LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIJO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

<u>www.labor.hawaii.gov</u> Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099 Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

August 30, 2017

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair,

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor

Date: Thursday, August 31, 2017

Time: 2:45 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

#### GM 59 Marcus Oshiro to Serve as Chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Rhoads, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Linda Chu Takayama and I am the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I <u>strongly support</u> the nomination of Mr. Oshiro to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. Mr. Oshiro's education and experience are well suited for him to serve as Chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

I urge you to confirm Mr. Oshiro to serve as Chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board where, if appointed, he will provide excellent public service.

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



Testimony by: FORD N. FUCHIGAMI DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors JADE T. BUTAY ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWN H. SNIFFEN DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

August 31, 2017 2:45 p.m. State Capitol, Room 225

#### G.M. 59/60

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARCUS OSHIRO, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

#### Senate Committee on Labor

The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly **supports** Marcus Oshiro as Chairperson and Representative of the Public of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board (HLRB).

Mr. Oshiro is an exemplary choice. His record of public service, his integrity, and his experience as an attorney and a legislator, which includes being the former Chairperson of the House of Representatives, Labor and Public Employment committee shows his commitment to public service and labor law.

We believe he is fair and has the judgment to enforce and protect the rights of public employees and public unions to organize and bargain collectively in balance with the employer's rights to manage operations as provided by law and to fairly and efficiently resolve labor disputes brought before the HLRB.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Harry Kim Mayor



Wil Okabe

Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow Deputy Managing Director

## County of Hawai'i

Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553 KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740 (808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

August 30, 2017

Labor Relations Board State of Hawai'i 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 434 Honolulu, HI 96813

#### To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Representative Marcus Oshiro to the Labor Relations Board.

The mission of the Labor Relations Board is to protect the rights of State and County workers and to protect the right of public unions to bargain collectively, in balance with the employer's rights to manage operations by law, and to fairly resolve labor disputes.

In all of my dealings with Rep. Oshiro throughout the years, I have been impressed by his fairness. Rep. Oshiro has the qualities of even-handedness and integrity, and will serve admirably as a member of the Labor Relations Board.

I wholeheartedly support Rep. Oshiro's appointment to this very important Board. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Harry Kim

#### CALVIN K.Y. SAY

#### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

August 30, 2017

The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair The Honorable Kalani English, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee:

Re: Testimony in Support of GM59 and GM60: Confirmation of Gubernatorial nominee Marcus Oshiro to the Hawai'i Relations Board

Please permit me to take this means to submit testimony in strong support of the nomination of Marcus Oshiro as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public Hawai'i Relations Board for terms that expires in June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2024.

Representative Oshiro and I have a relationship that goes back to the year 1994 when he was first elected to the House of Representatives. As a member of the House, he held many positions starting as Vice Speaker, Majority Leader, Labor Committee Chair and for six years as Finance Committee Chair.

Representative Oshiro understands the complexities of our State and Federal labor laws and will be a tremendous asset to the Board in their deliberation and decision making of complex labor issues.

I can attest that he is a person of great integrity, wisdom, and compassion and is well qualified for this position. I urge your favorable consideration of the nomination and confirmation of Representative Marcus Oshiro as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public Hawai'i Relations Board.

Mahalo

Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker Emeritus

Hawaii State House of Representatives



#### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

August 30, 2017

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senate Committee on Labor 415 S. Beretania St. Room 202 Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF MARCUS OSHIRO AS CHAIR OF THE HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and members of the committee, thank you for opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Representative Marcus Oshiro as the new Chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

As a representative, I have been fortunate to serve in the House and specifically on the House Finance Committee under Chair Oshiro.

Under Representative Oshiro's mentorship, I was able to not only learn about the state budget but also my responsibilities of being a state legislator. I realized how much he cared for the people of Hawaii as we worked on balancing the immense state budget during one of the most difficult fiscal times this state has experienced.

Representative Oshiro will take these managerial skills to his new position and will be a tremendous benefit to all of the people of Hawaii.

I strongly support Representative Oshiro's appointment to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. He will be a great asset to the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Isaac W. Choy

Representative District 23

IWC:ps



The Hawaii State Senate
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
First Special Session of 2017

#### SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair Members of the Committee

DATE OF HEARING: Thursday, August 31, 2017

TIME OF HEARING: 2:45 p.m.

PLACE OF HEARING: Conference room 225

State Capitol

#### **GM59 Nomination of Marcus Oshiro to Hawaii Labor Relations Board**

By Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, and I am the state director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, and AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members in the private sector.

The UPW strongly supports GM59 for a term to expire on June 30, 2018 and GM60 for a term expire on June 30, 2024, the nomination by Governor Ige of Marcus Oshiro to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board as Chairperson and Representative of the Public.

Mr. Oshiro thoroughly understands the mission and purpose of the HLRB as an agency to "protect the rights of public employees and public unions to organize and bargain collectively in

balance with the employer's rights to manage operations as provided by law to fairly and efficiently resolve labor disputes brought before it."

In this regard, we have known Mr. Oshiro to be a very fair person who pursues fact over fiction. He has many years of legislative experiences in dealing with issues that affect labor and management especially in the public sector and would therefore, be able to understand clearly labor/management issues set before him as a Board Member. As a former chair of the House Labor and Public Employment Committee, and as a former chair of the House Finance Committee, he has made innumerable decisions related to public employees and public agencies after hundreds of hours of discussion and deliberation. He is very qualified and dedicated to serve in the HLRB.

We humbly request the Committee to support the nomination of Mr. Marcus Oshiro to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.





PRESIDENT Tenari R. Ma'afala

VICE PRESIDENT
Malcolm Lutu

TREASURER
James "Kimo" Smith

SECRETARY Michael Cusumano

DIRECTORS AT LARGE
Don Faumuina
John Haina
Erik linuma

HONOLULU CHAPTER CHAIR Robert Cavaco

HAWAI'I CHAPTER CHAIR Darren Horio

KAUA'I CHAPTER CHAIR Jesse Guirao

MAUI CHAPTER CHAIR Barry Aoki

Main Office & Honolulu Chapter 1717 Hoe Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819-3125 Ph: (808) 847-4676 "84 SHOPO" (800) 590-4676 Toll Free Fax: (808) 841-4818

Hawai'i Chapter Office 688 Kino'ole Street, Room 220 B Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 Ph: (808) 934-8405

Ph: (808) 934-8405 Fax: (808) 934-8210

Maui Chapter Office 1887 Wili Pa Loop, Suite #2 Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 Ph: (808) 242-6129 Fax: (808) 242-9519

Kaua'i Chapter Office 4264 Rice Street, Lihue Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1708 Lihue, Hawai'i 96766 Ph: (808) 246-8911 August 30, 2017

FAX: 587-7220/U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair The Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Labor Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813 (sentokuda@capitol.hawaii.gov) (senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Re: Marcus R. Oshiro
Nomination, Chair of the HLRB

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and Honorable Committee Members:

I write this letter in strong support of the Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro's nomination to serve as the next Chairperson of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board ("HLRB").

I currently serve as President of the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers ("SHOPO"), which is the public employee union that represents all county police members serving throughout the State of Hawaii. As a police union, we have a special interest in the HLRB appointments because critical labor issues are decided by the Board that can have a devastating and negative impact on our members and their families. Recently, there have been very important issues raised before the HLRB that have directly impacted our union and our member's rights. For those reasons, we believe the HLRB is at a critical juncture and the next chairperson should be someone who possesses the integrity, background, experience and knowledge in the area of labor relations to fully understand and fairly adjudicate the issues presented to the Board.

Our review and evaluation of a HLRB nominee is based on several factors, including but not limited to intelligence, legal knowledge/ability, professional experience, diligence, fairness, judicial temperament and integrity. We use our evaluations to determine whether we will support, oppose or remain neutral on a particular nomination. We take our evaluations and recommendations seriously as we know that the position we take on a candidate could negatively impact a nominee's confirmation.

For many years we have appeared before committees Rep. Oshiro has chaired or served as a member. It is obvious to us that Rep. Oshiro has been a tireless public servant who possesses a high degree of legal intellect which is reflected in his understanding and firm grasp of current labor decisions, laws and rulings. He consistently displays the utmost respect for not only our officers but everyone who has appeared before his committees and is a person who gives much thought and analysis before making a decision. Rep. Oshiro has always been even-handed in his approach, fair minded, well balanced, maintains a mature temperament and exhibits compassion for those who are less fortunate and come before him under difficult circumstances.

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The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair The Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Labor Re: Marcus R. Oshiro, Nomination, Chair of the HLRB August 30, 2017 Page 2

He is a diligent attorney and legislator who works hard and does his homework when it comes to understanding the law, collective bargaining and applying the law fairly. In my discussions, we sometimes have had to agree to disagree; however, his positions are well thought out, well-reasoned, and with particularly difficult issues he has displayed the courage to make an unpopular call when that is what he believes the facts or law dictates. That is something we truly respect and admire about Rep. Oshiro.

The comments and feedback we have received over the years on Rep. Oshiro has been overwhelmingly positive. We are impressed with his personal integrity, diligence, balanced demeanor and ethical standards which are of the highest order. Based on our experience, we have full confidence that Rep. Oshiro will be balanced in his approach on the issues, he will weigh the merits of each case from all sides and render well-reasoned decisions that will be fair to all parties that come before the HLRB.

With his sense of fairness, natural humility, sharp legal mind, broad legal knowledge and even keeled temperament, we believe Rep. Oshiro is an excellent choice to be the next Chairperson of the HLRB. We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this nomination and sincerely hope Rep. Oshiro will receive your committee's unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

TENARI R. MA'AFALA

SHOPO President

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature Special Session of 2017

THE SENATE
Committee on Labor
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 225
Thursday, August 31, 2017; 2:45 p.m.

# STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON G.M. 59 AND G.M. 60 SUBMITTING MARCUS OSHIRO FOR THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

The ILWU Local 142 strongly supports the confirmation of Marcus Oshiro as the Chairperson of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board, for both Governor's Messages 59 and 60.

Marcus has a passion for doing legislative work and he has repeatedly demonstrated this during his career in the House of Representatives. His father, Bob Oshiro, probably influenced how Marcus viewed "public service" and what it became to mean for Marcus. He has been elected and then re-elected to represent the community he grew up in, and holding elective office and representing people you grew up with, has strongly affected both the passion and outlook that Marcus brings to this new position.

Marcus has also served in a number of roles including Chair of the House Labor and Public Employment committee, as well as Chair of the House Committee on Finance. In both of these roles, he would have gained a better understanding and a greater appreciation of the role that the Hawaii Labor Relations Board plays within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Maintaining labor peace and balance between labor and management in the public sector, is at the heart of the role of the Labor Relations Board. The role of the Chairperson is specifically to represent the interest of the Community or the Public, and this fits Marcus perfectly because he has been doing just that throughout his political career.

Therefore, his views of public service and understanding the role and objectives of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board is well suited for Marcus. This is true especially given all of his legislative experience, and the legal training and experience that he has had. His legislative career has prepared him well to serve as the Chairperson for the Hawaii Labor Relations Board, and we know this opportunity will only open a new chapter for Marcus Oshiro, with many new challenges that will not only test his capabilities but also strengthen his character.

The ILWU respectfully urges the confirmation of Marcus Oshiro as the Chairperson for the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. Thank you for considering our testimony.

# HGEA A F S C M E

#### HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii
First Special Session of 2017
The Senate
Committee on Labor

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

August 31, 2017

G.M. 59 and G.M. 60 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Marcus Oshiro

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the nomination of Marcus Oshiro to serve as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board (HLRB). The HLRB's primary function is to interpret state collective bargaining law by balancing the rights of government employees to collectively bargain versus the employer's rights to manage their operations.

Since being elected to serve in the State House of Representatives in 1994, Representative Oshiro has held a wide variety of leadership roles, including serving as Chair of the Labor and Public Employment Committee, Chair of the Finance Committee, and House Majority Leader. Through his experiences in the House of Representatives, as a practicing attorney, and his extensive involvement in the Council of State Government, we believe Representative Oshiro has the background and knowledge to fairly assess and deliberate on complex labor cases.

On a personal note, I have known Representative Oshiro for over twenty years and consider him to be a friend. While we may not always agree on policy issues, I have consistently found him to be honest and thoughtful in his deliberations. I firmly believe that as Chairperson of the HLRB, Representative Oshiro will strive to do his best to serve the public and will prove to be an asset to the HLRB.

For these reasons we offer our support for the confirmation of Marcus Oshiro to serve as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Pérreira Executive Director



1065 Ahua Street Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167

Email: <u>info@gcahawaii.org</u> Website: <u>www.gcahawaii.org</u>



Sent via e-mail: LBRtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

August 31, 2017

TO: CHAIR JILL TOKUDA, VICE CHAIR J. KALANI ENGLISH, AND

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF GM 59. GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARCUS

OSHIRO, CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE

CHAIRPERSON AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PUBLIC OF THE HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE

6/30/2018.

SUPPORT OF GM 60. GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARCUS OSHIRO, CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PUBLIC OF THE HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2024.

**Confirmation Hearing** 

DATE: Thursday, August 31, 2017

TIME: 2:45 PM PLACE: CR 225

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over five hundred general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. GCA's mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

GCA is in strong support of Governor's Message 59 and 60 for the confirmation of Representative Marcus Oshiro to serve as the incoming Chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. The Hawaii Labor Relations Board (Board) plays an important role in both the public and private sectors and the employment and safety of the workplace. The Board not only oversees the rights of public employees and public unions, but also conducts hearings on contested citations issued by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division. Mr. Oshiro's experience in the Hawaii State Legislature for over twenty years has exposed him to different perspectives in the labor relations area. Mr. Oshiro served in numerous leadership roles while in the Hawaii State Legislature including as Vice Speaker, Chair of Finance, Chair of the House Committee on Labor and Public Employment. Mr. Oshiro's experience, integrity and passion for the law and to do what is right makes him an ideal candidate for the position.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support of both GM 59 and 60 and Mr. Oshiro's appointment to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

# Erik Kazuyuki Abe 55 South Kukui Street, #1606 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Ph. (808) 371-3745 Email -- eabe1019@gmail.com

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Labor Thursday, August 31, 2017, 2:45 p.m. State Capitol, Conf. Room 225

RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 59 -- CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF MARCUS R.

OSHIRO, CHAIRPERSON AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PUBLIC, HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS
BOARD, TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2018.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 60 -- CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF MARCUS R. OSHIRO, CHAIRPERSON AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PUBLIC, HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD, TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2024.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Erik Abe and I am the Public Affairs and Policy Director for the Hawaii Primary Care Association. At the outset, I need to disclose that I took time off from work today and am appearing solely in my capacity as a private citizen. I am testifying in SUPPORT of the confirmation of MARCUS R. OSHIRO as the Chairperson and Representative of the Public of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Between 2003 and 2016, I worked with Representative Oshiro at the Hawaii House of Representatives as his Committee Clerk when he Chaired the House Committee on Labor and Public Employment, as his Special Assistant when he served as the House Majority Leader, as his Capital Improvement Project Specialist and a Researcher when he Chaired the House Committee on Finance, and finally as a session employee and Office Manager after he was reassigned from Finance

In the twenty-seven years working as either staff or as a lobbyist before the Hawaii State Legislature, I have never worked with a more dedicated public servant than Representative Oshiro. His devotion to his constituents is absolute, unceasing, and selfless. That he does this is not surprising given his family's legacy. What is surprising is how effective he has been by taking the "blue collar" approach.

What were some of his accomplishments? It should be remembered that Representative Oshiro Chaired the House Committee on Finance during the worst economic downturn in our State's history since the Great Depression. I'm sure you can appreciate how difficult it was for him and his colleagues to cut essential programs and services in the magnitude of hundreds of millions of dollars. No one would ever want to do this, but he and his colleagues did it under his leadership because it had to be done and he did it in a manner that was fairest to everyone involved.

I recall marathon hearings -- a couple that began at 9:00 a.m. that ended nearly twenty-four hours later -- just so that anyone and everyone who wanted to be heard would have an opportunity to be heard. That kind of commitment to transparency and public access has been the hallmark of MARCUS OSHIRO.

Testimony on GM Nos. 59 and 60 August 31, 2017 Page 2

As Majority Leader, I recall the difficulty he experienced in having to defend the Gas Cap Law -- a measure that he personally disagreed with. Yet, recognizing the will of his Caucus, he took the unprecedented step of providing weekly analyses of West Coast gas prices to publicly report the anticipated cost of gasoline under the Hawaii Law. He did this not because he wanted to. He did this because he realized it was in the best interests of all. And because of this, he did the best job he could without any reservations.

When we first began working together, he was the House Labor Chair at the start of the Republican Lingle Administration. It had been a generation since the Legislature had to battle a Governor from another party. A keynote to Lingle's platform was her intention to transform Hawaii's Workers' Compensation System by eliminating certain protections earned by employees. As the Labor Chair, he methodically broke down Lingle's Omnibus Bill into its main components and allowed the public to vet each. Based on this review, he was able to show how Lingle's proposal would have come at great cost to the People, and the Legislature was able to act in the Public's best interest.

As the years progressed and his role changed, Oshiro's interest in labor issues never waned. He understood that no other policy area had such a direct impact on the wellbeing of families and entire communities. Having assisted him in voluminous policy and legal research on labor issues over the past decade, I can personally attest that he is an expert in this area.

Remembering the days of the Lingle Administration, the People of this State are once again at risk for major change. With efforts across our Country to eliminate the right to collective bargaining, and litigation proceeding that would jeopardize the ability for unions to organize and sustain their efforts, it is vital for labor-management disputes to be resolved in a methodical, transparent, and fair manner. Oshiro will ensure this, and the interests of all of our People will best be served.

On a personal note, having worked so closely with Representative Oshiro for so many years, I am saddened because there is so much more that he can do at the Legislature. Yet, I realize that there are much greater needs in our State and ways in which his skills, expertise, and limitless energy can best serve our People.

You cannot find a better person more qualified or capable for this job.

For these reasons, I humbly and respectfully urge your favorable consideration of MARCUS R. OSHIRO for the Chair and Representative of the Public for the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

# # # #

## Calvin Azama 98-2051A Kaahumanu Street

Aiea, Hawaii 96701

TO: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

& Members

Senate Committee on Labor

State of Hawaii

RE: Marcus Oshiro To Hawaii Labor Relations Board

I support the confirmation of Representative Marcus Oshiro to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Marcus and I worked together in the House of Representatives from 2007 through 2013. During that time, I became well acquainted with Marcus professionally and personally.

Marcus has the intelligence and leadership skills to succeed as the Chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. He is a dedicated public servant who will be fair, objective, and diligent in the discharge of his duties.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Very truly yours,

CALVIN AZAMA

Honorable Ron Kouchi President of the Senate Special Session of the 29th Legislature

Honorable Jill Tokuda Chairperson, Senate Labor Committee Special Session of the 29th Legislature

RE: GM 59 and GM 60 HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD Hearing: August 31, 2017, 2:45 PM, Senate Conf. Room 225

President Kouchi and Chairperson Tokuda,

I am writing to voice my strong support of Governor David Ige's nomination of Marcus Oshiro as immediate Chairperson of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board and for GM 60 consideration for a full term July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2024. I urge the Senate Labor Committee to consider the unique knowledge and experiences of Marcus Oshiro for these nominations. Your honorable Chairperson also has substantial similar knowledge on the Senate so she would be in a good position to hear, vet, and guide her Committee to consider Mr. Oshiro.

I have known Marcus and his family for many years. However, while he was the former House chair of two committees, my prior work in state human resources brought me in closer contact. He was always inquisitive and fair to our department – never accepting straight testimony without investigating deeper getting to the "root" of an issue. Thus, he was fairly serving the people of Hawaii for whom we work as public servants.

On a personal level, I'd like to share an insight into Marcus Oshiro as a human being. In February of 2008, our son was involved in a serious vehicle accident while on duty in San Jose, California. I immediately flew up to his hospital to render support. Representative Oshiro, who had just lost an immediate family member, found a way to contact me in San Jose by telephone to offer us support and a pledge to be available for whatever needs we may require. "Jim, don't worry, whatever you need, whatever it is, just call me, OK?" he said. In my moment of panic and being so far away from home, I was deeply comforted by Marcus' telephone call while I was in the hospital waiting room. I am still touched by his sincerity today. Marcus was at that time House Finance Chair in session preparing for crossover when tragedy struck his own family. Yet, he made the effort to search his "people network" to find my cell phone number and called to make a pledge when it was his family who needed help and support.

This is an example of a "small-town" son from Wahiawa who understands and values the "humanness" of what makes Hawaii the special place that it was, that it is, and can continue to be.

That he has over four solid years of experience as past Finance Committee chair – he understands the composition of our complex local government structure and of Hawaii's unique labor laws. As past chair of the Labor and Public Employment Committee he gained

Testimony of James Dote on GM 59 and 60 August 30, 2017

in-depth knowledge of our government collective bargaining unions in relationship to state government programs.

With this knowledge, I feel Mr. Oshiro would make an exceptional Chairperson and member of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board, adding his great depth of knowledge to members Sesnita Moepono and J.N. Musto. I also think that his rich legislative experience will also aid him – and Hawaii's people – in his fact-finding and quasi-judicial roles at HLRB.

I urge the members of this august State Senate to favorably consider Marcus Oshiro's nomination to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. His appointment to the Board would speak well about the Hawaii State Senate vetting and confirmation process.

Respectfully submitted

James Dote

46-260 Kalali Street

Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

#### **Nicolas Ayabe**

From: Charles Khim <charleskykhim@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 7:28 PM

**To:** LBR Testimony

**Subject:** Hon. Marcus Oshiro - Testimony in Favor of Nomination

It is my pleasure to submit testimony in favor of the nominations of the Honorable Marcus Oshiro to the position of chair of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board ("HLRB"). These nominations are contained in G.M. 59 and G.M. 60. Mr. Oshiro is highly qualified for this position especially since he served as chair of the House Labor Committee and thus is familiar with the legal issues concerning the HLRB Best regards, Charles K.Y. Khim, Esq..

#### James K. Nishimoto 2405 Halekoa Drive Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

August 31, 2017

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senate Committee on Labor Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair State Capitol, Room 225 415 S. Beretania Street

In consideration of Governor's Messages 59 and 60 submitted for consideration and confirmation as Chairman and Representative of the Public of the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Marcus Oshiro

Hearing on Thursday, August 31, 2017, 2:45pm

Dear Chairperson Tokuda, Vice Chair English and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor,

I support the confirmation of Representative Marcus Oshiro as Chairman of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board. I have worked with Representative Oshiro on civil service reform and I believe that his understanding of collective bargaining, civil service laws and labor relations will serve him well as Chair.

Sincerely,

James K. Nishimoto
James K. Nishimoto

#### **TESTIMONY**

Senate Committee on Labor
Governor's Messages No. 59 & 60
Marcus Oshiro
Chairperson and Representative of the Public
Hawaii Labor Relations Board

Hearing Date: August 31, 2017
Hearing Time: 2:45 p.m.
Submitted by: Patricia Mau-Shimizu

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, I am submitting these comments in strong support of the appointment of Marcus Oshiro as set forth in Governor's Messages No. 59 and 60 in my personal capacity. My comments are from the perspective of a former staff member of the Hawaii State House having served Representative Oshiro from 1994 until my retirement as Clerk of the House in 2011.

The Nominee has a deep appreciation of the Rule of Law and the Separation of Powers, "bedrock" doctrines of our democracy. He also has a firm grasp of the history of our State—controversies, adversities, and successes—which form modern Hawaii. Most important, the Nominee has a strong belief in the need to treat all people fairly with dignity and respect.

When the Nominee was the Majority Leader and the Finance Chair, he was called upon to be a key contributor and/or leader to help resolve major issues raised in the Capitol. He always tried to strike a balance with the needs of people and the needs of government to ensure a just and civil community. Sometimes a "win-win" was achieved. Sometimes the balance was tipped a little. And sometimes no one was satisfied. He found satisfaction in positive results, and he accepted defeats and setbacks, and moved on to the next challenge as a legislator's workload always has

issues and problems that need attention. That's the life of a caring, persevering and experienced leader.

The Nominee has an ability to patiently listen to all sides on issues and he has strong communication skills. He is a hard working individual with a strong work ethic and was always willing to spend countless hours researching issues himself to better understand all viewpoints before making a final decision.

It is for these reasons and others that I unqualifiedly support Marcus Oshiro's confirmation as Chairperson and Public Representative of the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.