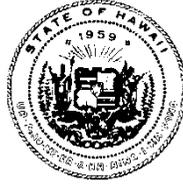


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

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

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:

25:OED

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Thursday, April 10, 2025
1:00 PM
Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 592

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LISA ANNE DARCY, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2028

Honorable Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of GM 592, to consider and confirm Ms. Lisa Anne Darcy to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA).

Ms. Darcy has already served with distinction on the HPHA Board for five years, from 2015 to 2020, during which time we have directly witnessed her unwavering commitment to Hawaii's most vulnerable residents. Her dedication to advancing affordable and deeply subsidized housing, and her compassion for low-income individuals and families have made meaningful impact on our work and the lives of those we serve.

With over 35 years of experience in the Human Services field, Ms. Darcy brings invaluable insight into the challenges faced by underserved communities. Her perspective helps ensure that policy decisions are grounded in law, empathy, equity and real-world experience, values that are essential to the mission of the HPHA.

The HPHA Board depends on Directors with a broad range of life experiences and professional expertise to guide its policies and programs. Ms. Darcy's voice is a vital one, and her continued service will be a tremendous asset to the Board and the agency as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of the nomination and confirmation of Ms. Lisa Anne Darcy to the HPHA Board of Directors.



GM-592

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 10:45:52 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/10/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert J Hall	Testifying for HPHA Board of Directors	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of the nomination of LISA ANN DARCY to the HPHA Board of Directors. As a prior and current Board member, Lisa has provides a well balanced-guidance of technical programmatic expertise with compassion. Her knowledge of the struggles facing very low income families helps to guide Board decisions to assure that program intent is never forgotten. She has represented Maui County well in the past and I'm certain she will continue to work hard for her Maui constituents.

I urge the Senate Committee on Housing to support LISA ANN DARCY's nomination to the HPHA Board of Directors

Mahalo

Bob Hall

HPHA Board Chair

Sam Tanigawa
500 Lunalilo Home Road | 33 A | 96825
Stanigawa91@gmail.com

April 8, 2025

Aloha Members of the Housing Committee,

It is with deep respect and confidence that I recommend **Lisa A. Darcy** for appointment to the **Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA) Board**. As a former Neighborhood Board Member for District 1 (Hawai'i Kai), I understand the integrity, presence, and resilience this kind of leadership demands—qualities I see abundantly in Lisa.

Lisa is not a career bureaucrat but a purpose-driven leader whose commitment stems from decades of direct service and lived experience with our most vulnerable neighbors. Her people-first approach is evident in her actions. She navigates challenges with humility, humor, and courage, always focusing on the lives behind the red tape.

Lisa uniquely blends community-rooted solutions with the broader demands of policy and governance. Her ideas are practical and effective—especially vital in communities like Maui, where support systems are strained. She meets adversity with creative and joyful critical thinking, driving progress for both people and systems.

Lisa ensures the table is inclusive, accountable, and results-oriented. She simplifies complex issues, leads with clarity, and brings real-world knowledge to the table. Her presence on the HPHA Board would reflect the urgency of the moment and infuse new energy, compassion, and strategy into the promise of safe, stable, and dignified housing for all.

I wholeheartedly support Lisa A. Darcy's nomination. I am confident that her voice, vision, and leadership will greatly benefit the Board and the people of Hawai'i.

With aloha and in-service,



Sam Tanigawa

Former Neighborhood Board Member, District 1 (Hawai'i Kai)

Honorable Senator Stanley Chang
Chair, Housing Committee
State Capitol, Room 226
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 8, 2025

Re: Nomination of Lisa Darcy to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public
Housing Authority.

Aloha Senator Chang,

Mahalo for accepting the nomination of Lisa A. Darcy to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board. I understand that she was nominated and served in 2015 and that she is nominated to serve the state of Hawai'i again. I have known Ms. Darcy for over 7 years. Her commitment to helping all those harmed by the state's ongoing housing crisis is unmatched.

As a former assistant and supervisory Federal Public Defender, I am keenly aware that the functionality of any government office is only as good as the people entrusted to run it. Lisa's integrity is unmatched. She has compassionately spent countless hours with those most affected by Maui's housing and social service shortcomings: the marginalized and displaced members of our community. She believes in the adage: "A nation is ultimately judged by how well it treats its least desirable citizens". She is kind, compassionate, intelligent, and fearless. She will not sugar-coat institutional shortcomings. She has the intellect to grasp the complexity and challenges that arise when addressing deep societal needs. She will call out greed when she sees it. She will identify institutional incompetence when she spots it. And, through it all, she will remain the polite and steadfast humanitarian that every government entity deserves.

In short, institutions, like leaders, don't need more "yes men". They need diverse perspectives. They need people courageous enough to challenge convention, visionary enough to look at the familiar in new ways, experienced enough to understand complex problems, and creative enough to propose new avenues for change. They need people like Lisa. I could not recommend her more highly.

Very truly yours,

Grant R. Bashore

Grant R. Bashore
362 Kolohala Dr.
Kula, HI. 96790
(808) 359-8838

April 9, 2025

Honorable Senator Stanley Chang

Chair, Housing Committee

State Capitol, Room 226

Honolulu, HI 96813



RE: Nomination for Lisa Darcy to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Aloha Senator Chang,

Mahalo for accepting the nomination of Lisa A. Darcy to Hawaii`i Public Housing Authority Board. I understand she was nominated and served in 2015 and is nominated to serve the state of Hawaii`i again. I have known Ms. Darcy for over 25 years. Her dedication and perseverance to uplifting community members through outdated policy is unmatched.

As a returning Board member, I expect she will be much more aware of how to serve Maui County. Ms. Darcy's skill as a community organizer, outstanding advocate, master administrator and humanitarian have helped improve the lives of your constituents in many capacities.

Having worked alongside Ms. Darcy supporting people with disabilities, the unhoused and those on the edge of despair, I have seen her drive, unfailing loyalty to do the best for those with the least, and her tenacity to ensure that all options are explored to solve problems that ensure people live in safe environments.

I believe she is very well-suited to assist the other Board members in finding safe, sanitary living conditions for all in Hawaii`i.

Most sincerely,

Francene Walker
1048 West Side Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

GM-592

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:51:59 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/10/2025 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Gabel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Chang and Esteemed Members,

As a long time resident of Oahu, a homeowner, community partner, and a former resident of Maui, I can attest to the unbelievable fortitude, thoughtfulness, planning, and follow-through that Lisa Darcy has shown for the community. We would be lucky to have her on the board of HPHA. Please seriously consider her for the role. To pass on her would be an injustice for all. She has devoted the better part of her life to making life easier, better, and supportive for us in Hawai'i. Mahalo for your consideration!

GM-592

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:49:28 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/10/2025 1:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Tanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of GM592, nominating Lisa Darcy to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA).

Lisa is a tireless advocate for the very community that HPHA's mission is to serve. She grounds her work in the understanding that the best insights and the best strategies for addressing our housing insecurity challenges rest with those who have direct experiences with housing insecurity, and houselessness. Her own experiences and demonstrated commitment as an advocate and ally of the houseless community will no doubt serve the HPHA extremely well as it works to fulfill and enhance its mission, and work.

Accordingly I strongly but respectfully urge the Committee to recommend that the Senate Advise and Consent to GM592.

Mahalo nui for this opportunity to testify.