LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





LAURA H. THRELEN CHARPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> KEN C. KAWAHARA DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU GF COWN PERSOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

#### TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

#### on Governor's Message No. 112 Confirmation of Ms. Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki to the Commission On Water Resource Management

#### BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND October 25, 2007

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is pleased to support Governor's Message 112 on the appointment of Ms.Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki, to the Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) for a term to expire June 30, 2011.

Ms. Kiyosaki was born and raised in Hawaii. Upon graduating from Roosevelt High School, she was accepted at Stanford University where she earned her degree in civil engineering. Shortly thereafter, Ms. Kiyosaki became a registered civil engineer in the State of Hawaii.

Ms. Kiyosaki is currently the Senior Vice President of Development for Waimana Enterprises, Inc. Ms. Kiyosaki has over 25 years of experience in both the public and private sector in water, wastewater, energy, and public works. Prior to joining Waimana, she served for 8 years as the Deputy Manager & Chief Engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply. Previous to that, she was the Director & Chief Engineer for the County of Hawaii, the Civil Engineering Section and the Integrated Resource Planning Coordinator for Hawaii Electric Light Company, Planning Engineer for the Big Island Department of Water Supply, and a Design Engineer in private practice. Ms. Kiyosaki served on the National Board of Directors for the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies and is a committee chair for the American Water Works Association, Hawaii Section.

The State Water Code requires that Commission members have substantial experience in the area of water resource management. In her short time as an interim appointment, Ms. Kiyosaki has demonstrated an immediate and in-depth grasp of the various water resource issues brought forth before the Commission. Given her background and knowledge in water, she is without question, qualified to serve on the Commission. The Department notes that Ms. Kiyosaki's name was selected off a list submitted by the Nominating Committee to the Commission, in compliance with section 174C-7(d), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Ms. Kiyosaki brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from both the private and public sectors. Her commitment to public service is commendable.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports the confirmation of Donna Fay Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management.



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MEREDITH J. CHING Senior Vice President

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairperson Senate Committee on Water and Land Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land State Capitol, Room 228 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

#### RE: Donna Kiyosaki—Gubernatorial Nominee to the Commission on Water Resource Management

Thank you for this opportunity to express my full support of the appointment of Donna Kiyosaki to the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

I believe that Donna will be a valuable contributor to the work of the Commission on Water Resource management, at a particularly crucial juncture in the Commission's work, as she has the proper skills, experience and perspective for this appointment. She is an engineer; she has had hands-on experience with water policies and projects from both the government and private sectors vantage; and having worked in government, she has experience in balancing the various interests and needs of the community—in actuality, not just in plans or words. In addition, Donna has always displayed a high degree of competence, diligence and performance in every position she has held.

As a fellow commissioner, I welcome the expertise that Donna would bring to the Commission. As a citizen, I am grateful that someone of Donna's caliber is willing to volunteer their time to the work of the people, as a member of the State Commission.

For all these reasons, I urge your confirmation of Donna Kiyosaki to the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

Sincerely,

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Meredith J. Ching

### MATSUI CHUNG

Attorneys-at-Law A Law Corporation

Randall Y. S. Chung Ward F. N. Fujimoto Archie T. Ikehara Clyde Wm. Matsui

Melanie S. Matsui James H. Monma Marilyn S.H. Naitoh Milton S. Tani

October 23, 2007

Committee on Water and Land State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Attention: The Honorable Clayton Hee Chair

> Re: Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki Commission on Water Resource Management

Dear Chair Hee and Committee Members:

This letter is in support of the confirmation of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

By way of background, I have practiced as a trial lawyer since 1981. I am also the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply. I have known Donna Kiyosaki for some 30 years now, both on a professional and a personal basis. I have even maintained periodic contact with Ms. Kiyosaki during her 18 years on the Big Island of Hawaii.

When I was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply in 2005, I worked closely with Ms. Kiyosaki, who was then the Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer.

Over the years, I have been impressed with Ms. Kiyosaki's ability to formulate thoughtful and workable solutions to perplexing problems, as well as with her communication skills. Needless to say, with her background, she would bring to the Commission on Water Resource Management a wealth of knowledge about our limited resource that is water. Above all, I have always been able to count upon her personal integrity in my dealings with her.

For the foregoing reasons, I urge your Committee to confirm the nomination of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Committee on Water and Land October 23, 2007 Page 2

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

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#### October 24, 2007

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair Committee on Water and Land State Capitol, Conference Room 225 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

My name is Susan Uyesugi and I support Donna Fay Kiyosaki's confirmation for the State Commission on Water Resource Management. I am a civil engineer at the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and have worked here for the past 26 years.

I met Donna when she first started at the Board in 1998. Many of us long-time employees were worried, and wondered who was this person coming from the outside into our organization in the number 2 position. It was also at a time when many water utilities were being looked at by privatizers and according to consultants, we were ripe for the picking. I wondered how someone who had very little experience in the water industry could step into that role and be effective. But I found that Donna achieved a level of understanding quickly and had a common sense way of understanding complicated matters.

The year 1998 was the beginning of change since we had a new Manager and Chief Engineer as well as a new Deputy Manager. Cliff Jamile, with over 40 years of experience at the HBWS along with Donna were appointed to fill the top two roles. Together they implemented many changes to improve the Board. But for some employees, change was hard to deal with. They liked doing what they had been doing for the last 20 or 30 years of their employment. Didn't matter if it was good for the organization. They didn't want change. So some of them left instead of dealing with change. And maybe that was a good thing.

I was excited by the change. We had to do something to remain a public utility. And the change must not have been a total failure. We're still a public utility. We're still undergoing change as we try to deal with the baby boomers (of which I am one) getting ready for retirement in large numbers.

Donna volunteers a lot of her time in support of the water industry. She took an active role in the American Water Works Association – Hawaii Section, a volunteer organization made up of over 57,000 water industry professionals across the United State, Canada and Mexico. She served as a Trustee from 1999 – 2002, then Vice-Chair from 2002 – 2003, Chair from 2003 – 2004, Past-Chair from 2004 – 2005. She has also served as Awards Committee Chair, Nominating Committee Chair, and Legislation/Regulation Committee Chair.

I count Donna as a mentor (after all, she is older than me by four months) and support her wholeheartedly.

Sincerely,

Pusan hegesny

Susan Uyesugi 1711 Day Place Honolulu, HI 96819



The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair And Members Committee on Water and Land State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Subject: Approval of the Governor's nomination of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki, P.E. to the Commission on Water Resource Management

I recommend that the Committee on Water and Land approve the nomination of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki, P.E. to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

I first met Ms. Kiyosaki in the early 1980's as a project engineer with the Hawaii County Department of Water Supply. I had the good fortune to work with her over the years as she ascended to higher positions with the Hawaii County Public Works Department and the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and learned first hand of her engineering and managerial skills. Her knowledge of Hawaii's water resources is unparalleled and her dedication and commitment to provide stewardship of this vital resource for future generations is well known to those who have worked directly with her over the years.

Having served the Department of Land and Natural Resources for over 35 years including a term as the first Deputy Director of the Commission on Water Resource Management, I know the value of having knowledgeable professional engineers on the Commission to deal with technical information involved in managing Hawaii's water resources with clear understanding of cultural values. Ms. Kiyosaki brings this expertise to the Commission.

Based on my personal knowledge of Ms. Kiyosaki's experience and knowledge of Hawaii's water resource and the mandate of the State Water Code, I am strongly recommending approval of the nomination of Ms. Donna Kay K. Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Sincerely, 0

Manaba Tagomori, P.E., J.ASCE Director, Water and Natural Resource

October 25, 2007

LATE TESTIMONY

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair And Members of the Committee on Water and Land State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Subject: Support for Appointment of Donna Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management

I would like to express my total support for the appointment of Donna Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management. As the Executive Director of the Ala Wai Watershed Association, I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Kiyosaki on numerous occasions, as co-presenters at conferences as well as on the more substantive issues of water supply, water runoff and pollution, and the public interface required for improving the state of water resources on the limited land masses of our islands.

There are a very few people with the multi-island experience of Ms. Kiyosaki. Combined with her ability to articulate the public breadth and the engineering depth regarding our State's fragile water budget, Ms. Kiyosaki's appointment to the Commission on Water Resource Management would be a benefit to all.

Very truly yours,

Karm Az Mai

Karen Ah Mai

## LATE TESTIMONY

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair And Members Committee on Water and Land State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Confirmation of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

I am sending this letter in support of Ms. Kiyosaki's appointment to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

I have known Ms. Kiyosaki since her appointment as Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer at the Honolulu Board of Water Supply. Over this almost 10-year period, I have been and remain impressed by her personal integrity, loyalty, and dedication to purpose. During this time, I was able to observe the integral role Ms. Kiyosaki played in ensuring that her organization honored its obligation to be a responsible steward of this island's precious water resources.

Ms. Kiyosaki's resume confirms her professional qualifications for the position. This practical experience, combined with her abilities to grasp the big picture and to effectively communicate with diverse stakeholders, will serve her well as a member of the Commission on Water Resource Management.

In conclusion, I firmly believe that Ms. Kiyosaki's demonstrated achievements and character are excellent qualifications for her appointment to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Respectfully yours,

Ross A. Kaneko, P.E.

Project Manager

Dee M. Crowell, AIA PO Box 598 Waimea, Hi 96796

# LATE TESTIMONY

24 October 2007

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair And Members Committee on Water and Land State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

#### SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of the Confirmation of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki To the Commission on Water Resource Management

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

I would like to express my wholehearted support for the confirmation of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

I was the Planning Director for the County of Kaua'i (1993-2003), as well as a Kaua'i Water Board member (1997-2003), and I had the opportunity to work with Ms. Kiyosaki when she was with the County of Hawai'i, Dept. of Public Works as well as the City and County of Honolulu, Board of Water Supply. She brings to the table a rare knowledge of both Neighbor Island and Honolulu perspectives. One of her more noteworthy achievements was her leadership in the community based planning efforts for the Board of Water Supply. That kind of approach to community issues will serve her and the State well on the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Ms. Kiyosaki is very knowledgeable and articulate on water issues. If confirmed, she will be able to hit the ground running and be a valuable member of the Commission.

Mahalo, for your consideration.

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Dee M. Crowell, AIA

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair and Members Committee on Water and Land Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

#### Subject: Appointment to the Commission on Water Resource Management

This letter is in support of the confirmation of Donna Kiyosaki to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

I have known Donna Kiyosaki for over 30 years, since we were engineering classmates at Stanford University. Donna's intelligence and engineering skills were well known and respected since those days in college. Her resume, showing successively responsible and important leadership positions in the engineering field, confirms her capabilities in our specialty.

I also know the work of the Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission). As a former Deputy to the Commission, I know the responsibility and duty that a Commissioner must carry to honor, protect, and carry forth the Constitutional and statutory mandates. Donna's experience in water supply and water resources are invaluable as a Commissioner. The area of water resources is not simple to learn. A commissioner should be knowledgeable in the science of water resources as well as its legal, administrative, and regulatory framework. These areas are also in Donna's expertise because of her work experience and background.

Last, I know that Donna has a passion for and about water resources. Her heart is with protection of resources and belief in the value and scarcity of water. I know she will do everything she can to fulfill the important mission of the Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Rae M. Loui Vice President, M&E Pacific

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**M&E Pacific, Inc.** 841 Bishop Street, Suite 1900 Honolulu, HI 96813 Telephone: 808.529.7221 Fax: 808.524.8677

LATE TESTIMONY

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chair and Members Committee on Water and Land The Senate State Capitol, Conference Room 225 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Dear Chair Hee and Members:

#### Subject: Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Commission on Water Resource Management, Gubernatorial Nominee, DONNA FAY K. KIYOSAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2011

Aloha Chair Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land, I would like to express my strong support for Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki and her confirmation to the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM).

I have had the pleasure and opportunity to work with Ms. Kiyosaki in my capacity as the Manager and Chief Engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS). During Ms. Kiyosaki's tenure as the BWS Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer, I found her to be innovative and supportive of program measures to protect and sustain Oahu's ground- and surface-water resources.

I cannot emphasize enough her enthusiasm and long-range vision for sustaining our Islands' important natural resources. More importantly, I would like to acknowledge and sincerely applaud her commitment and praiseworthy dedication towards pursuing and achieving the goals and objectives of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

The role and responsibilities as a member of the CWRM represent a truly complex and challenging position. I am confident that given the opportunity, Ms. Kiyosaki will continue to carry forth in a commendable manner and as a commissioner will be able to implement statewide program measures that will have a positive and lasting effect for generations to come.

In light of the above, I would like to respectfully request your Committee's support of Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki's confirmation to the Commission on Water Resource Management. I strongly believe that she will continue to be a tremendous advocate for the environment and will serve the public positively by protecting our State's important water resources.

Very truly yours,

CLIFFORD P. LUM 636 Pamaele Street Kailua, Hawali 96734

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October 24, 2007

3080 Puhala Rise Honolulu, HI 96822

LATE TESTIMONY

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair And Members Committee on Water and Land State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Subject: Appointment to the Commission on Water Resource Management

I am writing in support of the appointment of Donna Kiyosaki to the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

During the period August, 2003 to October, 2004, our organization, Malama o Manoa, conducted a two-phase educational outreach program called the Kuleana Project, in partnership with the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and 12 area schools surrounding Manoa Valley. During Phase I, almost 1,000 students in 12 schools participated in the Kuleana Project, and, during Phase II, over 1,400 adults and students passed the Water Warrior Challenge to become "Water Warriors". Because of our combined efforts, this project was recognized by the EPA for excellence in 2004. At its conclusion, a 100-page community guidebook for conducting similar watershed outreach campaigns was completed and is presently available to other communities through the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

If it were not for the foresight and vision of Donna Kiyosaki, the Kuleana Project would not have happened. She immediately recognized the possibilities for partnering with our grassroots organization in promoting water conservation by using children as the teachers of adults. She convinced the Board to fund our project. Throughout the campaign, she displayed her whole-hearted support of our efforts by her availability to help us overcome obstacles in our path, her presence at our activities, and her delight at our successes.

I believe that she has much to offer the Commission on Water Resource Management. I therefore strongly support her appointment as a member of the Commission Resource Management.

Sincerely, Helen Valano-

Helen Nakano, Kuleana Project Coodinator Malama o Manoa Phone: (808) 988-5671; E-Mail: Nakano@hawaiiantel.net