GM 541

EDT

SHAN S. TSUTSUI PRESIDENT

DONNA MERCADO KIM VICE PRESIDENT

SAM SLOM MINORITY LEADER

FIRST DISTRICT MALAMA SOLOMON

SECOND DISTRICT GILBERT KAHELE

THIRD DISTRICT JOSH GREEN, M.D

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FIFTH DISTRICT ROSALYN H. BAKER

SIXTH DISTRICT J. KALANI ENGLISH

SEVENTH DISTRICT

EIGHTH DISTRICT

NINTH DISTRICT LES IHARA, JR.

TENTH DISTRICT BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI

ELEVENTH DISTRICT CAROL FUKUNAGA

TWELFTH DISTRICT BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT DONNA MERCADO KIM

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT GLENNWAKAI

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT DAVID Y. IGE

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT MICHELLE N. KIDANI

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA

NINETEENTH DISTRICT MIKE GABBARD

TWENTIETH DISTRICT WILL ESPERO

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT CLAYTON HEE

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT JILL N. TOKUDA

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT POHAI RYAN

CHIEF CLERK CAROL TANIGUCH



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 22, 2011

Mr. Gerald L. De Mello



Dear Mr. De Mello:

Re: Nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board GM541

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. To assist the Senate with its confirmation process, I would like to request that the following information be submitted to my office by **Monday, April 4, 2011**:

(1) A resume with a list of references

(2) A written statement that addresses the following questions:

- (a) Why do you wish to be a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
- (b) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
- (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.
- (d) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?
- (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
- (f) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
- (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Page 2 March 22, 2011

> Your prompt response in providing the above information will ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senate Economic Development Committee

Gerald L. De Mello

April 3, 2011

Senator Carol Fukunaga

edttestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Carol Fukunaga and Members of Senate Economic Development Committee:

I have attached my resume with references and prepared responses addressing your questions. The responses are as follows:

a. Why do you wish to be a member of the Hawaii Historic Review Places Review Board? I am honored to be nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. In accord with enacted Hawaii Statute, the purpose of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board is to decide whether a property (etc.) should be entered and ordered into the Hawaii Register of Historic Places on the basis of their value to Hawaii heritage. I wish to serve on this board because of my long standing interest and believe that I can contribute to the role of this Board. More specifically, I have a strong professional and personal interest in the history and sociology of Hawaii as they provide our communities with a sense of identity and continuity. As my resume and references have indicated I taught Sociology at Hawaii Community College and UH Hilo for 15 years and designed a course that continues to be offered in the Sociology of Hawaii curriculum, titled, Hawaii's People. This course examined the significance of the culture of ethnic groups in Hawaii and their significance in Hawaii's history, culture, archaeology as well as historic small towns and notable Hawaii Places and landmarks that preserve the integrity and historic identity of Hawaii. Over the years I have moved into University administration but have always remained connected to the Sociology and History of Hawaii; my letters of support, expressed personal interest, community service relevant to this area affirm my continued connectivity.

Clearly, the aforementioned captures the spirit of my wish to serve and contribute. To this end, I seek your confirmation that will effectively, move my nomination toward becoming a member of this Board.

b. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board?

I am aware that a primary role of members of the Board are to evaluate and, when appropriate, recommend the nomination of historic properties to the Hawaii register as well as the National register of historical places, and review the state survey of historic properties.

In terms of specificity, I note that the Board's role is to recognize and determine contributing element or the historic significance of sites, districts, structures, areas, architecture and engineering to Hawaii's history.

Finally, I perceive that the Board's role and responsibilities is responsible for thoughtful review because the placement of places on the register is in the best interest for both the present and future generations not yet born. The Board's role and responsibilities ultimately are for the long term enrichment of Hawaii and it provides us with a deeper understanding of ourselves and our community.

c. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

> I believe I am qualified for this position on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board in terms of skills, because I have research and critical thinking skills as a result of my professional training and a graduate degree in Sociology; and as I have also indicated a strong and continued interest in the Sociology of Hawaii. Professionally, I have been conferred by the UH Board of Regents with the honor of Emeritus Professor (Hawaii Community College) given my academic background in teaching Sociology, Hawaii's People (Sociology of Hawaii), Human Behavior and Community Studies at Hawaii Community College and UH Hilo before the program and campus separation.

In addition, I served for four years on the Board of Land and Natural Resources until my commission expired in June, 2006. Serving on the Board of Land and Natural Resources is a background of relevant experiences as well as an education that I believe has honed my analytical skills and will aid my decision making ability. As a Land Board member I came to understand that this Board is the steward and custodian of public lands and resources. The complexity of reviews and decision-making on the Board was at times dauntless but always invigorating and done in a soul searching manner for what we considered to be in the best interests of Hawaii for the present and as an investment in Hawaii's future environmentally, historically, economically and educationally.

Further, in the 1990's I served what was then the Hilo Main Street Program and was directly involved in exploring ways to preserve the historic integrity of Hilo Town. Practically speaking, this experience that I bring to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board is valued and an effort worthy of exploration for all of Hawaii's small towns because they provide Hawaii with a sense of place as well as an economic future. The rural character, charm and sustainability of our small towns, I believe, honor our past and build a future because visitors to Hawaii find history and culture as a valued part of their vacation experience.

In addition, I am a member of the Hawaii Historical Society, American Association for State and Local History, a national organization, and finally during the time of my faculty tenure I was a member of the Hawaii Sociological Association. I am serving on the newly formed Hamakua Heritage Center located at the North Hawaii Education and Research Center in Honokaa, Hawaii. The initial mission of this Center is to document the socio-cultural history of the Hamakua Coast. To sum, my educational background, experiences with various Boards and membership in various Hawaii and national historical associations, I believe, qualify me for the range of responsibilities expected of those who serve on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

d.

What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service? Perhaps I am being too idealistic; nonetheless, I am very cognizant of the states direction toward advancing the New Day agenda in Hawaii to build a strong and sustainable economy. Working with others on the Board, I would like to

accomplish the following that whenever possible, places that opt to become a part of the Hawaii Registry; be it historical, cultural or natural that not only links us to a past in a meaningful way but we consider (although outside of our purview) at the very least discuss their potential to provide our State with economic stimulus and sustainability. Within this context, I have read that over the next few decades, in the United States we will demolish and replace one third of our existing buildings. In terms of this frame of reference, I have not read any trend data with respect to Hawaii. However, principally the message on this national statistic notes that new construction, no matter how green, consumes energy and generates land fill waste. As a community we have embraced recycling bottles and newspapers etc. but do not have the same consciousness with regard to reusing old buildings and structures. Arguably, historical preservation can be viewed as a missed opportunity, when compared with the used energy levels and land fill waste that is created with new construction. As a Board member when opportune I would advance and affirm the idea that recycling old buildings is a model of energy efficiency and a long view of sustainable economics and a valuable perspective that provides a valuable balance to look at community development.

e.

Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Hawaii Historic Review Board?

Three qualities that I bring to the Board are:

The first is a breadth of relevant community experience along with a perspective that I am "grounded in". The late John Sawhill, who was President of Nature Conservancy, sums up my idealism best when he very insightfully said that "In the end, our society will be defined not (only) by what we created, but by what we refuse to destroy.

Second, a sociological perspective, research and critical thinking skills, a collaborative style and team attitude that is beneficial to a working group. These are useful skills when evaluating, reviewing and deciding whether a property (etc.) possess significance in Hawaii history.

Third, I believe I bring an interest and passion to this Board and would consider it an honor to serve and be a part of a Board that reviews and evaluates the historic integrity of events, broad patterns of Hawaii history, association with the lives of people significant in our past to decide whether a property (etc.) should be entered into the Hawaii and/or National Register. Finally, I would bring to the board a neighbor island and/or rural perspective.

f.

Name on previous experience that would make you stand out? How would this benefit the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board?

I have some difficulty with this question. My social and working style... is not to stand out, I view working on this Board as well as my personal and professional working style ... as is ostensibly a collective effort.

g.

Can you fore see any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board?

No.

How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not see any, however, if they were to occur I would refrain from voting as I did on a number of occasions while serving on the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Mahalo for this opportunity share my thoughts and more importantly, provide you with information to assist you in the confirmation process.

Aloha, Jiv yebs Gerald De Mello

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> GUY H. KAULUKUKUI FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Wednesday, April 13, 2011 1:15 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 541 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII HISTORIC PLACES REVIEW BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE GERALD L. DE MELLO FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2015

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the gubernatorial appointment of Gerald L. De Mello to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

The Hawaii Historic Places Review Board was established under Section 6E-5.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to: (1) Order and enter historic properties into the Hawaii Register of Historic Places on the basis of their value to Hawaii's heritage; (2) Evaluate and, when appropriate, recommend the nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places; (3) Review the state survey of historic properties; (4) Review the content of the State Historic Preservation Plan; and (5) Maintain the Hawaii Register of Historic Places (including all those listed on the National Register of Historic Places).

Section 6E-5.5, HRS, also requires that the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board include at least one professionally qualified member of each of the following disciplines: Archaeology, Architecture, History, and Sociology. In addition, there shall be on person knowledgeable in traditional Hawaiian society and culture.

Mr. De Mello received his Bachelor in Art in Psychology from Eastern Washington State University, a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science with an education specialization from the same institution, and a Master of Arts in Sociology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

From September 1972 through January 1987, Mr. De Mello taught general sociology, social problems, sociology of Hawaii, human behavior, experimental training, and community studies

at Hawaii Community College. From 1987 through 1991, he was Administrative Assistant to the Governor-County of Hawaii, focusing on activities involving the State Administration, Legislature, county, state, federal, private and public agencies, media and the public at large on Island of Hawaii. Since 1991, he has been Director of University Relations for the University of Hawaii at Hilo. He is also a member of the Hawaii Historical Society and the Hawaii Professional Marketing Association.

The Department supports Governor's Message 541 and looks forward to having Mr. De Mello serve on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.



600 'Imiloa Place Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

(808) 969-9700 tel (808) 969-9748 fax www.imiloahawaii.org

31 March 2011

Senator Carol Fukunaga Executive Chambers Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Fukunaga,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the appointment of Gerald DeMello for the board member position on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Mr. DeMello for over ten years in his capacity as Director of University Relations at UH-Hilo. Mr. DeMello was a driving force in the development of what is now known as the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. His community familiarity and connections, visionary and humble leadership, and ability to bring people together around a contentious local issue lead to the development of a major community resource that is providing educational opportunities for Hawai'i's communities. As a result of his leadership, 'Imiloa is now a unique model for informal STEM education rooted in Hawaiian and local cultural values that is deeply supported by our community.

I can't imagine another person better suited to the purpose of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. Mr. DeMello is a strong, loyal, and dedicated community leader that has extensive experience working with and driving community priorities forward while keeping everyone working together – which is no easy task. I am always amazed at how Mr. DeMello works with people of diverse backgrounds, fostering collaboration and synergy, for the betterment of our communities. As a Native Hawaiian, I also know that he is deeply committed to preserving our host culture and its history. Not only does Mr. DeMello have a graduate degree in Sociology, but his experience and deep knowledge of and relationship to Hawai'i's history and diverse communities would be a tremendous asset to your board.

I highly recommend Mr. Gerald DeMello to you and would be happy to provide additional information in support of his appointment.

Na'u me/ka 'oia'i'o,

Ka'iu Kimura Executive Director 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i

Kalena Silva, Director Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language University of Hawai'i at Hilo 200 W. Kāwili St. Hilo, Hawai'i

March 30, 2011

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair Economic Development and Technology Hawai'i State Legislature

Dear Senator Fukunaga,

It gives me great pleasure to support Gerald De Mello for membership on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. As Director of UH Hilo's Ka Haka 'UlaO Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, I have known and worked with Gerald for at least 15 years.

I believe Gerald has the requisite background, knowledge, experience, and collaborative skills to make valuable contributions to the work of the Board. As a Professor Emeritus of Sociology he demonstrates a deep understanding and appreciation for the rich cultural mix of ethnic groups in Hawai'i. Born and raised on Hawai'i Island, he is keenly aware of the many changes that have occurred during his lifetime and before, and has an encyclopedic knowledge of places, people, and their histories. A Honolulu native, I have enjoyed conversations with Gerald about the location, composition, and interaction of ethnic settlements of the sugar plantation era, about Portuguese wine makers in Hilo, about the tragic effects of tidal waves on people and buildings in Hilo, among others.

Last year's legislative session brought Gerald and me together more than ever before, as we made frequent visits to the Capitol to seek construction funds for Ke'elikōlani College's new building. His extensive knowledge of the political process, painstaking preparedness, and professional, congenial, and respectful manner with legislators and their staff were, I believe, key factors that led to the legislature's decision -- in extremely difficult economic circumstances -- to allocate construction funding. His support in this process will always be much appreciated.

For the reasons given above, I ask that you favorably consider Gerald De Mello for membership on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. Mahalo a nui loa.

Sincerely Yours,

Kalena Silva, Ph.D.

Kalena Silva, Director Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language University of Hawai'i at Hilo 200 W. Kāwili St. Hilo, Hawai'i

March 30, 2011

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Economic Development and Technology Hawai'i State Legislature

Dear Senator Wakai,

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I believe Gerald has the requisite background, knowledge, experience, and collaborative skills to make valuable contributions to the work of the Board. As a Professor Emeritus of Sociology he demonstrates a deep understanding and appreciation for the rich cultural mix of ethnic groups in Hawai'i. Born and raised on Hawai'i Island, he is keenly aware of the many changes that have occurred during his lifetime and before, and has an encyclopedic knowledge of places, people, and their histories. A Honolulu native, I have enjoyed conversations with Gerald about the location, composition, and interaction of ethnic settlements of the sugar plantation era, about Portuguese wine makers in Hilo, about the tragic effects of tidal waves on people and buildings in Hilo, among others.

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For the reasons given above, I ask that you favorably consider Gerald De Mello for membership on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. Mahalo a nui loa.

Sincerely Yours,

Kalena Silva, Ph.D.

From:	Barry Mark
То:	<u>EDTTestimony</u>
Cc:	mhara@hawaii.edu
Subject:	Testimony In Support of the Confirmation of Gerald De Mello to the Hawai"i Historic Places Review Board
Date:	Wednesday, April 06, 2011 3:52:15 PM

THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

<u>COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY</u> Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

GM 541Submitting for consideration and confirmation to
the Historic Places Review Board, Hawai'i,
Gubernatorial Nominee, GERALD L. DE MELLO,
for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

DATE: Wednesday, April 13, 2011

TIME: 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 016

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Barry K.Y. Mark

Financial Advisor, CRPC

101 Aupuni Street, Suite 111

Hilo, HI 96720

April 6, 2011

Senator Carol Fukunaga

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 216

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

Attention: Senator Fukunaga

Reference: Testimony In Support of the Confirmation of Mr. Gerald DeMello to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

It is a privilege to offer this testimony for Gerald De Mello to serve as a member on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. In my opinion, the State Historic Preservation Division would be hard pressed to find a more willing, capable and conscientious steward as my mentor and friend of more than 20 years.

Gerald taught Sociology at Hawai'i Community College and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo for 15 years, and has been conferred with the honor of Emeritus Professor by the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i. In his current capacity as Director of University Relations for UH Hilo, Gerald's tenure is marked by distinguished service to five Chancellors as well as to the communities of the Big Island and State of Hawai'i by successfully advocating for the expansion and accessibility of public higher education. In addition, I believe his service as a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources brings a seasoned thoughtfulness to any conversation or deliberation involving the guardianship of resources with respect to the best interests for both the present and future generations of Hawai'i.

Always remaining connected to his passion, Gerald has never hesitated to make time for efforts such as the exploration and identification of ways to preserve the historic integrity of Hilo Town with the Hilo Main Street Program in the 1990's and the documentation of the socio-cultural history of the Big Island's Hamakua Coast through his present participation in the newly formed Hamakua Heritage Center located at the North Hawai'i Education and Research Center in Honokaa, Hawai'i. He is also a member of the Hawai'i Historical Society and American Association for State and Local History.

Beyond his notable educational background, relevant set of experiences, and membership in various historical associations, I can say without equivocation that nothing is nearer or dearer to Gerald's heart than celebrating and honoring the cultures, perspectives and aspects of those things that have come together to form our unique Hawai'ian way of life. In fact, a course of his design, titled "Hawai'i's People", that examines the significance of the culture of ethnic groups in Hawai'i and their significance in Hawai'i's history, culture, archaeology as well as historic small town and notable Hawai'ian Places and landmarks that preserve the integrity and historic identity of Hawai'i continues to be offered in the Sociology of Hawai'i curriculum. His unique mix of local style, sense of protocol and professionalism, multicultural fluency, and infectious optimism is simply a treasure for those of us who are fortunate to know him.

Gerald will be an excellent addition to the Hawai'i Historic Places Reviews Board and I appreciate efforts of the committee to provide this opportunity to speak on his behalf.

Sincerely,

Barry K.Y. Mark

Dwayne D. Yoshina

1 April 2011

Honorable Carol Fukunaga Senate State of Hawaii Chairperson, Committee for Economic Development and Technology

Ref: GM 541, Mr. Gerald DeMello, Nominee for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Baord

Aloha Chair Fukunaga and Members of the Committee for Economic Development and Technology:

I request your support of Mr. Gerald DeMello, the governor's nominee to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have had the privilege and pleasure of knowing Mr. DeMello both personally and professionally for fifty plus years. During that time I have found him to be a thoughtfully strong proponent and conservator of our unique socio-cultural history. And always with a keen eye on how a place has contributed to our sense of place and community.

His abiding commitment to the historicity of place is nowhere more manifested than at the University of Hawaii, Hilo. The campuses of both the University and the Hawaii Community College stand as examples of his understanding and application of how elements of history, culture, architecture, engineering, structures, and sites work together to create a sense of place and community. They stand as testimony to Gerald's professional and personal interest in the history and sociology of Hawaii and how they provide communities with an identity and sense of continuity.

Gerald will also bring to the Board the experience and wisdom of the study of sociology as well as the practice of government service. These qualities should be invaluable to the Board in its deliberations and work.

It is for these reasons that I request your support of Mr. Gerald DeMello and his appointment to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

Dwayne D. Yoshina

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	EDTTestimony
Cc:	
Subject:	Testimony for GM541 on 4/13/2011 1:15:00 PM
Date:	Tuesday, April 12, 2011 3:01:00 PM

Testimony for EDT 4/13/2011 1:15:00 PM GM541

Conference room: 016 Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Elmer Kaai Organization: Individual Address: Phone: E-mail: Submitted on: 4/12/2011

Comments:

Mr. DeMello will be a valuable asset as the Hawaii Island representative to the Historic Places Review Board.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
То:	EDTTestimony
Cc:	
Subject:	Testimony for GM541 on 4/13/2011 1:15:00 PM
Date:	Tuesday, April 12, 2011 12:43:00 PM

Testimony for EDT 4/13/2011 1:15:00 PM GM541

Conference room: 016 Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: John A. Ervin Organization: Individual Address: Phone: E-mail: Submitted on: 4/12/2011

Comments:

Aloha, I urge you to support the Gubernatorial Nomination of Gerald L. DeMello to the Historic Places Review Board. Probably most of you know and respect Mr. DeMello like Governor Abercrombie. Gerald's highly visable dedication to public service is an inspiration to us all. I cannot think of a more highly qualified indivdual for this Appointment. Do the entire State of Hawai'i a service and confirm Mr. DeMello's nomination. Thank you for the oportunity to testify on Mr. DeMello's behalf. Mahalo, John A. Ervin S. Russell Oda, A.I.A, Emeritus

March 31, 2011

Senator Carole Fukunaga Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

FAX: 1-808-586-6899

Reference: Letter of Recommendation Mr. Gerald DeMello

Dear Senator Fukunaga:

It is with pleasure that I write in support of Mr. Gerald DeMello for a position as a board member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Gerald for over 25 years and am impressed with his social proficiencies and professional credentials.

Professionally, Gerald is knowledgeable and has successfully taught sociology at the University of Hawai'i Hilo aud the Hawaii Community College for over 15 years.

As Director, University Relations, University of Hawai'i Hilo, he has guided the campus growth to unprecedented heights in an organized and clear manner. He has displayed these attributes during my working relationship with him on University of Hawai'i Hilo projects. His positive outlook and enthusiasm added much to the success of these design meetings. He has gained my outmost confidence and respect.

Gerald completed his tenure as a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources successfully despite many complicated and controversial issues.

With my leanings toward historical architecture, I was pleasantly suprised to learn that Gerald had similar interests. We spent many pleasant moment; riding around Hilo Town and vicinities assessing which residences, commercial buildings, public structures, parks, villages and trees should be archived. It was a fun exercise. Gerald revealed a great knowledge of good design and good architecture.

Socially, Gerald mixes well with people. His local style, his ability to articulate with diverse groups, his neatness of dress, his sense of humor, his listoning strength and his pleasant demeanor are all qualities which he possesses.

With his professional, historical and social bent, I am confident that Gerald will be a positive and a contributing force as a board member of the Hawaii Historic Places Reviews Board.

Yours sincerely,

S. Russell Oda, A.I.A., Emeritus