

GM 638

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

**GM 638, Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, IRIS TERASHIMA, to the
Environmental Council, term expiring June 30, 2014**

**Testimony of Gary Hooser
Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control**

April 7, 2011

1 **Office's Position:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control strongly supports the
2 confirmation of Iris Terashima to the Environmental Council.

3 Ms. Terashima's career in environmental management and program development at the
4 federal, state and county levels of government, her education, skills, and interest as the owner of
5 *ITerashima Environmental Services (ITES)*, a small woman-owned business in Honolulu,
6 complements Iris' qualifications as a member of the Environmental Council.

7 Since 1998, Ms. Terashima has progressively expanded her career experience by working
8 as a legislative researcher and manager of a federal program with a \$million plus annual sales in
9 the Pacific, Alaska and the Far East. She has assisted the City and County of Honolulu Public
10 Transit Authority (HPTA) with policy development and successful implementation of their
11 Environmental Compliance Program. She also worked on the development of environmental
12 programs for 13 state-owned airports in Honolulu, Hawai'i, and Kaua'i Counties for the State's
13 Department of Transportation Airports Division. Iris is also the owner of a successful small

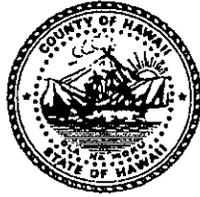
1 business that assists the Department of Defense with environmental compliance and on-site
2 training programs.

3 Ms. Terashima complements her working experience with a strong education background
4 in chemical engineering (B.S.), business (M.B.A.) and information systems (M.S.). She is a
5 licensed professional engineer in Hawai'i and a certified lead environmental auditor.

6 I am very confident of Iris' ability as a capable, qualified candidate and hope that your
7 esteemed committee will approve Ms. Terashima to serve on the Environmental Council.

8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



BJ Leithead Todd
Director

Margaret K. Masunaga
Deputy

County of Hawai'i

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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April 6, 2011

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environment
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Gabbard and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of GM 638, Relating to the Consideration and Confirmation to the Environmental Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Iris Terashima, for a Term to Expire 6-30-2014

I am pleased to support the nomination of Iris Terashima to the Environmental Council. I have known Iris since she was a high school student. In 1981, she won the Hawai'i State Science Fair with her project: Sugarcane Juice - Material for the Efficient Production of Ethanol as an Alternate Energy Source. Her project also received national recognition for the state by winning at the International Science and Engineering Fair in Milwaukee that year.

Iris grew up in the shadow of the Waialua Sugar Mill, graduated from Waialua High School, and was the class valedictorian. She received her Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Northwestern University.

Since returning to Hawai'i to be close to her parents, she has promoted the pursuit of the sciences as a career through her participation and support for the Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair, and is on the Scholarship Committee for the Society of American Military Engineers and is its Youth Programs Chair. Her academic and work background will be an asset to the Environmental Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Iris Terashima's nomination.

Sincerely,

BJ LEITHEAD TODD
Planning Director

GM 638

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my pleasure to provide testimony on the nomination of Iris Terashima to the Environmental Council to the State of Hawaii Committee on Energy and Environment.

I have known Ms. Terashima for approximately 12 years in both a professional working relationship as well as serving on a number of professional society committees. I find Ms. Terashima energetic, organized, the consummate professional, and above all of the highest integrity in every endeavor.

In a professional capacity, while I was involved in the environmental industry, Ms. Terashima was working for a "competitor". Competitor is deliberately in quotes as her first and foremost objective was to be true to the interests of her clients and to advise them on their very best courses of action, even if that meant she referred them to some other organization for different expertise that best suited the needs of her clients. Her professional integrity was and continues to be above reproach.

While participating with Ms. Terashima on various committees of the Society of American Military Engineers, I found her to have endless energy, the ability to organize chaos, to motivate those she worked with, and to do so in a most congenial manner. She has additionally taken on the task of managing all the "Youth Programs" for the organization and has approached those responsibilities as she does all her endeavors, with passion.

Ms. Terashima has worked in Hawaii for small businesses, a very large mainland corporation, and has currently settled on consulting with her own company. She will bring an understanding of impacts to the discussions of the decisions of the Environmental Council on the local economy, both how it may affect local companies, and the individual residents of the State of Hawaii. Her many years of service in the Environmental Community provides her access to many in the community – the industry, the Congressional delegation, the military services and the local residents.

If Ms. Iris Terashima is accepted as a member of the Environmental Council, I, as a Citizen of the State of Hawaii, would feel very confident that she would execute her duties with the interests of the State of Hawaii and the individual citizens at the forefront of any considerations.

I whole heartedly endorse Ms. Iris Terashima to serve on the Environmental Council to the State of Hawaii Committee on Energy and Environment.

Sincerely,

Todd Barnes

Todd C. Barnes, PE

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Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values. - works of the Dali Lama

Loyalty - Duty - Respect - Selfless Service - Honor - Integrity - Personal Courage

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

4 April 2011

Hawaii State Legislature
Senate Energy and Environment Committee

**SUBJECT: Responses to Questions for Iris Terashima
Appointment to the State Environmental Council**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to the State of Hawaii as a member of the State Environmental Council. The information requested is provided below.

- (1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Environmental Council?

I wish to serve as a member of the Environmental Council because I want to do my part to conserve and protect Hawaii's natural resources and environment.

I offer my technical and program management skills to the Council to assist in prioritizing and implementing State Environmental goals and objectives and updating and clarifying State environmental rules.

- (2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council?

As a member of the Environmental Council, I contribute to the team that serves as a liaison between the OECQ Director and the public. Our roles and responsibilities include:

- Soliciting information, opinions, complaints, recommendations, and advice through public hearings;*
- Conducting environmental reviews;*
- Preparing the annual environmental report on the progress of achievement of State environmental goals and policies and outlining future initiatives.*

- (3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council, 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 Environmental Council.

My background as an engineer in the private sector has provided significant experience in identifying potential environmental issues, complying with environmental laws, and addressing public and community concerns.

My skills, expertise and knowledge:

I have worked in the field of environmental engineering for over 20 years in Hawaii and the Pacific, specializing in environmental compliance and implementation of environmental programs. I am a licensed civil engineer in the State of Hawaii, with a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from Northwestern University (1986).

I have also had the privilege to serve as a staff member for Congresswoman Patsy Mink, and as a legislative aide in the Hawaii State legislature, working on the State budget in the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

- (4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I hope to bring a technical perspective to the Council to assist in accomplishing:

- *Updates to HRS 341;*
- *Expedited environmental reviews;*
- *Completion of the Annual Reports*

My aim is to contribute to the team by providing the technical, organizational, and project implementation skills to achieve the Council objectives.

- (5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Environmental Council?

My clients and colleagues describe me as:

- *Organized and focused on the objectives and tasks at hand;*
- *A hard worker that gets the job done; and*
- *A facilitator and collaborator.*

I am hopeful that these qualities will benefit the Environmental Council in progressing through environmental reviews, prioritizing and completing multiple taskings, and working with stakeholders in government, regulatory, and private sectors.

- (6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Environmental Council?

I have worked for several years developing the Environmental Management System for the Headquarters, Pacific Air Forces. This role has required me to work with multiple stakeholders – often with differing opinions and perspectives.

At Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska, I worked with to develop consensus among military and civilian personnel, the community, and State regulators. Environmental

focus groups were formed that met to discuss community concerns and mission-critical priorities. In less than a year, due largely to the support and willingness of these stakeholders, we were able to develop Environmental Management Plans – with schedules, budgets, and responsible parties focused on environmental priorities. The Program was a success and is being used as a model for other organizations in the Pacific.

- (7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Environmental Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any conflicts of interest in serving on the Environmental Council, and will not engage in work that could be a possible conflict of interest.

Respectfully,

Iris Terashima