

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR. LT. GOVERNOR

# STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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## TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

## TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE Regular Session of 2008

Friday, March 7, 2008 9:00 a.m.

#### **TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 324.**

TO THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 324, regarding the **reappointment** of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk to the Real Estate Commission ("Commission"). The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Loudermilk's reappointment to the Commission.

Ms. Loudermilk is being reappointed to the Commission as a public member. She has served on the Commission since July 1, 2004, and her legal background has enabled her to quickly understand the purpose of the Commission, her role as a public member, and the complex issues facing the Commission and its three standing committees.

Testimony on G.M. No. 324 March 7, 2008 Page 2

Currently, Ms. Loudermilk serves as the vice-chair for the Laws and Rules
Review Committee and plays an integral role in navigating the disparate subjects
presented before the Commission and its committees. She possesses the ability to
focus on the issues, articulate ideas, and play an important part in discussions and
decisions. She is an excellent public sector representative and her continued service as
a member would be of great value to the Commission.

The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Loudermilk to the Real Estate Commission, and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

## PRESENTATION OF THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE Regular Session of 2008

Friday, March 7, 2008 9:00 a.m.

#### **TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 324.**

TO THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Trudy I. Nishihara and I serve as the Chair of the Real Estate Commission. I thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Governor's Message No. 324, regarding the **reappointment** of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk, to the Real Estate Commission ("Commission"). The Commission strongly supports the confirmation of Ms. Loudermilk's reappointment.

Ms. Loudermilk has been and continues to be an outstanding member of the Commission. She has served on the Commission as the public member from the City and County of Honolulu for the past four years. Upon appointment, she quickly understood her role and duties as a Commissioner. Her commitment to public service has been outstanding. She regularly attends Commission meetings. Ms. Loudermilk serves as the Vice Chair of the Laws and Rules Review Committee, one of the Commission's three standing committees. As a public member, she has developed a keen knowledge of the Commission's regulatory functions and has demonstrated a consumer protection attitude.

Testimony on Governor's Message No. 324 March 7, 2008 Page 2

She is always well prepared for each meeting, devoting many hours studying and researching materials. Her knowledge of all the laws and rules that affect the Commission's work is very commendable.

For these reasons, the Real Estate Commission strongly supports the confirmation of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk to the Real Estate Commission, and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.

### KIEFER & GARNEAU LLC

A Limited Liability Law Company

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March 4, 2008

The Honorable Russell S. Kokubun, Chair The Honorable David Y. Ige, Vice Chair Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing Comittee State Capitol, Conference Room 229 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re:

Gubernatorial Nominee Michele Sunahara Loudermilk Submitted for Consideration and Confirmation as

Commissioner, Real Estate Commission; Governor's Message 324

Dear Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Ige and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of the re-nomination of Michele Loudermilk to the Real Estate Commission. My law practice involves frequent interaction with the Commission, and I have consistently been impressed by Mrs. Loudermilk's knowledge, sound judgment, and diligence in performing her duties during her current term on the Commission. In particular she has played an important role in the Commission's implementation of Hawaii's new condominium law, Chapter 514B, H.R.S., and I believe that confirming her for another 4-year term will provide important continuity to the Commission's ongoing work in this regard. For these reasons, I without hesitation recommend that you confirm Mrs. Loudermilk to another term on the Real Estate Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Richard Kiefer

#### March 4, 2008

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

#### THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR

THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, VICE CHAIR

### GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MICHELE SUNAHARA LOUDERMILK SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS COMMISSIONER, REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Testimony of Marc E. Rousseau

for

#### Governor's Message 324

Chairman Kokubun, Vice Chair Ige, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing:

I am an attorney with the law firm of Cades Schutte, LLP, in Honolulu, Hawaii. I have known Michele S. Loudermilk for my entire 14-year legal career. I am testifying in support of her nomination to serve an additional four-year term as a Commissioner on the Real Estate Commission. She has the utmost integrity, coupled with the requisite knowledge and expertise in the real estate industry, and is a proven valuable asset to public service.

Should you require anything further from me, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 521-9249.

Respectfully,

Marc E. Rousseau, Esq.

#### March 4, 2008

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR

THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, VICE CHAIR

GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MICHELE SUNAHARA LOUDERMILK SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS COMMISSIONER, REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Testimony of Gino L. Gabrio, Esq.

for

### Governor's Message 324

Chairman Kokubun, Vice Chair Ige, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing:

I appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of the re-nomination of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk as a Commissioner of the Real Estate Commission.

I am a partner of the Finance and Real Estate Department of the law firm of Cades Schutte A Limited Liability Law Partnership.

Over the past 18 years, it has been my privilege to know and work with Ms. Loudermilk. She specializes in finance and real estate. I have known Ms. Loudermilk to be a competent attorney who conducts business in a highly professional manner.

I am confident that she will continue to be an outstanding member of the Real Estate Commission and that she will serve the public with the highest level of integrity. She will relate well with other commissioners and will treat all with fairness.

I fully support her re-nomination to serve on the Real Estate Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in this matter.

Respectfully, Halue

Gino L. Gabrio

#### March 5, 2008

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

#### THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR

THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, VICE CHAIR

### GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MICHELE SUNAHARA LOUDERMILK SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS COMMISSIONER, REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Testimony of Grace Nihei Kido

for

Governor's Message 324

Chairman Kokubun, Vice Chair Ige, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing:

I appreciate this opportunity to write this letter in support of the confirmation of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk as a Commissioner of the Real Estate Commission.

I have known Michele since 1989 and was her partner at Cades Schutte from 1997 to 2005 when she left our firm to join the in-house legal staff of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. While she was at Cades Schutte, we were both in the Finance and Real Estate Department, and had numerous opportunities to work together on real estate matters. Among other things, Michele reviewed, prepared and negotiated numerous condominium documents, sales contracts, deeds and other conveyance documents, and leases. Michele is very knowledgeable about real estate issues and approaches every matter with enthusiasm and professionalism.

In addition to her expertise in real estate matters, Michele is highly ethical and diplomatic. She treats everyone with respect and is a real team player. She chaired the Cades Schutte summer associate committee and was a strong mentor to our firm's young real estate attorneys.

Michele will be a real asset to the Real Estate Commission. Her nomination should be confirmed.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in this matter.

Respectfully,

Grace Nihei Kido

## TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

## TWENTY FOURTH LEGISLATURE Regular Session of 2008

Friday, March 7, 2008 9:00 a.m.

#### **TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 324**

GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MICHELE SUNAHARA LOUDERMILK SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS COMMISSIONER, REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

The Honorable Russell S. Kokubun, Chair, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to support the confirmation and reappointment of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk to the real estate commission.

Throughout the last four years that I have served with Ms. Loudermilk on the commission, I have found her participation exemplary. Her background as a practicing attorney has given her the ability to understand and communicate to the rest of the commission members complex facets of the cases that come before us every month. She has been zealous in her completion of the homework necessary to prepare for the meetings as evidenced by her astute participation in the meetings.

I believe that Ms. Loudermilk is an excellent representative of the pubic sector on the real estate commission and look forward to continued service with her.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely yours, Carol Ball

### Stephen M. Teves 3012 Hoaloha Place Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 (808) 447-1840

### Before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing

DATE: March 7, 2008

TIME: 9 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room - 229

Testimony in Support of Michele Loudermilk's Nomination to the Real Estate Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Stephen Teves and I have known. Michele Sunahara Loudermilk for more than twenty years.

I am the owner of a small consulting business and am an attorney who graduated from the University of Hawaii Wm. S. Richardson School of Law. I have known Ms. Loudermilk on a personal and professional basis and have admired her intelligence, diligence and commitment to public service. She prepares for meetings in advance, is always willing to ask tough questions and is never reluctant to "roll up her sleeves." She is an asset to the Real Estate Commission and I respectfully ask for your support of her nomination.

#### March 5, 2008

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

#### THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR

THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, VICE CHAIR

### GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MICHELE SUNAHARA LOUDERMILK SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS COMMISSIONER, REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

#### Governor's Message 324

I am writing to express my strong support of Michele Sunahara Loudermilk's appointment to a second term as Commissioner, Real Estate Commission. I have known Michele for over 20 years and feel well-qualified to comment on Michele's qualifications to serve as a Commissioner.

Michele has demonstrated throughout her legal career, first as a partner at Cades Schutte and now at Alexander & Baldwin, that she is a very smart and capable real estate attorney. I have no doubt that, with her intelligence, experience and ability to quickly untangle complex real estate issues, Michele will continue to be a tremendous asset to the Commission.

In addition to her excellent legal abilities, I know that Michele has tremendous integrity and professional ethics. She has a well-developed sense of what is right and the courage to do the right thing. I also know Michele to be a very fair, very grounded and very personable person. With her abilities and personality, I have no doubt that she will respect and have the respect of the other Commissioners, Commission staff and those who appear before the Commission.

In summary, without any qualification, I support Michele's appointment. I strongly believe that Michele will continue to be an excellent Commissioner. I urge you to confirm her appointment as a Commissioner to the Real Estate Commission.

If I can answer any questions or offer any further information about Michele, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Leslie H. Kondo