

Testimony of the Real Estate Commission

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, April 10, 2025
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 753, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, AUDREY ABE,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Neil Fujitani, and I am the Supervising Executive Officer of the Hawaii Real Estate Commission ("Commission"). The Commission supports the confirmation of Ms. Abe's reappointment to the Commission as a Honolulu broker member.

Ms. Abe was initially appointed to the Commission in 2021 and has been an outstanding broker member from Oahu. She is also the Chairperson of the Commission's Education Review Committee and has dedicated countless hours reviewing issues related to the committee and the Commission. Furthermore, Ms. Abe has actively participated in the Commission's Ad Hoc Committee on Education, which advises the Commission on educational topics for the Commission's Core Courses and Programs of Work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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March 28, 2025

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: **GM 753**, Audrey Abe, Strong Support

Dear Chair Keohokalole and the Committee,

I am a thirty year Hawaii real estate professional. I am also currently serving on the Real Estate Commission. A review of Audrey Abe's professional credentials clearly demonstrate that Audrey has extraordinary industry experience and brings superlative value to the commission. Audrey is well known for her integrity.

I got to know Audrey best through my interaction with her at the commission. Audrey actively attends all meetings and participates fully in discussions offering a balance and thought on deliberations. Her experiences bring great resources to the commission. I consider Audrey to be a very reliable and valuable member of the commission.

I strongly support her nomination to serve another term.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Emery

Richard Emery
Principal Broker
RB-17147

Date: March 29, 2025

To: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Eleanor Kakazu

Re: GM 753, Audrey Abe - Strong Support

Aloha Chair Keohokalole and the Committee Members:

We have known Audrey Abe for over 20 years as an appraiser, a CPA, and a real estate agent. She has done many appraisals for our family and have volunteered to give us tax advice in many instances without pay. In addition, she has done real estate sales and property management.

What we appreciate most about Audrey Abe is her honesty and willingness to help others. Since she has an excellent command of the English language, she is willing to go the extra mile by helping others write letters, analyze and problem solve situations, or just finding resources. It is with that spirit of helping others without expecting any monetary compensation is what is most impressive.

Audrey Abe has our full support as an excellent member of the Real Estate Commission. She, not only has many years of experience in the real estate, appraisals, and taxes, but she has the integrity, the perseverance, and the ability to analyze and solve problems. Audrey Abe is a great asset to the Real Estate Commission!

Sincerely,

Eleanor Kakazu

Eleanor Kakazu, A Family Supporter and Principal Broker, RB-14929
Harry Z. Kiyabu Realty, LLC

Date: April 2, 2025

To: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Tiffany Ahuna

Re: GM 753, Audrey Abe – Strong Support

Aloha Chair Keohokalole and Committee Members,

I am testifying on behalf of Audrey Abe for the Real Estate Commission. I have known Audrey for over 10 years. She has been a business associate of mine in the financial service industry and is currently a business mentor of mine.

Audrey is very detailed-oriented, professional, honest & supportive. She is an excellent listener & meets people where they are at. She is patient, yet assertive. Audrey goes above & beyond for others, both personally & professionally. I've had the honor to shadow her on prepping a property for sale & maintenance of rental properties. Her integrity & standards in real estate are exceedingly high.

With Audrey's diverse background which includes, but not limited to, a CPA, appraiser, property management, real estate investments and sales, I highly recommend her for the Real Estate Commission. With her experience, knowledge & excellent business acumen and ethics, she is extremely qualified and will continue to be a huge asset to the Real Estate Commission.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Ahuna

Owner of SGI Business Solutions, LLC



SGI Business Solutions, LLC

April 4, 2025

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 753, Audrey Abe – Strong Support

Dear Chair Keohokalole and the Committee Members:

I have known Audrey Abe for over 10 years in her capacity as a realtor. We have worked together on many real estate transactions. I have collaborated with her in my role as an Executive Residential Loan Officer for a local bank.

I appreciate Audrey's sincerity, integrity, and her eagerness to help others. There are many times that she has gone out of her way to research and bring commentary to complex situations.

I strongly support her nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Santos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being more prominent and the last name "Santos" following in a similar style.

Paul Santos