

**Testimony of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and  
Landscape Architects**

**Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection  
Friday, March 21, 2025  
9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
G.M. 656, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, SURVEYORS, AND  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, TONY LAU,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sheena Choy, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architect, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Mr. Tony Lau's reappointment to the Board as a civil engineer member.

Mr. Lau has been licensed as a Hawaii architect since August 28, 1996, and his license is current, valid, and in good standing. Since his initial appointment, there have been 21 meetings of which he has attended 21. Mr. Lau is the current Vice Chairperson of the Board.

Mr. Lau has represented the Board at various national and regional conferences, providing the Board with key knowledge of local and national trends in the profession. He is an active participant at board meetings and provides important insight through his diligent preparation and nearly 30 years of experience as a civil engineer. Additionally, Mr. Lau brings valuable experience from working in both the public and private engineering sectors, and through his leadership involvement with the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies, and other community organizations where he supports the mentorship of the next generation. The Board believes that Mr. Lau's wealth of professional experience, proven dedication to giving back to the local community, and active participation in board meetings will continue to be an asset to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



## HAWAII SECTION

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2024-2025

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The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President  
And Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, HI 96813

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Hawai'i Section is comprised of members from Hawai'i's design professional community working in both public and private sectors. It is with great pleasure that we submit this letter of support for Mr. Tony Lau to serve as the Civil Engineer on the State Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects (EASLA).

Mr Lau is highly respected by the professional engineering community for his professional achievements and technical contributions to the industry. He is a proud civil engineering graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Mr. Lau is completing his first term and currently serves as the Vice Chair of the EASLA.

The following are recent awards among his many accolades during his over 30 years of engineering practice, illustrating Tony's dedication to excellence and his contributions to the practice of professional engineering in Hawaii:

- 2017 Hawai'i Council of Engineering Societies (HCES) Hawai'i Engineer of the Year
- 2020 Finalist – National Society of Professional Engineers Federal Engineer of the Year
- 2021 ASCE Society Board of Direction Service Award

Mr. Lau also has a long history of community involvement, particularly in his support of the civil engineering industry through his involvement with ASCE, a professional organization with over 160,000 members in 177 countries. He has held several leadership positions within the organization, including Past President of the Hawai'i Section, Region 8 Governor, Region 8 Society Director and Chair of the Region 8 Board of Governors. Tony was also elected as a Fellow of ASCE, acknowledging his significant professional and technical accomplishments, celebrated contributions and creative solutions that impact our communities. ASCE Fellow is a prestigious honor bestowed upon only three percent of ASCE members.

The ASCE Hawai'i Section believes that Tony Lau is an excellent choice and fully supports his nomination. He will serve with passion and integrity and be a valuable asset to the Board and the people of Hawaii. We highly recommend Mr. Tony Lau, P.E. to serve as the Civil Engineer for the State Board and respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely,

Sheila K. Uyeoka, PE, M.ASCE

President

ASCE Hawai'i Section



March 18, 2025

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

Subject:       Testimony in Support of GM 656  
                  Confirmation of Mr. Tony Lau, P.E. to serve on the Board of Professional  
                  Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga and Members of Senate Committee on  
Commerce and Consumer Protection:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony supporting appointment of Tony Lau  
to serve on the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape  
Architects.

I have known Mr. Lau for more than 30 years during which time I developed close  
professional and personal relationships with him. Mr. Lau possesses a combination of integrity,  
expertise and experience that makes him exceptionally well-suited to serve on the Board of  
Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects.

The respect that my industry colleagues and I have for Mr. Lau's personal and  
professional qualities, including his ethical values and supportive nature, is equal to our respect  
for his proven professional and leadership qualities.

Hence, I respectfully urge the confirmation of Mr. Lau. Please do not hesitate to contact  
me to discuss my support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey K. Kalani". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" being more prominent.

Jeffrey K. Kalani  
President / CEO  
Yogi Kwong Engineers, LLC



February 13, 2025

**To: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health**

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for the Confirmation of Mr. Tony Lau, P.E.  
GM656 – Nomination to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects,  
Surveyors and Landscape Architects

Dear Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair:

Mr. Lau is a highly respected professional engineer in Hawaii's engineering design community. He is not only very knowledgeable in his field but also represents his profession with a high level of integrity and high ethical standards. He has demonstrated strong professional expertise throughout his employment career at different companies and organizations specializing in the field of Civil Engineering.

I have known Mr. Lau personally and professionally over the last 30 years. We have collaborated closely and effectively in both building design projects and in various volunteer capacities with different professional service organizations. Mr. Lau is a selfless individual who will certainly bring valuable professional experience and insight to this position on the board. He will be an excellent addition to the State Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects and I strongly recommend him for re-appointment to this position.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ron E. Iwamoto' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ron E. Iwamoto, P.E.  
President  
Iwamoto Engineering Consultants, Inc.  
Consulting Structural Engineers



GMSE LLC  
45-041 Lilipuna Road  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
gmiyasatose@gmail.com

March 17, 2025

To: The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chairman, and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, State Legislature, Hawaii State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

From: Glenn Miyasato, Ph.D., P.E.

Measure: GM656

Hearing Date: March 21, 2025

Position: In Support of Tony Lau to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects

I am submitting the following testimony in support of Tony Lau's confirmation to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects. As Tony has already served a term with the Board in exemplary fashion, I believe he will continue to be a great asset to the board, the local engineering profession, and the people of the State of Hawaii.

I am a principal at GMSE LLC, a local consulting structural engineering firm. I first met Tony in 1990 when he was civil engineering student in a class I was teaching at the University of Hawaii. Since then, I have had the pleasure to cross paths with him many times in his consulting work at HDR Engineering, his current position as Civil Engineering Branch Manager at NAVFAC Hawaii, and in numerous voluntary roles he has undertaken on behalf of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

It is obvious from Tony's academic and professional background that he is more than qualified to serve on the Board. Having mastered the basic technical engineering skills and then moving on to high level management roles in both private industry and government, he has trained and developed a number of successful engineers in all facets of our construction industry. From his involvement in the development of the local ASCE professional exam study course, he gained even greater understanding of the technical requirements for licensure. I know these experiences have given him a thorough understanding of what it means and what it takes to be a professional engineer.

I also know that his deep involvement with ASCE over the years has given him a much deeper perspective than most about the profession. I don't recall a time when Tony wasn't involved with a committee or conference concerning the education, training, competency or ethics regarding the licensure and practice of engineers. Above all, I believe that Tony's work ethic, personal integrity and commitment to ensuring the wellbeing and life safety of our community will be his greatest contribution to the Board as they wrestle with the myriad of issues facing not only this board but engineering licensing boards across the country.

Thank you for your consideration, as I look forward to Tony's continued contribution to this board.

Sincerely,

Glenn Miyasato, Ph.D, P.E.  
Principal, GMSE LLC

**GM-656**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 12:36:10 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Goshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 19th, 2025

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Assistant Majority Whip, Chair of the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

And Members of the Committee

Thirty-third State Legislature

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 409

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: In support of Mr. Tony C.G. Lau to serve on the State Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects

Dear Senator Keohokalole:

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I submit this testimony in strong support of my friend, mentor, and colleague, Mr. Tony C.G. Lau, for his consideration to serve as the Civil Engineer representative on the State Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects.

Mr. Lau's distinguished career—spanning both private and public sectors—demonstrates his deep technical expertise, exceptional leadership, and unwavering dedication to the engineering profession and our community. His promotion in 2021 to Planning, Design, and Construction (PDC) Design Production Director at NAVFAC Hawaii is a testament to his professional excellence and the high regard in which he is held within the industry.

A proud local graduate of Kalani High School and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Mr. Lau has consistently exemplified a strong work ethic, integrity, and a commitment to public service. His contributions have been recognized through numerous prestigious accolades, including:

- 2017 Hawai'i Society of Professional Engineers Engineer of the Year (EOY)
- 2017 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Region 8 EOY
- 2019 NAVFAC Hawai'i Civilian EOY
- 2020 NAVFAC Civilian EOY

Beyond his technical expertise, Mr. Lau has been an influential leader in professional and community organizations, advocating for the advancement of civil engineering and mentoring future generations of engineers. Having worked alongside him for over 24 years, including our time together on the ASCE Hawai'i Section Executive Committee, I can confidently say that his wealth of experience, strategic vision, and dedication to the profession make him the ideal candidate for this important role.

I sincerely appreciate your time and consideration of this testimony in support of such a deserving and capable candidate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy G.S. Goshi, PE, SE, MBA  
PE-16073