneficial to the state to have a director who has a background in education because the department's duties would include educating the public on the labor laws that govern the workplace.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Lincoln Naiwi
President

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

October 22, 2007

Hon. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
And Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **Support of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations**

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ironworkers Union Stabilization Fund, Local 625, I wholeheartedly support the appointment of Darwin L.D. Ching, whom I have known for over 30 years, to be the state's new Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As his resume sets forth, Mr. Ching was raised in Kaimuki, is a product of our public school system, including a degree from the University of Hawaii Law School, worked as a Deputy Attorney General and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, engaged in the private practice of law for many years, served as a member of the State Board of Education, and, has been serving as the Interim Director of the department since August, two months ago. It should go without saying that he possesses the qualities that we would look for in a leader to guide one of our state government departments.

As a former Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Ching is trained to enforce laws. One of the main responsibilities of the director would be to enforce the labor laws that are on our books, and, his experience and training as a prosecutor would be extremely helpful and relevant.

Another responsibility of the director would be to educate the public on our labor laws. Here, again, his training as a public school teacher would hold him in good stead should he be given the opportunity to lead the department.

Through all of the years I have known Mr. Ching, I have always known him to be a man of integrity and character. Possessing these qualities, I believe he will always strive to do what is right and serve the general public with distinction.

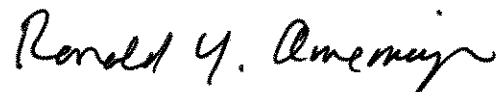


Hon. Brian Taniguchi, Chair,
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii Senate
October 22, 2007
Page 2

We respectfully request that you pass Mr. Ching's nomination as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations to the full Senate.

Mahalo.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ronald Y. Amemiya". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ronald Y. Amemiya

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

October 22, 2007

Hon. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair,
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Support of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ironworkers Stabilization Fund, I would like to go on record to wholeheartedly support the appointment of Darwin L.D. Ching as the state's new Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Having known Mr. Ching for many years, I can say with conviction that he is a man of utmost integrity and character and will serve the people of Hawaii with distinction should he be given an opportunity to serve in this capacity. We have every confidence that Mr. Ching will listen to the concerns as expressed by labor, effectively work with labor, and insure that the rights of the working people of Hawaii are protected as provided by our laws.

I respectfully request that you consider my opinion when you are deliberating on Mr. Ching's appointment.

Sincerely,


T. George Paris
Managing Director

VALRI LEI KUNIMOTO, ESQ.
1060 Maunanani Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi and Members of
the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Members:

Re: GM 3; Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director,
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

This testimony is submitted in my personal capacity. I have known Darwin Ching since approximately 1980 when we worked together in the Attorney General's (AG) Administration Division. As he previously taught in the public schools before attending law school, it was fortuitous that he was assigned to represent the Department of Education (DOE) in special education and civil rights cases. At the time, the litigation in the federal courts under Public Law 94-142 was intense with the number of cases rapidly increasing as the rights of children with learning disabilities were defined by the courts. Darwin worked extremely hard and put in long hours to defend the DOE in the complex cases. Despite the stress of litigation, Darwin maintained his easy-going demeanor and was always willing to help the other deputies with their rushes.

Darwin left the AG's office to work in the Prosecuting Attorney's office with the City and County of Honolulu. He worked there for a number of years as a deputy prosecuting attorney and also as the supervisor of various units. Thereafter, Darwin went into private practice as a partner in a firm and as a solo practitioner.

In 2005, Governor Lingle appointed Darwin to the Board of Education to fill the unexpired term of Shannon Ajifu who had passed on, where he had the opportunity to chair the negotiating teams for several bargaining units. This past July, I was happy to hear that Governor Lingle appointed Darwin as the Interim Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. As a long time employee of the department, I feel his leadership will be well-received by other employees because of his collaborative style and his genuine appreciation of our employees and the work we do. He has served as Interim Director for approximately two-and-one-half months and I believe he brings a positive energy to the department and its management team, as well as a common sense approach in dealing with issues based upon his years of service in the public sector. Based upon his record, I ask for your favorable consideration of his nomination.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Valri Lei Kunimoto

VALRI LEI KUNIMOTO

c: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
Senator Sam Slom



LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

VIA FACSIMILE CARE OF THE SENATE SGT-AT-ARMS 586-6659

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR:

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair, Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Members: Senator Mike Gabbard, Senator Russell Kokubun, Senator
Clarence Nishihara, Senator Sam Slom.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF MR. DARWIN L. D. CHING:

Hearing Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2007
Time: 10:30 AM
Place: Auditorium
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Copies: 25

Subject: Supporting **MR. DARWIN L. D. CHING** for Consideration and Confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Hee and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

The Hawaii Laborers'-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust (HI LECET) submits testimony in strong support of Mr. Darwin L. D. Ching for the appointment as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii.

We believe Mr. Darwin Ching will be an asset to the State of Hawaii serving as the Director based on his achievements, experience, and involvement with Hawaii's construction industry. He will bring a positive perspective and leadership to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our support for Mr. Darwin Ching and we ask for your affirmative advice and consent on his nomination.

Sincerely,

James I. Kuroiwa, Jr.
Director

JAMES I. KUROIWA, JR.
Hawaii LECET Director

LABOR TRUSTEES

ROCCO DAVIS
Trustee

KEN CASAREZ
Co-Chairman

ROBERT TRENKLE
Trustee

MANAGEMENT TRUSTEES

LARRY KS. LUM
(BILA)
Co-Chairman

THOMAS TOMA
(BILA)
Secretary

LANCE INOUYE
(GCLA)

KENNETH KOBATAKE
(GCLA)

MICHAEL NAKASHIMA
(GCLA)

PETER ROBB
(GCLA)

*Hawaii LECET is a
Labor-Management
Partnership between the
Laborers' International Union
of North America
Local 368 and its
400 Signatory employers.
Our primary objective is
to generate business
opportunities for union
contractors and job
opportunities for the laborer
and full-time members.*



MATT LEVI
INVESTIGATIONS

October 23, 2007

Via Fax 586-6461

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capital
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

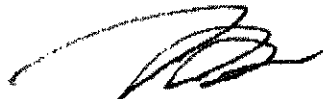
Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Darwin for many years. He is hard-working and honest. Hawaii will be well served by his confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



MATT LEVI

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099)

John T. McDonnell, M.D., Ltd.

Allergy and Immunology

46-001 Kamehameha Highway, Suite 401 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Phone #: 808-247-6070

Fax #: 808-235-892

001 2007

19 October 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Labor and Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin Ching, as Director,
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Dear Senator Taniguchi, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor,

Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony on behalf of the above captioned gentleman as Director of the Department of Labor. This testimony has not been solicited; it is being submitted of my own accord.

I am a physician who has been a member of the Prepaid Health Care Advisory Council of the State of Hawaii since my appointment in 1990 by Governor John Waihee. During that seventeen-year tenure, I have been proud to serve under a number of Directors of this Department.

While other Directors have taken the time to attend some of our monthly meetings, I have been impressed with Mr. Ching's approach to our meetings. Like the other new Directors, Mr. Ching attended the first two meetings of the Council since his appointment as Director of the Department. However, after the second meeting, Mr. Ching announced his intentions to approach his new responsibilities with some of the characteristics of his background as an Educator. Mr. Ching asked the Council to explore how incorporating health and safety education into an employee's workplace might help promote better health outcomes for Hawaii's employees. He asked for information from both HMSA and Kaiser to be presented at our next meeting.

At the next meeting, 18 October 2007, ample data was presented demonstrating that bringing health education to employees in their workplaces reaches a population of people who wouldn't otherwise be contacted. Furthermore, employees have been shown to be receptive to such information, and there have been cost savings to the Insurance Carriers. Perhaps more importantly, the employees and their family members have been found to be healthier and happier.

It seems to me that Mr. Ching's approach to the Department of Labor has already shown him to be innovative and caring for Hawaii's Employees, as well as potentially cost-effective for Hawaii's Employers.

Senator Taniguchi, and members of the Committee, I urge you to confirm Mr. Ching to be Director of Hawaii's Department of Labor. I believe he will be a significant asset to our State.

Thank you, once again, for this opportunity.

Sincerely,



John T. McDonnell, M.D.

Fellow American Academy of

Allergy, Asthma & Immunology

NING, LILLY & JONES

OCT 19 2007

Attorneys at Law, A Law Corporation
707 Richards Street, Suite 700 • Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 528-1100

Ke-ching Ning
Michael A. Lilly
Stephen A. Jones
Jared N. Kawashima

Valerie M. Kato

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 3439
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801

TELECOPIER
(808) 531-2415

WRITER'S DIRECT E-MAIL ADDRESS:
Michael@nljlaw.com

October 19, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)
(Via Email: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawai'i State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

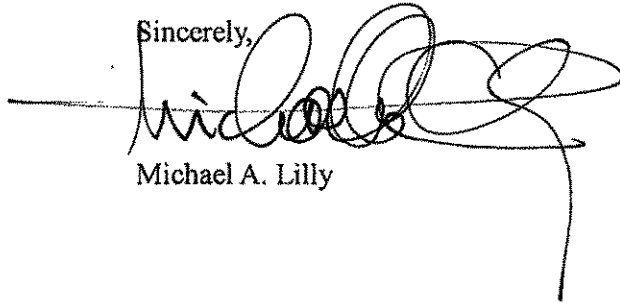
I strongly support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known Mr. Ching for 28 years, having worked with him while we were both Deputies Attorney General and later when I was Attorney General and First Deputy while he was a Deputy Honolulu Prosecutor. I have also followed his career in private practice as a fellow attorney for the last 20 years.

From my years of knowing Mr. Ching, I found he possesses essential qualities which strongly support his nomination. First, he has an impeccable personal character for honesty, integrity and moral courage. Second, he is a man of the people who will serve the broad public interests of the public. Third, he has always worked tirelessly and selflessly to improve the efficiency and quality of the legal profession. Finally, he is hard-working, practical, and well-reasoned.

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
October 19, 2007
Page 2

Mr. Ching is an outstanding candidate and, if confirmed, would reflect great credit on the State and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Lilly", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Michael A. Lilly

MAL:ca

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
(via fax: 586-7797/email: senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
(via fax: 586-6131/email: senchunoakland@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director
(via fax: 586-9099/email: darwinching@hawaii.gov)



ULI 24 2007

Glenn M.L. Pang, M.D. Inc.
Gastroenterology & Internal Medicine

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hi. 96813

Re: Confirmation of Mr. Darwin L.D. Ching
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I recently met Mr. Ching at a dinner hosted by a mutual friend. I learned that he was appointed by Governor Linda Lingle to be the Interim Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) on August 9, 2007, and his appointment to the position is subject to confirmation by the State Senate when it reconvenes.

I support the confirmation of Mr. Darwin L. D. Ching, as director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

1. Although he was appointed by Governor Linda Lingle he is committed to fostering collaborative working relationships with labor unions, the state legislature, businesses and the community.
2. He is a lawyer and had experienced various aspects of law (supervising attorney for the White Collar Crime Unit and for the District and Family Court Unit, deputy attorney general with the Attorney General's office assigned to the administrative division and litigation civil right and education cases for the Department of Education, labor arbitrator for the state and the United Public Workers, and general law (dealing with criminal, personal injury, business, family law) prior to being appointed to his present position as Director of DLIR. He understands labor law.
3. He is committed to benefiting the community as he was a member of the Hawaii Board of Education, Board of Directors of the Palama Settlement, and Chair of the labor negotiations for the HGEA.
4. He is smart, innovative, and energetic.

Sincerely yours,

Glenn M. L. Pang M. D.

SHOPO

October 22, 2007

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi
and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Senate, State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Support for Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching
as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

The State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers (SHOPO) strongly supports the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as the state Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As a former prosecuting attorney, Darwin worked closely with numerous police officers on many complex issues and investigations. His unquestionable integrity and high moral values are indisputable.

Darwin's philosophy and vision for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is to foster collaborative working relationships with labor unions, the legislature, business and the community. He has established his commitment by opening the lines of communication between his office and the labor community.

Darwin has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the public good, serving as a deputy prosecuting attorney, as a deputy attorney general, and as a public school teacher. His dedication to public service was further demonstrated when he volunteered to serve as a member of the state Board of Education, where he served as the chair of School Safety Committee.

Darwin's broad and far-reaching experience will definitely be an asset as he embarks upon his mission to improve the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and to serve our community.

We respectfully urge your confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching.

Sincerely,

TENARI R. MA'AFALA
President

Main Office & Honolulu Chapter
1717 Hop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-3125
Ph: (808) 847-4576 "84 SHOPO"
Fax: (808) 841-4818
Toll Free: (800) 590-4576

Hawaii Chapter Office
668 Kirolo Street, Room 2209
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph: (808) 934-8405
Fax: (808) 934-8210

Maui Chapter Office
Kahului Shopping Center, Unit 18
85 West Ka'ahumanu Avenue
Kahului, Hawaii 96732
Ph: (808) 877-9044
Fax: (808) 893-0016

Kauai Chapter Office
2148 Akahi Street, Unit 2
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

**TORKILDSON, KATZ,
MOORE & HETHERINGTON**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW, A LAW CORPORATION
700 BISHOP STREET, 15TH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-4187
TELEPHONE (808) 523-6000 • FACSIMILE (808) 523-6001

WILSON M. N. LOO
E-MAIL: WML@TORKILDSON.COM

October 19, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Via Fax to: 586-6461
& Regular Mail

**RE: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director of
Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii**

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am pleased to support the confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Mr. Ching since 1981, when we were Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys for the City and County of Honolulu. Mr. Ching stood out as a prosecutor due to his preparation and thoroughness, and was extremely supportive of other trial attorneys. He had an open door policy and always had time to help others. More recently, Mr. Ching and I opposed each other in a franchise and licensing matter - so I have worked with and against him.

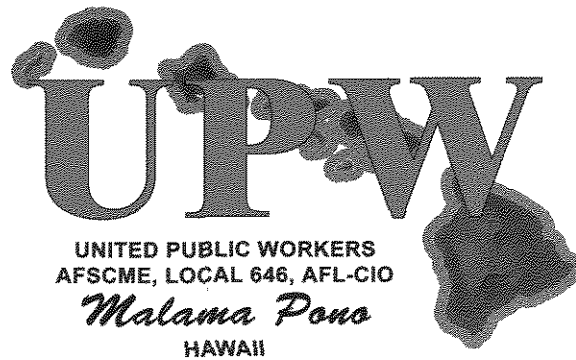
Mr. Ching's strong service background makes him extremely well qualified for his position. As an attorney in Hawaii for 27 years in both government and private sectors, I strongly urge you to confirm Mr. Ching's appointment as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Very truly yours,



Wilson M. N. Loo

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa
(by Mail)



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Friday, October 26, 2007, 9:30 a.m.**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF DARWIN CHING
DAYTON M. NAKANELUA, STATE DIRECTOR, UNITED PUBLIC WORKERS**

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Hee, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the nomination of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), State of Hawaii, for your consideration and confirmation.

The United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW), represents more than 11,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and the various counties.

Mr. Ching has acquired a breadth of experience in service to the public over the years. He has served as state and county government employee during his tenures as State Deputy Attorney General and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu. He has also served as an appointed member of the Board of Education (BOE).

Of particular importance to the UPW, however, is Mr. Ching's experience in labor-management relations. He has demonstrated sensitivity, skill, and success in labor-management relations in three critical capacities: 1) as a negotiator, when he represented the BOE in the collective bargaining process; 2) as a legal counsel, when he represented workers before the Department's Disability Compensation Division; and 3) as a Hawaii Labor Relations Board (HLRB) arbitrator, when he handed down decisions in cases whose parties included state and county employer agencies and public sector unions, including UPW.

Mr. Ching's character, personal integrity, background, and experience make him an excellent choice to be the Director of the DLIR, State of Hawaii. Without reservation, UPW strongly supports the nomination of Darwin Ching as Director of the DLIR, State of Hawaii, for your consideration and confirmation.

HEADQUARTERS: 1426 North School Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 (808) 847-2631
HAWAII: 362 East Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 (808) 961-3424
MAUI: 841 Kolu Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 (808) 244-0815
KAUAI: 4211 Rice Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766 (808) 245-2412



CARL K. YORITA, M.D.
INTERNAL MEDICINE

CARL K. YORITA, M.D., INC.
1010 S. King Street, Suite 801
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Telephone: (808) 593-2510

October 22, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 S. Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director,
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director for the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Mr. Ching personally for many years, and believe him to be a principled person, driven by integrity and a sense of duty. He will be a valuable asset to the people of this State, and his experience and counsel are most necessary in these times of transition and change in our society.

Therefore, it is without hesitation that I extend my support for Mr. Ching for this pivotal position. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Carl K. Yorita, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army Reserve, Medical Corps

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa,
President of the Senate

Attorney Darwin L.D. Ching

YOSHIDA & ASSOCIATES
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

10/18/07
OCT 22 2007

A LAW CORPORATION

PACIFIC GUARDIAN CENTER, MAUKA TOWER
737 BISHOP STREET, SUITE 2730
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: 808-536-6614 FAX: 808-536-9899

October 18, 2007

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi
and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Senate, State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Support for Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching
as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

It is my pleasure to support Darwin L.D. Ching for confirmation as the state's Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known Darwin, both professionally and personally, for over 26 years.

Darwin is an outstanding leader. He is independent, understanding, sincere, and fair. His character and integrity are unquestionable. He is dedicated to his work and will do what is "right."

Darwin has the keen ability and has demonstrated that he is able to listen to truly divergent points of view and resolve the issues in a fair and compassionate way. Undeniably hardworking, Darwin is a person who will spend as many hours as is necessary to fully and completely understand an issue or address a problem. He is decisive and diligent.

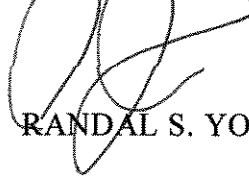
His extensive experience as an attorney in private practice, as a member of the state Board of Education, as the chief of the White Collar Crime Unit and District/Family Court Divisions at the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office, and as a Deputy Attorney General has amply prepared him for the challenges that he faces at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

On a personal level, Darwin is a loving and caring husband, father, and grandfather. Coming from a very close family, he has strong family values, which would make him solid leader of the Department.

Senator Brian Taniguchi
October 18, 2007
Page 2 of 2

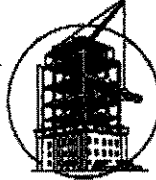
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Yoshida', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

RANDAL S. YOSHIDA

Senate President Colleen Hanabusa, Room 409



HAWAII BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO
 GENTRY PACIFIC DESIGN CENTER, STE. 215A • 560 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, #50 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
 (808) 524-2249 • FAX (808) 524-6893

HERBERT S.K. KAOPUA, SR.
 President
 Plumbers & Fitters Local 675

October 22, 2007

NOLAN MORIWAKI
 Vice President
 Bricklayers & Ceramic Tile Setters
 Local 1
 & Plasterers/Cement Masons
 Local 630

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
 Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
 Hawaii State Capitol
 417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
 Honolulu, HI 96813

ARTHUR TOLENTINO
 Financial Secretary-Treasurer
 Trustee
 Sheetmetal Workers I.A. Local 293

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
 Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

REGINALD CASTANARES
 Sergeant-At-Arms
 Plumbers & Fitters Local 675

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

THADDEUS TOMEI
 Trustee
 Elevator Constructors
 Local 126

I have personally known Darwin since the early 1980's having worked with him at the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. As an investigator for the "White Collar Crime Unit" I have conducted many investigations that Darwin successfully prosecuted.

MALCOLM K. AHLO
 Carpet, Linoleum, & Soft Tile
 Local 1296

He has a thorough understanding of Labor history and Labor law and has displayed a fair and equitable position in enforcing these statutes.

JOSEPH BAZEMORE
 Drywall, Tapers, & Finishers
 Local 1944

For all the above reasons, the Hawaii Building and Construction Trades Council strongly supports the appointment of Darwin L. D. Ching to the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

VAUGHN CHONG
 Roofers, Waterproofer & Allied
 Workers United Union of Roofers
 221

Sincerely,

JOHN KING
 Boilermakers, Ironship Builders
 Local 827

W. Hong / dg

William "Buzz" Hong

LYNN KINNEY
 District Council 50
 Painters & Allied Trades
 Local 1791

WBH/dg

KALANI MAHOE
 Operating Engineers
 Local 3

cc: Darwin L. D. Ching, Interim Director

LEONARD SEBREGOS
 International Assoc.
 Heat & Frost Insulators
 & Asbestos Workers
 Local 132

Law Office of

PAMELA E. TAMASHIRO

Ocean View Center 707 Richards Street, Penthouse 7 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Phone: (808) 528-3332 Facsimile: (808) 536-0458

October 24, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)

(Via e-mail: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the conformation of Darwin L. D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

I have known Mr. Ching for 23 years beginning in 1984 when he was my supervisor at the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, where I served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney assigned to the District Courts. More recently, Mr. Ching and I, along with several other attorneys, represented clients who were being targeted in a three-year investigation by the Campaign Spending Commission. Mr. Ching was the lead attorney and because of his tenacity, his diligence, and his seemingly endless hard work, we were able to resolve the matter much to all of our clients' satisfaction.

Based upon my personal experience in working with Mr. Ching, I believe that he will be an asset to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and I wholeheartedly support his confirmation as Director.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Pamela E. Tamashiro

PET:an

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa, President of the Senate
Darwin L.D. Ching, Esq.

CHING & LEE

Attorneys at Law

*The Arcade House
212 Merchant Street, Suite 227
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

Tel: (808) 275-0200 Fax: (808) 275-0222

October 22, 2007

Via Fax (586-6461) & email (sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation Of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
Department Of Labor And Industrial Relations, State Of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

My name is Gale L. F. Ching, Esq. and I am the brother of Darwin L. D. Ching who is before you for the appointment as the Director for the Department Of Labor And Industrial Relations of the State of Hawaii.

Having known Darwin since we grew up together, I believe qualifies me into voicing my opinions about him. First of all, Darwin has always placed his family and others before himself. I have observed him making numerous personal sacrifices for his family so that they may have a better life. His own personal needs have always placed second to his family and others.

As you probably know, Darwin was a former school teacher at Kaimuki Intermediate School and then returned to school to better himself by attending law school. As one of the first graduates of the Richardson School Of Law, Darwin continued his career by serving the needs of the Government when working for the Office of the Attorney General and the Office Of The Prosecuting Attorney. During his tenure with these Governmental agencies, Darwin was involved in numerous high publicity cases. In addition, Darwin was the District and Family Court Division head which involved having to manage numerous deputies and staff.

Now, Darwin is being considered as the Director of the Department Of Labor And Industrial Relations and is once again willing to serve the needs of the people of Hawaii. In doing so, Darwin is willing to sacrifice his lucrative and successful private practice in order to serve the State of Hawaii. Darwin's willingness to do so once again highlights his commitment to others before himself. If appointed, I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that Darwin will serve this office with honor and dignity as the Director Of Labor. He will be able to present new

*Ching & Lee
Attorneys at Law*

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
October 22, 2007
Page 2

and fresh ideas to the Department while still being able to listen to others with an open mind. Having known Darwin for all these years has led me to conclude that he is of sound moral character and makes sound judgment calls after first hearing from all sides.

I urge you to look favorably upon the appointment of Darwin L. D. Ching as the Director Of Labor And Industrial Relations for the State of Hawaii. I would be more than willing to personally appear if requested.

Should you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

CHING & LEE



Gale L. F. Ching

cc: Senator Colleen Hanbusa (via fax: 586-7797/email: senhanbusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Darwin L. D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099/email: darwinching@hawaii.gov)

CHING & LEE

Attorneys at Law

*The Arcade House
212 Merchant Street, Suite 227
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

Tel: (808) 275-0200 Fax: (808) 275-0222

October 22, 2007

[Via Fax (586-6461) & email (sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)]

**Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

**Re: Confirmation Of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
Department Of Labor And Industrial Relations, State Of Hawaii**

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.F. Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

Darwin was a former school teacher at Kaimuki Intermediate School and then returned to school to better himself by attending law school. As one of the first graduates of the Richardson School Of Law, Darwin continued his career by serving the needs of the Government when working for the Office of the Attorney General and the Office Of The Prosecuting Attorney. During his tenure with these Governmental agencies, Darwin was successfully involved in numerous high publicity cases. In addition, Darwin was the District Court and Family Court Division head which involved having to manage numerous deputies and staff.

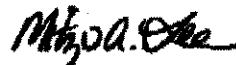
I have known Darwin in a personal and a professional capacity for over 15 years. Darwin is a man of integrity and high ethics. He has always had a strong desire to serve the people of Hawaii, and I have no doubt that he will do an excellent job as the Director of the Department Of Labor.

I urge you to look favorably upon the appointment of Darwin L. D. Ching as the Director Of Labor And Industrial Relations for the State of Hawaii. I would be more than willing to personally appear if requested.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

CHING & LEE



Mitzi A. Lee



1101 Fort Street Mall
 Honolulu, HI 96813
 (808) 532-1596 Fax (808) 532-1597

October 24, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
 Judiciary and Labor committee
 Hawaii State Capitol
 417 S Beretania St., Rm 219
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
 Dept. of labor and Industrial Relations

I am writing in support of the appointment of Mr. Darwin Ching as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations for the State of Hawaii. In reading his resume you can have but one conclusion that he is well qualified for this role as our State of Hawaii Labor Director.

I had the privilege of sitting together with Darwin at a lunch function a couple of weeks ago and was very impressed with his demeanor and very thoughtful questions about our labor environment and finding out what the private sector is doing in these years of very low unemployment and talking about what the State could do to help keep our economy growing.

I believe we have a man of quality character and abilities that is fully qualified to head this Labor department for Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Victor Lim
 Franchise Owner

Co:Senate President Colleen Hanabusa
 Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director

NAGAMINE OKAWA ENGINEERS INC.
CONSULTING STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

1001 Bishop Street, Pauahi Tower Suite 725
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808)536-2626
Fax: (808)536-3926
Email: noe@nagamineokawa.com

October 20, 2007

Via Facsimile: 586-6461

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Dept of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I would like to support the confirmation of Darwin Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Darwin to be an outstanding attorney who is willing to go the extra mile. He is a team player and is an ethical person who will do the right thing. I have no doubt that Darwin will serve the people of Hawaii well, and at the end of the day will leave the Department better than when he arrived.

Thank you for your time. I would welcome any comments or questions. I can be contacted at 536-2626.

Very truly yours,
Nagamine Okawa Engineers Inc.



Norman Nagamine
President

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797)
Senator Norman Sakamoto (via fax: 586-8588)

JIM ON & BEERMAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
A LAW CORPORATION
PACIFIC GUARDIAN CENTER
MAKAI TOWER
733 BISHOP STREET, SUITE 2675
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TELEPHONE (808) 538-6418
FACSIMILE (808) 538-7615
Email Address: oahuav@cs.com

HENRY F. BEERMAN
SHELTON G. W. JIM ON

OF COUNSEL
REX T. MATSUMURA

October 24, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE (586-6461) and U.S. MAIL

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to support the confirmation of Darwin L. D. Ching, as Director for the Department Of Labor & Industrial Relations. I have known Darwin for more than twenty (20) years and served with him at the Attorney General's Office. My sister-in-law, Armina Ching had the pleasure of working with Darwin Ching when he was a Prosecutor. I have the highest respect for his legal work and deepest admiration for his personal character and integrity. When he was assigned to the Civil Rights Litigation Division, I had the opportunity to work with him on several cases. His experience allowed us to navigate our cases to a favorable result for the State.

Darwin also served on the State of Hawaii Board of Education from 2005 - 2006, after I had completed my term on that Board. I know that he had a positive influence in the labor negotiations for the HGEA units.

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
October 24, 2007
Page 2

His son and daughter have both carried on the family tradition of law and public service. His son, Darren is a young and upcoming attorney at the United States District Attorney's Office and his daughter Darien is with the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney in Hilo. They are both upholding the high standard that Darwin started when he worked for the Prosecutor's Office under Chuck Marsland.

I hope that you will support him. Darwin will serve the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and his position with distinction.

With warmest regards,

JIM ON & BEERMAN



SHELTON G. W. JIM ON

SJO:st

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (Via Facsimile - 586-7797)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (Via Facsimile - 586-9099)

I\21230



**The Chamber of
Commerce of Hawaii**
Since 1850

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Conference Room 229, State Capitol
Friday, October 27, 2007; 9:30 a.m.**

RE: Gubernatorial Nominee: Darwin Ching

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Hee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jim Tollefson and I am the President and CEO of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber"). On behalf of The Chamber, I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation of Darwin Ching to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations position.

Mr. Ching proves to be qualified for the position through his extensive experience and demonstrated leadership in the labor and employment area. His professional and community activities provide the type of experience required for this important position, and the ability to make fair and balanced decisions in shaping a healthy and positive work environment.

The Chamber looks forward to working with Mr. Ching and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, the Legislature, and other stakeholders on issues that relate to Hawaii's workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.



HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Teaching Today for Hawaii's Tomorrow

1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

October 23, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

Roger K. Takabayashi
President

Wii Okabe
Vice President

Karolyn R. Mossman
Secretary-Treasurer

Joan Lee Husted
Executive Director

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

We support the nomination of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

While Darwin served as a member of the State Board of Education, he was very approachable and open to new ideas. Although we may not have agreed on every issue, we are totally aware of his sincere dedication to enhance and support Hawaii's public school system and the improvement of public education for Hawaii's children.

As Interim Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, he was genuinely interested in our issues. He took the time to reach out and personally visit us to discuss mutual interests and concerns. This fostered a collaborative relationship not only with HSTA, but also with other labor unions.

Because of his ability to work in a collaborative environment, his openness to listen to ideas, and his capacity to lead, we fully support the appointment of Darwin L.D. Ching as the Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,

Roger K. Takabayashi
President

c: The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, Senate President
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations



Great Public Schools for Every Child

SITE ENGINEERING, INC.
545 KAAHI ST. HONOLULU, HI 96817
PHONE: 841-8883; FAX: 842-0320

October 24, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the following reasons:

1. He has demonstrated thoughtful, informed judgment whenever he represented our company, Site Engineering, Inc. in the various difficulties encountered in our projects. As we are in the top 20 construction companies in this State, those "difficulties" were not as infrequent as we would have wanted them to be!
2. His personal conduct and demeanor is professional and restrained. A cool head, he is not into argument but rather, fair resolution of differences. A valuable commodity in the rough and tumble world of the construction industry indeed.
3. As a union signatory company we appreciated his knowledge of the unique contractual relationship we had with our workers and their (various) unions. This engendered a comfortable working relationship whenever his services were called upon.
4. To sum up: Darwin Ching understands the workaday events that transpire in our private industry and would automatically command respect from us, just for that fact. He understands the language, culture and population and would, I believe, help us by cutting through the bureaucratic haze. My friends and I can always talk to a man like that—despite the handicap of his now being a government apparatchik!

Very truly yours,

Larry Masutani
Executive Director, SEI

cc: Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via email: senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via email: darwinching@hawaii.gov)

LEONG KUNIHIRO LEONG & LEZY

Attorneys at Law- A Law Corporation
1212 Davies Pacific Center
841 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

*Scott G. Leong
Gary N. Kunihiro
Linda Zichittella Leong
Normand R. Lezy
Shawn L. M. Benton*

*Telephone No. (808) 524-7575
Facsimile No.: (808) 524-7878*

October 24, 2007

VIA EMAIL: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Hawaii State Senate
Chairman, Committee On Judiciary and Labor
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director of
the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations,
State of Hawaii**

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am writing to support Governor Linda Lingle's nomination of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii ("Director"). I have known Mr. Ching for 25 years and can attest to his qualifications and experience for the Director's position.

Over those 25 years, I have had numerous opportunities to know Mr. Ching on a personal and professional level. I find him to be of good moral character, honest, straightforward, a person of integrity and a hard worker.

Mr. Ching's years of public service with the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, as a Deputy Attorney General, and as a member of the State of Hawaii, Board of Education, bespeaks of his strong commitment to work for a better Hawaii at all levels and without regard to special interests. I believe this commitment is the primary motivating force behind his willingness to serve the public in any way that he can.

Further, his experience in private practice clearly exhibits a wide spectrum of legal knowledge and an appreciation and understanding of both sides in labor and employment matters. Specifically, his experience representing injured workers in the workers' compensation arena surely provided him with insight into the problems and

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Hawaii State Senate
Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching
October 24, 2007
Page 2

issues confronting the workers' compensation system. As a labor arbitrator for the State of Hawaii in cases involving the Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA) and United Public Workers (UPW), Mr. Ching confronted, evaluated, and understood the issues facing public employees in Hawaii and worked for a fair and equitable resolution of those issues giving deference to the interests of all concerned parties. This also carried over into his role as the Board of Education's chair of the labor negotiations with HGEA bargaining units 6 and 10.

Although his tennis game could use some upgrading, I believe his dedication to continue playing and improve his game further shows his strong perseverance to achieve all the goals he has set for himself. Further, as a father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and oldest son, he led by example, not rhetoric. I believe this is an essential characteristic for the position of Director and that Mr. Ching will continue to lead by example and will not let his staff or the people of Hawaii down.

Mr. Ching is also a "team player." He will not devise his own agenda and attempt to coerce others to fall in line behind him. He will, however, seek input from others and consider that input as well as other perspectives, before deciding on the appropriate course of action. He will be personally invested in any decision he makes and that personal commitment will carry over into how he implements those decisions.

In conclusion, I want to restate my unqualified support for Mr. Ching's nomination as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Very truly yours,

LEONG KUNIHICO LEONG & LEZY

Scott G. Leong

SGL:jss

cc: Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, Senate President
Darwin L.D. Ching

HAWAII CARPENTERS UNION

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA, LOCAL 745

October 24, 2007

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director,
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

Few posts in Hawaii's state government are more critical to the well-being of the 7,500 members and families of the Hawaii Carpenters Union than Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

This is, after all, the preeminent regulatory department responsible for the enforcement of prevailing wage standards, worker's compensation, jurisdiction and collective bargaining rulings, arbitrations, and the full spectrum of labor-management affairs and workers' rights in the local construction industry.

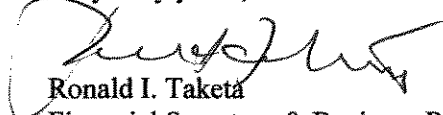
Through the years this union has had innumerable occasion to come before the department to seek justice for our members. Many of them were before the Disability Compensation Division, the Labor Board of Appeals or in individual arbitration hearings that gave us the opportunity to observe and appreciate Mr. Ching's commitment to Hawaii's working men and women and to future generations of workers.

He has always conducted himself with great skill and professionalism on behalf of his clients, and demonstrated the insightfulness and wisdom of true leadership in his livelihood and the community at large.

So on behalf of the Hawaii Carpenters Union, it is with special pleasure and confidence that I respectfully request your committee's confirmation of Governor Linda Lingle's appointment of Darwin L.D. Ching to be Director of the DLIR.

If there is anything else I can do to assist in your deliberations, please contact me at (808) 847-5761. Thanking you in advance for your kind attention and consideration, I am,

Very truly yours,



Ronald I. Taketa
Financial Secretary & Business Representative

STATE HEADQUARTERS & BUSINESS OFFICES

OAHU: 1311 Houghtailing St, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-2712 • Ph. (808) 847-5761 Fax (808) 841-0300

HILO OFFICE: 525 Kilauea Ave, Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3050 • Ph. (808) 935-8575 Fax (808) 935-8576

KONA OFFICE: 75-126 Lunapule Road, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740-2106 • Ph. (808) 329-7355 Fax (808) 326-9376

MAUI OFFICE: 330 Hookahi St, Wailuku, Maui 96793-1449 • Ph. (808) 242-6891 Fax (808) 242-5961

KAUAI OFFICE: Kuhio Medical Ctr Bldg, 3-3295 Kuhio Hwy, Suite 201, Lihue, Kauai 96766-1040 • Ph. (808) 245-8511 Fax (808) 245-8911

HAWAII OPERATING ENGINEERS INDUSTRY STABILIZATION FUND



*Uniting our strengths and working together
for a better tomorrow*

October 19, 2007

(Via Facsimile: 586-6461)

(Via Email: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi and Committee Members
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching as Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

My name is Perry Artates, Executive Director of the Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund. We are a joint labor, management entity consisting of Signatory Contractors of Local 3 and Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3. The Stabilization Fund represents over 300 contractors and over 3000 members of Local Union No. 3. I support Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Darwin is a very dedicated individual, who to me seems very honest, reliable, fair and most of all committed to making Hawaii a better place, not only for now, but for generations to come. Being born, raised and educated in Hawaii, Darwin possesses all the necessary makings of a great leader. Darwin's extensive background in law combined with his many years of public service and love for Hawaii make him in my opinion the best candidate for the job.

If confirmed, my staff and I look forward to working with Darwin. Our entity, as well as the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations have a common goal, which is to see Hawaii economically prosper by enforcing the prevailing wage and workers rights.

Again, I am in support of the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching, as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I am positive that he will exceed your expectations.

Malama pono and God bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Perry O. Artates', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Perry O. Artates
Industry Stabilization Fund

cc:

Senator Colleen Hanabusa (via fax: 586-7797/email:
senhanabusa@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Darwin L.D. Ching, Interim Director (via fax: 586-9099/email:
darwinching@hawaii.gov)



Russell K. Okata *Executive Director*
Tel: 808 543-0011 Fax: 808 528-0922

HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME LOCAL 152, AFL-CIO

888 MILILANI STREET, SUITE 601 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2991

Randy Ferreira *Deputy Executive Director*
Tel: 808 543-0003 Fax: 808 528-0922



Derek M. Mizuno
~~1000000000~~ *Deputy Executive Director*
Tel: 808 543-0055 Fax: 808 523-6879

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
HGEA/AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO
October 26, 2007

GM – Submitting for Consideration and
Confirmation of Darwin Ching as Director
of the Department of Labor and Industrial
Relations

The Hawaii Government Employees Association supports the nomination of Darwin Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). Mr. Ching has a varied background in law and public service, which we believe will be an asset as DLIR Director.

As interim director, Mr. Ching expressed a willingness to foster collaborative working relationships with labor unions, businesses, the community, and the state legislature. We hope that he will follow through on this important promise. The primary responsibility of the DLIR is not to promote business interests, but to protect the safety and health of Hawaii's workers and to provide assistance to them during periods of disability or temporary unemployment.

Another important function of any departmental director is to lead its employees effectively. That requires treating employees with respect. Mr. Ching maintains that he considers the department's employees as its most valuable asset and believes strongly in their continued development and education. We hope that these good intentions result in specific actions that will improve employee morale.

We request your favorable consideration to confirm Mr. Ching as DLIR Director.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Ferreira', is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Randy Ferreira
Deputy Executive Director



HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

320 Ward Avenue, Suite 209 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Randy Ferreira
President

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

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO
October 26, 2007

GM – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO, a voluntary federation of 70 local affiliate unions and councils, supports the nomination of Darwin Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). His background as an attorney and his familiarity with government will serve him well if confirmed as DLIR Director.

Since his appointment as interim director, Mr. Ching expressed a willingness to work collaboratively with labor unions, businesses, the community, and the state legislature. We look forward to establishing a constructive and collaborative working relationship with Mr. Ching. By working together with Labor, the DLIR can do a more effective job protecting the health and safety of Hawaii's workers, as well as helping them during periods of disability or unemployment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Mr. Ching's confirmation as DLIR Director.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Ferreira
President
Hawaii State AFL-CIO



OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

1432 MIDDLE STREET, HONOLULU, HI 96819 • (808) 845-7871 • FAX (808) 842-6438
Jurisdiction: Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah, Hawaii, and the Mid-Pacific Islands

October 22, 2007

Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Clayton Hee, Vice-Chair

Re: Appointment of Darwin Ching

Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Committee,

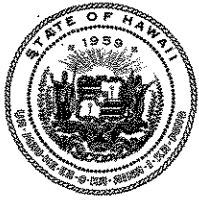
I offer this testimony in support of the appointment of Darwin Ching as the Director of the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations. As a highly qualified professional with a firm management style, Mr. Ching answers the need for a dynamic, experienced individual who can step up to the plate to be the DLIR's Director. He has done well as the interim Director and now with your support of his appointment he will have the opportunity to continue to serve our State and its people.

As in all that comes before you impacts our quality of life here in Honolulu, I humbly ask you to decide on a course that will best suit the needs of our State, and confirm Mr. Darwin Ching as the DLIR's Director.

Sincerely,

William Kalani Mahoe
Trustee / District Representative





HAWAII CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 • PHONE: 586-8636 FAX: 586-8655 TDD: 586-8692

October 26, 2007
Rm. 229, 9:00 a.m.

TO: The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Sara Banks, Acting Chair
William Hoshijo, Executive Director

RE: Governor's Message (Pending)
Nomination of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of Labor and Industrial
Relations

The Hawaii Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawaii's laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to State and State-funded services. The HCRC carries out the Hawaii constitutional mandate that no persons shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sect. 5.

The HCRC supports the confirmation of Darwin L.D. Ching for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. The HCRC is attached to the DLIR for administrative purposes. Mr. Ching has served as the Director of Labor since Governor Lingle appointed him in August 2007, pending confirmation. As such, the HCRC Executive Director and staff have had the opportunity to work directly with Mr. Ching on a wide range of administration activities that fall within his day to day responsibilities, as well as to engage in policy discussions on labor and civil rights issues. In these interactions, we have found Mr. Ching to be knowledgeable, open-minded, and capable. He has expressed a strong belief in civil rights and equal opportunity.

Mr. Ching is familiar with the DLIR, HCRC and state civil rights laws. In years of solo private law practice, Mr. Ching represented workers before the DLIR Disability Compensation Division and Labor Appeals Board. He also represented a complainant in a contested employment discrimination case before the HCRC that was litigated to the Hawai'i Supreme Court and settled after the case was remanded to the HCRC.

The Commissioners and staff of the HCRC look forward to continuing our work with Darwin L.D. Ching, and urge his confirmation.

*Law Office of
William W. Milks
Attorney at Law*

*American Savings Bank Tower
Suite 977
1001 Bishop Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96813
808.526.3923.
808.523.2088 Fax
energylaw@hawaii.rr.com*

October 24, 2007

Hand Delivery

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, State Senator
And Members Judiciary and Labor Committee
Room 219, State Capitol
417 So. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Confirmation of Darwin Ching to the Directorship of the Hawaii Department of Labor
and Industrial Relations

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I write this letter on my own behalf, endorsing the nomination of Darwin Ching to be confirmed as the Director of the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

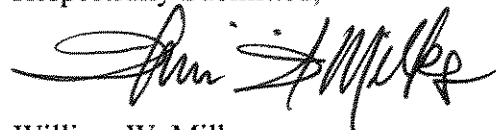
I have known Darwin both professionally as a lawyer and socially, mostly as a fellow tennis player. For twenty-plus years, I have held him in high regard professionally: he has incorporated one of more of his children into his law practice, which I consider to be a fine accomplishment, and he has always conducted his professional practice of law with competency and courtesy, when we have had cases.

Socially, I have known him either through our children and their schooling, or being on the same or opposing tennis teams in various tennis leagues on the island. Again, he has always been courteous and amicable, though his level of tennis play leaves much room for improvement.

I believe he is a person of high moral character and possesses a strong commitment to public service. I have no reservations in my endorsement of him.

If your committee wishes to have me testify on his behalf, I would be happy to do so, if given notice of the time and place of hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,



William W. Milks

Cc: The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, Senate President
Darwin Ching
The Office of the Governor

October 22, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Room 219
415 south Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
DARWIN CHING**

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair Hee:

I am strongly in support of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

In my years of experiences with Mr. Ching, I have found him to be a forthright and fair person. Mr. Ching's work history as a teacher, attorney, Department of Education Board Member gives him a wide scope of knowledge most suited for the many challenges he will face in his department. He is a loyal and well respected leader that will be responsive to his Department, its staff, and to the constituents he will be entrusted to work with.

It is for these reasons; I wholeheartedly support the Confirmation of Mr. Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



Clayton A. Frank

October 22, 2007

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Room 219
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **DARWIN CHING**

Hearing Date: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair Hee;

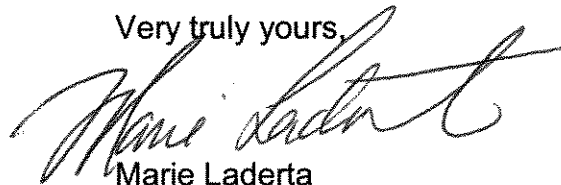
I am writing in STRONG support of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor.

I have known Darwin in his private practice as an attorney and have always known him to be a person of high integrity. He has extensive experience as a lawyer and is a straightshooter. Darwin is unafraid of challenges and will directly deal with them.

Darwin's strength is his honesty and forthrightness. He will give his all to any issue or challenge that he takes on.

DLIR will no doubt benefit from a leader like Darwin Ching whose hallmark is accountability. I urge you to recommend him for confirmation.

Very truly yours,



Marie Laderta

ANDREW V. BEAMAN
ANDREW R. BUNN
ANDREW W. CHAR
LEROY E. COLOMBE
RAY K. KAMIKAWA
DANTON S. WONG
ADRIENNE S. YOSHIHARA

BETHANY C.K. ACE
ANNE E. LOPEZ
KALEEN S. H. MIYASATO
MARYBETH L. STEIL
JOSHUA A. WISCH

CHUN, KERR, DODD, BEAMAN & WONG

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP
FORT STREET TOWER, TOPA FINANCIAL CENTER
745 FORT STREET, 9TH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3815
TELEPHONE (808) 528-8200
FACSIMILE (808) 536-5869
www.chunkerr.com

SENIOR COUNSEL:
EDWARD Y. C. CHUN
WILLIAM H. DODD

OF COUNSEL:
ALLEN H. SAKAI

GEORGE L. T. KERR
1933-1998

GREGORY P. CONLAN
1945-1991

October 26, 2007

**THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
INTERIM OF 2007**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Hee, members of the Committee:

**Hearing October 26, 2007
(Confirmation of Darwin Ching as
Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations)**

I support Darwin Ching's nomination as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and urge his confirmation.

I had the occasion to work with Mr. Ching years ago on opposite sides of an issue while he was with the Honolulu Prosecutor's office and I with the Internal Revenue Service. Mr. Ching conducted himself professionally and with courtesy despite our adversarial roles. Mr. Ching has demonstrated his commitment to public and community service in his appointment to the Board of Education, tenure at the Honolulu Prosecutor and Attorney General's Offices, and board positions at nonprofits. As a former director myself, I perceive Mr. Ching as having the necessary experience, judgment, maturity and integrity to excel as director of DLIR, and to make a significant contribution to the State.

Very truly yours,

CHUN, KERR, DODD, BEAMAN & WONG,
a Limited Liability Law Partnership



Ray Kamikawa



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE (808) 536-7702 • FAX (808) 528-2376

PLEASE DELIVER

30 copies to:

JDL Committee
Wednesday
10/26/07
9:30 am
Room 229

October 26, 2007

To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Sen. Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Cynthia J. Goto, M.D., President
Linda Rasmussen, M.D., Legislative Co-Chair
Philip Hellreich, M.D., Legislative Co-Chair
Paula Arcena Executive Director
Dick Botti, Government Relations

Re: Nomination of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

The Hawaii Medical Association is pleased to submit this testimony in strong support of Darwin Ching's nomination to the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Affairs.

We are fortunate that a highly qualified and talented individual such as Mr. Ching is available and willing to take on the important responsibilities of this position. Mr. Ching's expertise is impressive and spans both the private and public sectors.

As a private practice attorney, he has practice law in the areas of criminal, personal injury, business dispute, and family law. He has been a law partner in the firm Yoshida and Ching, and worked with the law firm of Gaulty, Ikeda, Ching & Yoshida.

Concerning labor issues, Mr. Ching has represented workers before the Disability Compensation Division of the DLIR and the Labor Board of Appeals as well as labor arbitrations. He also was a labor arbitrator on cases involving the Hawaii Government Employees Association and United Public Workers versus the state.

In government, Mr. Ching has worked for the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, where he served in various positions including supervising attorney for the White Collar Crime Unit, supervising attorney for the District and Family Court Unit and deputy prosecuting attorney, from 1981-1988. He has also served as a deputy attorney general with the state Attorney General's office from 1979 to 1981, where he was assigned to the administration division and handled litigation and civil rights and education cases for the Department of Education.

We urge the committee to support Mr. Ching's nomination to this important position.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



P.O. Box 4088
Honolulu, HI 96812-4088
Phone: (808) 735-3211
Fax: (808) 735-3280

October 24, 2007

Hearing in Conference Room 229, State Capitol at 9:30 am on Friday, October 26, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Conference Room 229, State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Confirmation of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor
and Industrial Relations for the term to expire 12-31-2010

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Hee, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company fully supports the confirmation of Darwin Ching as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the term to expire 12-31-2010. Hawaiian Dredging was founded in 1902, and is Hawaii's largest and oldest full-service general contractor, currently employing over 1,300 employees. My name is Kirt Pruyn, and I am Hawaiian Dredging's Assistant Manager of Business Development.

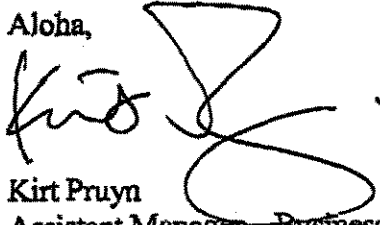
We strongly endorse Darwin Ching's confirmation for the reasons cited below:

- Darwin Ching's diverse and sophisticated experience—as a private practice attorney, a Deputy Attorney General, a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, a State labor arbitrator, and a former teacher—give him great perspective on the needs and demands of our diverse community which the DLIR Director needs to have.
- We have been impressed with Darwin Ching's tenure, although brief, as Interim Director of DLIR. He has demonstrated the capability, sensitivity, and commitment to work collaboratively with labor unions, the legislature, the business community, and the community at large.

- The DLIR Director position is difficult, demanding, and challenging. Darwin Ching has the experience, perspective, and capability to be a great director.

Mahalo for this opportunity to express our support. I can be reached at 735-7411 or kpruyn@hdcc.com.

Aloha,

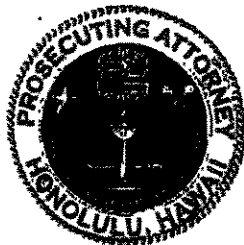


Kirt Pruyn
Assistant Manager—Business Development
Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALI I PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515



PETER B. CARLISLE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

October 25, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

FAX 586-6659

Re: Nomination of Judge Randal K. O. Lee to the bench of the Intermediate Court of Appeals

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and other Honorable Committee Members:

I am writing in reference to Judge Randal Lee, a nominee for a seat on the bench of the Intermediate Court of Appeals. Without reservation, I highly recommend Judge Lee for the position, just as I did for ICA Associate Judge John Lim several years ago.

To give you some background, I am a career prosecutor currently employed as a deputy prosecuting attorney for the City and County of Honolulu. I have been with the office since 1995. For many years I handled a felony trial caseload. Currently I help supervise the newest deputy prosecutors who are fresh out of law school.

Judge Lee was one of my first supervisors when I started at this office. At the time, he was handling "heavy" cases, involving box after box of documents, in addition to his duties supervising the newer DPAs. I found him to be very intelligent, very personable, and with an uncanny ability to see the big picture and get to the point. He was able to quickly grasp the facts of the case, and immediately come up with a theory of how to prove the case. Later, when I became a supervisor, he provided excellent trial practice training to the new DPAs, even though he was again handling large white collar criminal cases in a different division. Overall, Judge Lee has the experience, the knowledge, the wisdom, and the appropriate demeanor to make an excellent choice for the seat on the Intermediate Court of Appeals. I will be happy to answer any questions. You may reach me at work at 547-7430. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Stacey
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

LATE

2300 Paahi Tower
1003 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone 808.524.5644
Fax 808.599.1881
info@bhhawaii.net
A Law Corporation

Bronster Hoshibata

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

October 25, 2007

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Intermediate Court of Appeals Judicial Nominee –
Honorable Randal K.O. Lee

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I write to support the nomination of Judge Randal K.O. Lee to fill the Associate Judge vacancy on the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I have known Judge Lee professionally for several years and I have personally observed Judge Lee's legal skills and abilities, both as an attorney and as a judge. In my experience, I have found that Judge Lee possesses the ability to decide complex legal issues in both criminal and civil matters.

I appeared before Judge Lee several months after his appointment to the First Circuit Court. The matter concerned a motion to vacate an arbitration award. Such a motion is akin to an appeal as it involved the Circuit Judge's review of the arbitration record below. At the hearing on the motion, Judge Lee was prepared, he had clearly read all of the material, and he asked direct and relevant questions concerning the legal issues before him. He clearly understood his role as a judge reviewing the record and promptly made a well reasoned decision.

LATE

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi
October 25, 2007
Page - 2

Based on my experience with Judge Lee, I believe he will serve as an able appellate judge in all matters that come may before him.

Very truly yours,



Margery S. Bronster

2300 Pauahi Tower
1003 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone 808.524.5644
Fax 808.599.1881
info@bhhowail.net

A Law Corporation

Bronster Hoshibata

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

[XX] Via Facsimile - 586-6659

October 24, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Intermediate Court of Appeals Judicial Nominee – the Honorable Randal
K.O. Lee

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor
Committee:

I write to recommend the Honorable Randal K.O. Lee to fill the Associate Judge
vacancy on the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I have known Judge Lee for over eight years. He is a person of exceptional
moral courage and integrity. His prior legal experience and record
demonstrates that he is independent and does not bow to outside influences or
pressure.

In the months following his appointment to the First Circuit Court, Judge Lee
earned a reputation amongst civil practitioners as a well-prepared judge who
made reasoned decisions based on the law. I have no doubt that if Judge Lee
were appointed to the appellate court, he would again impress the legal
community with his practical approach and sound legal decisions.

Judge Lee possesses the legal skills, ability, and knowledge to serve as an
appellate judge. His experience as a trial judge and as a litigator would be an
invaluable asset to the Intermediate Court of Appeals. He has the legal

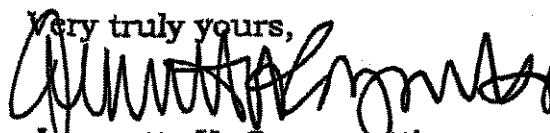
LATE

background and experience to understand the intricacies of trial, motions practice, evidentiary standards and legal standards of review, and the practicalities of trial work. Because of his background and experience, Judge Lee undoubtedly understands the impact appellate decisions have on the trial courts and practitioners in the legal community.

The people of this State would be well served by the confirmation of Judge Lee to the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit my comments concerning Judge Lee.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeannette H. Castagnetti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "C".

Jeannette H. Castagnetti

Christian Nakanishi
Committee: "Committee on Judiciary and Labor"
October 25, 2007
9:00 am

Hearing subject: "Consideration and confirmation to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Associate Judge, Gubernatorial Nominee RANDALL K.O. LEE, for a term of ten years."

Judge Randall Lee has been a mock trial coach for a year now and I was privileged enough to have him as my coach. He brought with him vast knowledge of the law and a deep understanding of it as well. Judge Lee helped out greatly by explaining the various law terms that we did not understand and how each term applied to the case that we were working on. He brought with him new ideas of the case and gave very insightful input that helped us to develop our case theory.

In preparation for the mock trial season, Judge Lee graciously allowed the team to practice in his courtroom during the weekend. This allowed our entire team to practice in a real courtroom and familiarize ourselves with the layout and feel of a courtroom. This experience gave our team an edge over all the other teams in that we knew the feel of a *real courtroom and we were less nervous when presenting in one.*

Mock trial was a very grueling five months for all the participants, including the coaches. Judge Lee was dedicated and showed up to all but a few practices and even came out to help the team during the Christmas break. Though he could have stayed home and spent time with his family, he chose to show up at our high school to help us develop our case theory. Out of the many practices that were held over the course of the season, he had missed very few. Judge Lee was very dedicated to helping the team in any way that he could.

During practices, Judge Lee would often work with a pair of students (attorney and witness) on their questions and presentation. He helped us to understand why each question was important and how to get around objections to our questions and responses. He was sure to help as many people as he could as thoroughly as he could before the end of practice.

There was an incident that occurred during the mock trial season that was troublesome and required the attention of all the coaches. In the end, Judge Lee had been one of the coaches to disagree with my removal from the team. One of the coaches had taken steps to have me removed from the team for unjustified and selfish reasons. Judge Lee had disagreed with such actions and was in favor of me remaining on the team. He stood up for me when only a few others did and he was very supportive.

Not only did he support me, but he supported the entire team. He always made sure that we were prepared before our trials. He would tell us that we knew what we were doing and constantly offered words of encouragement. He never showed up to watch any of our trials because he did not want to inadvertently influence the outcome. Judge Lee knew that some of his coworkers were presiding over our trials and he did not want to tip the balance in favor of either team. He wanted to make sure that if our team won, that we won of our own skill.

Judge Lee is a very dedicated and supportive individual. He never abandons a project halfway. He gives of himself and never asks anything in return. Judge Lee brings years of experience with him and uses it to help everyone around him. There is no one better for the job than Judge Randall Lee.

To the Clerk of the Hawaii State Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Please find attached one (1) copy of Michael T. Lee's statement re: the confirmation and consideration of Randal K. O. Lee for the position of Associate Judge of the Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals.

Committee: Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: October 25, 2007

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Hearing subject: Consideration and confirmation to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Associate Judge, Gubernatorial Nominee RANDAL K. O. LEE, for a term of ten years."

Number of copies needed for submittal: One (1)

Name: Michael T. Lee

Mailing Address: 3440 Ala Ilima Street; Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

E-mail Address: ramsfanmike105@yahoo.com

Dear Chairman Taniguchi, Vice Chairman Hee, and Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

It is a privilege and pleasure to offer my statement supporting the gubernatorial nomination of Randal K. O. Lee to the position of Associate Judge for our state's Intermediate Court of Appeals ("ICA").

I have had the opportunity to work with Judge Lee on a professional and personal basis during the past one and half years, while we both served as attorney coaches for Hawaii Baptist Academy's mock trial teams. Based upon my experience in working with Judge Lee, I submit that he possesses several outstanding qualities, which will help him serve as an excellent ICA judge.

Judge Lee is a man of integrity. He is honest, sincere, and straight forward. He says what he means, and he means what he says. He does not attempt to dazzle or confuse you. You may not agree with what Judge Lee says, but you definitely understand where he stands on any issue. This is confirmed by the fact that Judge Lee does not have any record of discipline as an attorney or a judge. This is remarkable when you consider the number of high profile cases which Judge Lee prosecuted as a deputy prosecuting attorney, and the number of cases which he presided over as a judge.

Judge Lee is a competent lawyer. He knows and understands his strengths and limitations. Based upon his experience as a deputy prosecuting attorney and a deputy public defender, Judge Lee knows how to prosecute and defend a case. While he may not have had the opportunity to try a civil case, Judge Lee's skills which he used in criminal cases, can be transferred and used readily in civil cases. He obtains and examines

statements, documents, and objects. He does his own legal research and writes his own memoranda, briefs, orders, and letters. He thinks and is willing to revise his position in light of the evidence presented. Judge Lee knows that perfection only comes after vigorous effort is expended. He is not afraid to tackle subjects and issues that he is not familiar with. This is confirmed by the fact that the State Senate previously confirmed Judge Lee for the position as a Circuit Court Judge in 2005, after examining his legal career to that point.

Judge Lee is able to delegate and train. As a Circuit Court Judge, Judge Lee knew that he needed help in dealing with the volume of civil and criminal cases. He hired and trained several law clerks during the past several years to assist him in resolving various cases. This is time consuming and intensive, yet it is needed, in order for Judge Lee to operate at a higher level of efficiency. The law clerks in turn, contribute to our legal community, after they have ended their clerkship with Judge Lee. This is confirmed by the fact that Judge Lee's former law clerks, Browning Clark, Esq., and William Tanaka, Esq., have secured employment and are now contributing members of our state bar.

Judge Lee gives back to our community. Even with all of his professional and family commitments, Judge Lee gives back to our community. He supports the athletic teams which his children participate in. He coaches Hawaii Baptist Academy's mock trial teams. He serves as a guest lecturer at the William S. Richardson School of Law. Judge Lee understands that a judge is a part of the community, and can serve as positive role model in any activity he undertakes. This is confirmed by the fact that a number of members of our community have submitted testimony in support of Judge Lee's nomination.

Judge Lee listens and then decides. Judge Lee has demonstrated that he can listen and consider various view points and argument, review the evidence presented, and make a decision in a legal office, a court room, and in life. While you may not agree with all of his decisions, he provides you with ample opportunity to present your view point. He is also respectful and courteous to individuals, even those who do not agree with his decisions. This indicates that he has the temperament and maturity to serve as an appellate judge.

In short, Judge Lee has dedicated his legal career towards public service, and he possesses the qualities needed to serve as an appellate judge. I recommend that the Senate confirm Judge Lee for the position of Associate Judge in the ICA.

Aloha,

/s/ Michael T. Lee

Michael T. Lee

HEARING

DATE: Thursday, October 25, 2007
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Dear Chairperson Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I write to you in support of the Honorable Randall K.O. Lee as nominee for Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals. As a practicing civil litigation attorney in Honolulu, I have appeared before Judge Lee in several cases in the past few years for hearing motions, discovery disputes, and settlement conferences. I found Judge Lee to be very fair and impartial, yet clearly compassionate about his work. For every appearance, Judge Lee was very prepared and exhibited extensive knowledge of the laws and rules of court. In addition, Judge Lee's sense of diligence and commitment to improving the judiciary are very apparent, particularly in the way he has managed his caseload and presided over his courtroom.

Judge Lee also recently volunteered to assist as a judge for a pretrial litigation class at the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law, for which I was a teaching assistant. He was very candid with the students, and provided them with a unique and candid view into the judicial system. His willingness to dedicate time and energy to the students is certainly indicative of his devotion to the legal community.

In short, I believe that Judge Lee will continue make valuable contributions to the legal community by serving as Associate Judge, and strongly support his nomination.

I thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Mihoko E. Ito

Mihoko E. Ito

Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel | A Limited Liability Law Partnership LLP
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 1800 | Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 547-5683 | Fax: (808) 547-5880

e-mail: meito@goodsill.com

ATTORNEYS
AT
LAW

A PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING LAW CORPORATIONS
ANDREW S. WINER* WILLIAM K. MEHEULA* VLADIMIR P. DEVENS

October 24, 2007

U.S. MAIL/FAX: 808-586-6461

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **Randall K.O. Lee Confirmation**

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this letter in full support of the Honorable Randall Lee's confirmation to the Intermediate Court of Appeals ("ICA").

I am a partner with the law firm of Winer Meheula & Devens, LLP, and also serve as general outside counsel for the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers ("SHOPO").

I first got to know Judge Lee when he coached my daughter in a girl's softball league several years ago and prior to his appointment to the Circuit Court. The opportunity to see Judge Lee out in the community gave me a different perspective of the person who was later appointed to the bench. I saw a person who was humble, patient, caring and truly dedicated to our children and the community. Despite his hectic work schedule, Judge Lee attended weekly practices and games, while encouraging and teaching the young girls a game that was very frustrating for them at times. Yet, through it all Judge Lee maintained a sense of calmness and displayed the utmost patience.

Since his appointment to the Circuit Court, I have also come to know Judge Lee professionally as my law firm has had several civil cases in his court. The characteristics he displayed in the community were the same traits he brought to the bench. He is an intelligent judge with an excellent judicial temperament who is very respectful of the attorneys that come before him, never forgetting what it was like working in the litigation trenches. Although we at times may disagree with his rulings, Judge Lee's decisions are consistently well reasoned and thoroughly researched. He has clearly proven himself to be a dedicated and hard working judge that is always striving to make the right decision.

I sincerely hope that your committee will unanimously confirm Judge Lee to the ICA.

Respectfully submitted,



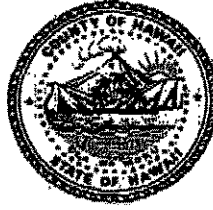
Vladimir Devens

707 Richards Street Penthouse One Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Telephone 808-528-5003 Fax 808-254-6872 PacificLaw.com

586-6461 forward

JAY T. KIMURA
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CHARLENE Y. IBOSHI
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

October 25, 2007

TO: Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FR: Jay Kimura
Prosecuting Attorney

RE: *Testimony in support of Darwin Ching and Randall Lee*

Please find attached testimony in support of both nominees.

ph
attach

655 Kilauea Avenue
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: 961-0466
FAX: 961-8908
934-3403
934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKII ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: 322-2552
FAX: 322-6584

October 25, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Confirmation of Randall K.O. Lee as Associate Judge
Intermediate Court of Appeals**

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I support the confirmation of Randall K.O. Lee as Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I have known Randall Lee for many years as a prosecutor and know him to be highly qualified for the position of Associate Judge for the Intermediate court of Appeals.

Sincerely yours,


JAY T. KIMURA

SHOPO

October 25, 2007

U.S. MAIL/FAX: 808-586-6461

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi
 Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
 Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219
 415 South Beretania Street
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **The Honorable Randall K.O. Lee's Nomination to the ICA**

Dear Chairman Taniguchi:

I write this letter in firm support of Judge Randall Lee's nomination to the Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I currently serve as President of the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers ("SHOPO"), the labor union that represents all of the county police officers throughout the State of Hawaii.

As police officers, we are called upon weekly to testify in our Hawaii courts. This includes testifying in the Circuit Court where our officers have appeared before Judge Lee. Judge Lee has always treated our officers with respect and has displayed a judicial temperament that reflects a high level of integrity and fairness. As police officers, we strive for the highest levels of integrity and know that Judge Lee is of a like mind.

Prior to his appointment to the courts, Judge Lee served as a Honolulu prosecutor for many years. He developed a reputation among our police officers as being a hard working, tough and aggressive prosecutor, but at the same time always insisted that matters be handled fairly and ethically. His work ethic was at the highest levels as he toiled until every case was taken as far as it could go.

Judge Lee possesses a great deal of knowledge in criminal law, which will undoubtedly serve him well at the appellate level. I also know that he was assigned to the civil calendar at the Circuit Court level and was a quick study, and therefore have no doubt that with his intelligence he will be well prepared to analyze and decide any issue that comes before the appellate court.

I sincerely hope your committee will give its full support to Judge Lee's nomination.

Sincerely,

TENARI R. MA'AFALA

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 Michael Bates

Main Office & Honolulu Chapter
 1717 Hop Street
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-3125
 Ph: (808) 847-4676 "84 SHOPO"
 Fax: (808) 841-4818
 Toll Free: (800) 590-4676

Hawaii Chapter Office
 688 Kiole Street, Room 220B
 Hilo, Hawaii 96720
 Ph: (808) 934-9405
 Fax: (808) 934-8210

Maui Chapter Office
 Kahului Shopping Center, Unit 19
 65 West Kahaumanu Avenue
 Kahului, Hawaii 96732
 Ph: (808) 877-9044
 Fax: (808) 893-0016

Kauai Chapter Office
 3145 Akahi Street, Unit 2
 Lihue, Hawaii 96766
 P.O. Box 1708
 Lihue, Hawaii 96766
 Ph: (808) 246-8911

HENDERSON GALLAGHER & KANE

HARVEY E. HENDERSON, JR.
J. PATRICK GALLAGHER
JOLIE SEGAWA KANE
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JACQUELINE W.S. AMAI
GREG H. TAKASE

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
A LAW CORPORATION
TOPA FINANCIAL CENTER
745 FORT STREET, SUITE 1550
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 531-2408 • FAX: (808) 531-2404

LEAH M. RIZES
JEFFREY Y. HIGASHI

<http://www.hendersongallagher.com>

October 25, 2007

Senator Brian Taniguchi
Senate Committee of Judiciary and Labor
10th Senatorial District
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

VIA FACSIMILE SENATE (586-6461)

Re: Nominee Randall K.O. Lee

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

Please allow this letter to serve as my support of the Honorable Randall K.O. Lee for the position of Associate Justice, Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals.

I have had the pleasure of working with Judge Lee during my tenure at the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney and have appeared before him on several occasions during his assignment to the civil bench.

Judge Lee is hard working and conscientious. Since taking the bench he has exhibited compassion and fairness to the litigants and counsel. I have always been impressed by his integrity and willingness to work hard as an attorney and now, judge. He will be an asset to the appellate court and I ask that you confirm his nomination as Associate Justice.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lynn Costales

LBC: jr