

GM 518

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Deputy Adjutant General of the
Department of Defense,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Colonel Kenneth Hara,
for a term to expire 12-3-2018.**

PSM



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU, HAWAII

David Y. Ige
Governor

Testimony on GM 518
Confirmation of Kenneth Hara
Deputy Adjutant General, Department of Defense

Governor David Y. Ige

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

March 17, 2015

1:15 p.m., Room 229

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. Kenneth Hara has 30 years of experience and service with the Hawai'i National Guard. Hara was Chief of Staff for the Hawai'i National Guard and has commanded at every level from platoon to the brigade.

Hara was the recipient of several military awards, including the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star medals. In 2010, Hara was recognized as the Hawai'i National Guard Association Field Grade "Officer of the Year". Hara earned a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA and a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services, Hawai'i Pacific University, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

This administration is committed to reshaping the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Kenneth Hara will support our employees in the Department of Defense in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

TULSI GABBARD
2ND DISTRICT, HAWAII

March 12, 2015

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Letter in Support of Colonel Kenneth Hara for Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense

Aloha Chair Espero and Vice Chair Baker,

I am writing in support of Colonel Kenneth Hara for the position of Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. I served in the Army National Guard with "Ken" Hara both as an enlisted and a commissioned Soldier. I have continued my association with him in my military career, and additionally in my current capacity as a Representative.

Colonel Hara is an honest, dedicated Army officer. He demonstrated skills in the field, and most recently as Chief of Staff for the Hawai'i Army National Guard. Colonel Hara provides superb guidance and direction to accomplish the objectives of the organization. He provides his best counsel in situations large or small, like the action needed during two hurricanes and volcanic lava threatening Hawaii Island.

As a Soldier still serving in the Hawai'i Army National Guard, I understand the qualities required in leaders. Colonel Hara comprehends those qualities and assures success of the organization. Ken has done many excellent things for the Hawai'i National Guard. I know that he will lead fairly and honestly during peace time or in any identified emergency here and around the world.

I support confirmation of Colonel Hara. Please consider my endorsement during the hearings.

Mahalo nui loa,

Tulsi Gabbard

Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress (HI-02)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 11:40 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: Riley.Fujisaki@mail.house.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: GM518 Testimony-Office of Congressman Mark Takai.pdf

GM518

Submitted on: 3/10/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Riley Fujisaki	Office of Congressman Mark Takai	Support	Yes

Comments: Edward Cruickshank, our Military Legislative Assistant will be testifying on behalf of the Congressman.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

MARK TAKAI
1ST DISTRICT, HAWAII

422 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-2726
FAX: (202) 225-0688

300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD
ROOM 4-104
HONOLULU, HI 96850
TELEPHONE: (808) 541-2570
FAX: (808) 533-0133

MARK.TAKAI@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV
TAKAI.HOUSE.GOV

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1101

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
STRATEGIC FORCES
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
FEDERAL LANDS

To: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and
Military Affairs

Re: GM518 (Colonel Kenneth Hara)
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015
Time: 1:15 p.m.
Place: State Capital Conference Room 229

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the committee:

I write today in support of Colonel Kenneth Hara to be confirmed as Deputy Adjutant General for the State Department of Defense. I ask that you and the members of the committee give his nomination your fullest consideration and support.

As a member of the House Committee on Armed Services, I have been very impressed with Colonel Hara's record. Colonel Hara has served in many positions including Brigade Commander for the 29th Infantry Brigade during his many years of service with the Army National Guard. He has deep roots in the community. I have served in the Hawaii Army National Guard with Colonel Hara, and I have the upmost respect for him and his ability to serve to our State in a time of crisis. He works well with others and his accomplishments, experience and leadership will be critically important in supporting the Adjutant General with the National Guard and Hawaii State Civil Defense.

I thank you and the committee for your dedication in seeking the most qualified individual to serve our State. Colonel Kenneth Hara would be a tremendous asset in the position of Deputy Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Mark Takai
Member of Congress



**U.S. Department of Justice
United States Marshals Service
District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Blvd 2-2800
Honolulu, HI 96850**

March 2, 2015

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Public Safety and Government
State of Hawaii
State Capitol Chambers
Honolulu, Hawaii

**Re: Senate Confirmation Letter in Support of Colonel
Kenneth Hara, Deputy Adjutant General-State of Hawaii**

Dear Senator Espero:

It is with great pleasure that I strongly endorse the nomination of Colonel (COL) Kenneth Hara for the position of Deputy Adjutant General in the State of Hawaii. I have known COL Hara for more than 20 years, I hold him in high esteem. He is known for his immense leadership, noble character and tremendous work ethic.

COL Hara comes from a long tradition of proud, courageous War Fighters from Hawaii Island. He has proven himself in the combat environment, having served two "combat" tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. His distinction of being the Commander of the 29th Brigade with more than 3,500 soldiers in a combat environment by itself is an immense achievement and honor!

He has served with great merit during his combat role as well as in garrison, operating as the Army Guard's Chief of Staff, who consistently throughout his multi-faceted career accomplished polished outcomes.

During the ending of 2000, with COL Hara's exemplary sponsorship, contributed immensely to the United States Attorney's Office successful culmination of "Operation Powerball", a multi-jurisdictional law enforcement strategy which collectively led to the arrest of 78 methamphetamine drug dealers on Maui.

COL Hara continued his strong collaborative skills with the Department of Justice and the Honolulu Police Department's Weed and Seed Program. COL Hara has supported the Governor's esteemed Hawaii Counterdrug Program on Maui, Hawaii Island, Honolulu and Kauai, with assigned Hawaii National Guard resources on each island.

Page 2

Re: Senate Confirmation Letter of Support in of Colonel Kenneth Hara for Deputy Adjutant General State of Hawaii.

COL Hara has been a pivotal part of the Hawaii State Emergency Management. During the many contingencies COL Hara has experienced will certainly enhance the functions of this agency. He has first-hand knowledge when dealing with disasters such as Hurricane Iniki and the October 15, 2006 Earthquake. His concerted and remarkable networking knowledge of other related agencies make him a fantastic asset.

COL Hara has continued his outstanding collective skills while working with local law enforcement in preparation of the Asian Development Bank. He is well qualified to manage and lead in all contingencies. He has a keen ability and knowledge of the National Incident Command Structure, and will effectively ensure support to Hawaii's Emergency Services.

COL Hara has always conducted himself with the highest moral and ethical standards. He possesses all the characteristics to be a great leader of the Hawaii National Guard and is blessed with all the attributes of a distinguished leader of Hawaii.

COL Kenneth Hara will join the Adjutant General Arthur "Joe" Logan as the Deputy Adjutant General and will solidify this outstanding team.

COL Hara's exemplary experience in combat, in conjunction with the compassion he possesses for the community he serves will bring positive favor upon the Hawaii National Guard and the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,


Gervin Miyamoto
United States Marshal
District of Hawaii



HEADQUARTERS
HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

March 16, 2015

Senator Will C. Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Senate
State Capital
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators:

I am writing in strong support of Colonel Kenneth Hara to be the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

Colonel Kenneth Hara has distinguished himself through exceptional service during three combat deployments and numerous command positions throughout his career in the Hawaii National Guard. He is a gifted leader who has influenced soldiers to perform to their optimum potential, passionate in his work, compassionate to the needs of his soldiers, and disciplined in enforcing standards above all.

Colonel Hara's performance in an extremely complex environment has been nothing short of brilliant. He successfully deployed, redeployed, demobilized, and reintegrated units and equipment to and from Iraq and Afghanistan. Colonel Hara continued to support and emphasize the Hawaii Army National Guard priorities bringing Financial Liability Investigations of Property Loss down from over 100 to just three remaining saving the Army thousands of dollars, significantly improving medical readiness in the Hawaii Army National Guard by increasing delinquent Periodic Health Assessments to over 98%, reduced excess equipment from \$2.5 million to \$22,000 and, placed emphasis on the enforcement of safety standards resulting in no major accidents. Detailed as the full-time Chief of Staff for the Hawaii National Guard Joint Staff in October 2013, he updated the Hawaii National Guard Joint Staff Organizational Chart and coordinated for the hiring of personnel into key positions that significantly improved the Joint Staff's ability to plan, publish operational orders, and monitor current operations. He also conducted staff training on the Joint Operations Planning Process and executed the process for planning for three natural disasters and the Hawaii National Guard Emergency Response Plan. In addition, COL Hara met with and briefed county mayors and Civil Defense administrators to improve understanding of the Vigilant Guard/Makani Pahili 15 exercise which greatly increased the projected participation. Furthermore, he aligned the Hawaii National Guards' State Partnership Program events in line with US Pacific Command's objectives.

Unquestionably, Colonel Hara possesses the skills and experience to be the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii. I strongly support his nomination without reservation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

OLIVEIRA, BRUCE, EMORY, 1180237913

Bruce E. Oliveira
Brigadier General, Hawaii Army
National Guard
Commanding

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

AND BY RODERICK K. BECKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 518

March 17, 2015
1:15 P.M.

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, COLONEL KENNETH HARA

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee:

We support the confirmation of Colonel Kenneth Hara to the position of Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Governor Ige's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our state in a direct and forthright manner. We will strive to do the right thing, the right way to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable economy to support our kupuna, ourselves, and our children.

Colonel Hara is an integral part of a team that is committed to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner. Therefore, we support his confirmation as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON GM 518

PRESENTATION TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

DOUG MAYNE
ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
March 5, 2015

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee.

I am Doug Mayne and I am the Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of GM 518 and the confirmation of Colonel Ken Hara as the Deputy Director of the Department of Defense and the Deputy Adjutant General.

I have worked closely with Ken Hara for the past year in his position as Chief of the National Guard Joint Staff, responsible for planning and supporting disaster operations. He has proven to be a smart and extremely competent leader. He is engaged and highly respected throughout the National Guard.

Since becoming the Deputy Director of the Department of Defense and the Deputy Adjutant General, Colonel Hara has worked hard to build systems and bring a sense of order to the Department. We have worked together to clearly delineate responsibilities between us to make the Department function more efficiently.

Colonel Hara will be an extremely effective Deputy Director for the Department of Defense and I urge the committee to recommend approval to the rest of the Senate on this nomination.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of GM 518.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony of
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 17, 2015
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

GM518

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLONEL KENNETH HARA, for a term to expire 12-3-2018.

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Military and Governmental Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of Colonel Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD).

Colonel Hara received his BA from Hawaii Pacific University. In 1987 he was commissioned by the Hawaii Army National Guard Officer Candidate School.

With more than 30 years of service, he has served in significant positions of authority with the DOD whereby the DOT worked alongside him to enhance our ability to face challenges that the state must confront. Colonel Hara's strength is that he is keenly aware of the challenges that Hawaii faces today and those that we will most likely face in the future and the critical role that DOD and DOT will play in meeting those challenges.

In view of the increasing importance of disaster and emergency management, we have made concerted efforts with other stakeholders to coordinate, design, and implement effective measures that can substantially abate losses in the event of a disaster. We have full confidence that under Colonel Hara's leadership we will continue to make great strides in increasing the state's capacity to prepare for and deal with the threat of a disaster, man-made or natural.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:00 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM

GM518

Submitted on: 3/14/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch	Veterans Advisory Board	Support	No

Comments: The Advisory Board to the Office of Veterans Services supports the confirmation of Colonel Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 12:10 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: cazzbear@prodigy.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: Testimony Col Hara.doc

GM518

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caz Ross	CAP	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HEADQUARTERS
HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
419 Lele Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-1821
(808) 836-3417
FAX (808) 834-6595



TESTIMONY ON GM 518, Consideration and confirmation as Deputy Adjutant General of the
Department of Defense

Presented to

Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

By

Carswell J. Ross, Jr. Lt Col CAP, Hawaii Wing, Vice Commander
And
Government Relations Advisor

Tuesday March 17, 2015

Good afternoon Chair Will Espero, Vice Chair Rosalyn Baker and members of the Committee. Speaking as the Government Relations Advisor for the Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, we **strongly support** the nomination of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara as Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Colonel Hara has served as a leader in the Hawaii Army National Guard for more than thirty years. He served on combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan with the 29th Infantry Brigade and received numerous awards, to include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster and the Army Commendation Metal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster. His education background includes graduation from Hawaii Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

He embodies the values of a Citizen Soldier and had dedicated his life to service to Hawaii's citizens. He possesses the values and qualities ascribed to the Deputy Adjutant General of the Hawaii National Guard. We **strongly support** his nomination. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Colonel Hara.

William P. Kenoi
Mayor

Walter K.M. Lau
Managing Director



Gerald A. Takase
Director

County of Hawai'i

Department of Liquor Control

Hilo Lagoon Centre, 101 Aupuni Street, Unit 230, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4261
(808) 961-8218 • After Hours (808)932-2939 • Fax (808) 961-8684
E-Mail: cohdlc@hawaiicounty.gov

March 12, 2015

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Hearing: Monday, March 16, 2015
1:15 p.m., Room 229

Position: Support GM 517 – Nomination of Brigadier General Arthur Logan
Support GM 518 – Nomination of Colonel Kenneth Hara

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members:

It is with great pleasure that I write to you to extend my support for Brigadier General Arthur "Joe" Logan and Colonel Kenneth Hara as the Adjutant General and Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawai'i. I have served in the Hawai'i National Guard for close to 30 years, currently as the Staff Judge Advocate and have seen many leaders come and go. I have known Joe and Kenny for many of those years and feel qualified to speak about their qualities from having served on the Joint Staff of the Hawai'i Army National Guard with them. Both have put in many years with the Army Guard, rising through the ranks as commanders, being deployed in support of our Nation's war on terrorism and graduates of the Army War College, which is reserved for the Army's best and brightest. They have both also served as the Chief of Joint Staff for the Hawai'i Army and Air National Guard. Not only are they great soldiers, but they have the ability to lead and have the respect of their troops, the officers, soldiers and airmen of the Hawai'i National Guard.

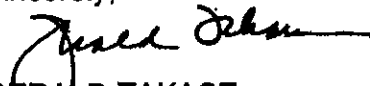
Having served as a Director and Deputy Director in the County of Hawai'i, I am keenly aware of the administrative duties that are required of any administrative head, which include not only subject matter expertise, but the abilities to run a department which include finances, personnel, supervision and dealing with the public. In my humble opinion, both of these gentlemen have the ability to lead this organization because they have been there. Starting from the depths of the organization, they understand all of the missions and abilities of our organization and they have the

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Page -2-
March 12, 2015

support of the troops because they have always led with humility and have shared the experiences that the men and women of the Hawaii National Guard have gone through.

Let me close by saying that I have the highest respect for both of these individuals and urge the Members of this committee and the Senate to support their nominations as the Adjutant General and Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii and it is my great honor to serve with these individuals.

Sincerely,



GERALD TAKASE
Director

GT:de



**500 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD
BOX 165
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813**

**PHONE: (808)356-4400
FAX: (808)356-4499**

February 27, 2015

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Re: GM 518-Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, Colonel Kenneth Hara

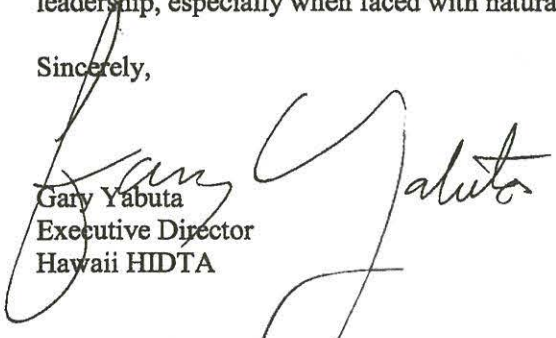
My name is Gary Yabuta and I am the Executive Director for the Hawaii High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA). It is with great honor that I express my support for confirmation of Kenneth Hara for the position of State of Hawaii, Deputy Adjutant General.

Hawaii is among 28 HIDTA regions throughout our Nation, and the mission of each HIDTA region is to facilitate and enhance local, state and federal law enforcement efforts to dismantle and disrupt drug organizations, enterprises and operations.

Before becoming the Hawaii HIDTA Executive Director, I was the Chief of Police for the Maui Police Department until I retired on July 31, 2014. As the Chief of Police, I was a Hawaii HIDTA Executive Board Member, and this is when I became familiar with the leadership and skills of Colonel Kenneth Hara, who commanded the Hawaii National Guard and its Counterdrug Program.

Colonel Hara's commitment to military duty and service is only equal to his dedication to his community and the State of Hawaii. His sacrifices and selfless service to protect and defend our Nation earns him the opportunity to further serve all of us as our Deputy Adjutant General. More so, we need Colonel Hara and his proven leadership, especially when faced with natural catastrophes and threats of terrorism.

Sincerely,


Gary Yabuta
Executive Director
Hawaii HIDTA

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL TOBACCO AND FIREARMS • CITY AND COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICES • DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION • HAWAII COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT • HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD • HAWAII STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT • IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT • INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE • KAUAI COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT
MAUI COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT • UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE • UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE • UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE
WESTERN STATES INFORMATION NETWORK • NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE • UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HAWAII HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:40 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: kkaimuloa@cochawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: COCH Testimony PSM 03-17-15 (GM517_GM518).docx

GM518

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamakana Kaimuloa	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the Senate Public Safety, Intergovernmental
and Military Affairs
Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 1:15 P.M.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGES NO. 517 AND 518

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** GM 517, which is submitted for consideration and confirmation Gubernatorial Nominee BRIGADIER GENERAL ARTHUR LOGAN as the Adjutant General of the Department of Defense and GM 518, which submits for consideration and confirmation Gubernatorial Nominee COLONEL KENNETH HARA as Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

In recognizing how critical the U.S. military presence is to Hawaii's economy, the Chamber officially established a military affairs department in 1985. For 30 years the Chamber, through its Military Affairs Council (MAC), has served as the State's liaison in matters relating to the military and has been steadfast in working to protect and preserve the military's presence in Hawaii, promote public awareness and understanding of issues facing the military locally and nationally, and serve as the advocate for military and their families.

Having served in the Hawaii Army National Guard for over 30 years, BG Logan has gained a wealth of experience at the State Department of Defense. His previous assignments on the Joint Staff as the Chief of Staff and J1 (Personnel) as well the Hawaii Army National Guard G3 (Operations) have provided him with a thorough understanding of the responsibilities he will formally assume if confirmed as the Adjutant General (TAG).

COL Hara brings similar credentials to the State Department of Defense's leadership team. Having previously served as the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) Commander, the Commander of the 29th IBCT Forward 34 in Afghanistan, and the Chief of the Joint Staff, COL Hara, as the Deputy Adjutant General (DAG), is well suited to assist the TAG in overseeing the military components of the Department and coordinating the State's response to natural disasters.

The Chamber's Military Affairs Council (MAC) has worked closely with previous command teams and looks forward to working with both BG Logan and COL Hara during their respective terms.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of these nominees.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

03-17-15 1:15PM in conference room 229

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 518
APPOINTMENT OF COLONEL KENNETH HARA
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

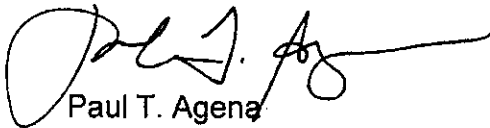
Dear Senator Espero and Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure and honor to have this opportunity to support Colonel (COL) Kenneth S. Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General. I have known COL Hara for 12 years, including serving under him in both Iraq and in Afghanistan and can truly say he is an exceptional leader, strategic in thinking and ethical in action.

COL Hara's has years of experience in the Hawaii Army National Guard and has served in numerous positions both as an enlisted Soldier and as an Officer, his years of experience, network of support, and charismatic personality has allowed him to be a significant mover and shaker through every rank he has held. Additionally while serving in Iraq I was impressed that even the regular army's brigade commander had selected COL Hara to oversee the brigade over his own Regular Army Commanders. This truly demonstrates COL Hara's competence when other entities will look outside their own organizations to in order to have COL Hara placed into their leadership positions. Additionally COL Hara is a firm leader who holds others and their units accountable, he is not afraid to receive complaints or criticism for doing what is right. COL Hara is a strong and respected leader who can be counted on to be fair and firm.

It is my honor to support this exceptional leader, I am certain that his vast experience, work ethics, network, professionalism and charismatic leadership will tremendously increase the efficiency of the Hawaii National Guard.

Sincerely,



Paul T. Agena
LTC, Infantry, Hawaii Army National Guard
Deputy G3

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 6:24 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: ray.jardine@nativehawaiianveterans.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION KEN HARA DEPUTY TAG JAN 2015.pdf

GM518

Submitted on: 3/2/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raymond Jardine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

03-17-15 1:15PM in conference room 229

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 518
APPOINTMENT OF COLONEL KENNETH HARA
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Dear Senator Espero and Members of the Committee:

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Colonel Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General. He is a person of exceptional integrity and is a strategic leader. Ken's combined military, emergency management, and homeland security experience in the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense is unparalleled.

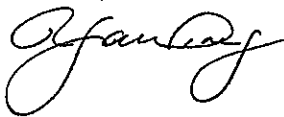
I have known and worked with Ken for over 30 years. He was instrumental in assisting me when I was the Deputy Brigade Commander for the 29th Enhanced Separate Infantry Brigade (Light) in 2000-2004. A self starter with excellent organizational skills, Ken was able to assimilate the command's guidance and turn the brigade's vision into action. As a result and during this period, the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade went from being the worst combat brigade in the nation into the best.

Ken's experience cannot be matched by others as he has not only worked in the Hawaii Army National Guard but also gained vast experience and knowledge working throughout the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense. Moreover, Ken is an experienced combat veteran that deployed on three occasions - first as a battalion commander, later as a deputy brigade commander in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and finally as the commander of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Colonel Hara is someone you can trust not only to get the job done but will exceed one's expectations.

Colonel Hara's many accomplishments have been recognized at the National, State, and Local level. He is well respected by the soldiers and leadership of the Hawaii National Guard and members of the Active Duty. Within the Hawaii National Guard, he has served in numerous positions of significant responsibility. Each time he met and/or exceeded expectations. Previously as the Chief of the Joint Staff for the Hawaii National Guard, Ken oversaw all aspects of the largest organization in the Hawaii Department of Defense. He is a highly decoration combat veteran with the Combat Infantry Badge, Army Aviator Badge, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster.

It is my honor to recommend this seasoned leader. His vast experience, knowledge, attention to details, strategic leadership and vision along with his impeccable loyalty will serve the State of Hawaii well in the position of the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,



Hon. Raymond Jardine Jr., PhD.
Chairman & CEO
Native Hawaiian Veterans, LLC

RICHARD K. MINATOYA

TESTIMONY ON GM 518 - CONFIRMATION OF COLONEL KENNETH HARA DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

March 17, 2015

The Honorable Will Espero
Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Vice Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Richard Minatoya. I am the Maui County member of the Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management (HACEM), but I am testifying as a private individual in SUPPORT of GM 518 - Confirmation of Colonel Kenneth Hara, Deputy Adjutant General.

I had the pleasure of meeting COL Hara at the first Hawaii Emergency Preparedness Executive Consortium meeting of the year. COL Hara is well liked and well respected among members of the Hawaii National Guard, having come up through the ranks in the Guard.

I wholeheartedly support COL Hara as the nominee to serve as the Deputy Adjutant General. I respectfully ask that the Committee RECOMMEND CONFIRMATION to the full Senate.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 8:01 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: Lon Paresa
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM

GM518

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support Kenny Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General. I served with his Father, Henry.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 9:18 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: vmiyagi@scd.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: 2015 Confirmation Testimony - COL Ken Hara - DAG.docx

GM518

Submitted on: 3/5/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vern Miyagi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

NOMINEE, COLONEL KENNETH S. HARA (GM 518)

PRESENTATION TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS (PSM)

BY

VERN T. MIYAGI
MAJOR GENERAL, US ARMY (RETIRED)
EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

March 4, 2015

Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Baker, and members of the Public Safety, Military Affairs, and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.

I am Vern T. Miyagi, Executive Officer at the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of the nomination of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara for Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

I strongly support the nomination of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara to serve as Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii. I have known Colonel Hara for over 25 years while serving together in the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG). He is the best nomination for Deputy Adjutant General.

I first met then Lieutenant Hara in Lihue, Kauai during our hurricane relief operations for Hurricane Iniki in 1992. Under his leadership, the platoon he commanded protected the citizens of Kauai and enabled a return to a reasonably normal life under severely adverse conditions.

Since 2004, COL Hara served in three combat deployments: two to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. In his first deployment he served as a commander whose battalion was responsible for security in a particularly dangerous area of Baghdad. In his second deployment he served as Deputy Brigade Commander to our 29th Bde that supported combat operations in Iraq. In his third deployment he commanded multiple small units that worked directly with Afghan military and police units throughout the country. In all three deployments, his leadership proved outstanding and his units' achievements were positively recognized by active duty U. S. Army leaders. More importantly, he brought his soldiers home.

Most recently, COL Hara served as the Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff and directly supported the people of Hawaii during Tropical Storm Iselle and the on-going lava emergency in Puna. He has also served as the Joint Task Force commander for a variety of fire, flood, and other emergencies in the state.

COL Hara brings a very unique and versatile set of experiences to the leadership of the State Department of Defense. He has worked well with Brigadier General Logan for many years and they will make a superb leadership team for the department of defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **SUPPORT** of Colonel Ken Hara.



16 February 2015

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol

Chair Will Espero, Vice Chair Rosalyn Baker, and members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Committee

I strongly support Governor Ige's nomination of Colonel Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

During my tenure as Adjutant General, it was a pleasure to serve with an outstanding leader like Colonel Kenneth Hara. As Commander of the 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry (Big Island) he and his soldiers served with distinction in Iraq having responsibility for Baghdad International Airport. On his next deployment to Iraq, he served as the Deputy Commander of the 29th Brigade Combat Team. Colonel Hara deployed with his soldiers for a third time, most recently to Afghanistan as the Commanding Officer of the 29th Brigade Combat Team. Colonel Hara has proven on many occasions that he can perform under stressful conditions and provide clear leadership. He capably showed these characteristic as the Big Island Commander during the earthquake of October 2006 and most recently during hurricane Iselle, tropical storm Ana, and the ongoing lava flows in Puna.

Colonel Kenneth Hara will be a superb Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii and will be a strong backup to Brigadier General Joe Logan.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robert G.F. Lee

Robert G.F. Lee
Major General
US Army (Retired)
(Hawaii Adjutant General 2003-2011)

STATE OF HAWAII
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 518
NOMINATION OF COLONEL KENNETH HARA TO DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
MARCH 17, 2015 AT 1:15 P.M.

March 11, 2015

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee:

I am honored to submit testimony in support of Colonel Hara's confirmation as Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

Colonel Hara is an exemplary leader having served most recently as the Chief of the Joint Staff for the Hawaii National Guard. Where he managed the daily operations and advised the Adjutant General on all Hawaii National Guard matters. In addition, his leadership has provided the necessary support to those affected by natural disasters here in Hawaii and has ensured their safety. His military career has spanned over 27 years with increasing authority and responsibility. He has honorably served in three tours to Iraq and Afghanistan, and has received numerous awards and decorations for his service. He is always willing and ready to serve the people of Hawaii.

I have known Colonel Hara for over 35 years and can say without a doubt he is the perfect individual to serve as the Deputy Adjutant General. He has always been a leader from a very young age and through the years has earned the respect from not only those under his command but from those in the community as well. His extensive experiences serving in the Hawaii National Guard and his strong leadership skills make him well equipped to face any challenge presented in this position.

I am confident that, if confirmed, Colonel Hara would perform his duties as Deputy Adjutant General above and beyond what is expected. He will excel in the position and can be counted on to do the right things for the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,



Nathan N. Abe
President/Chief Executive Officer
HFS Federal Credit Union

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:04 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: Randy.Baldemor@hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM*

GM518

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Baldemor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Marlene Uesugi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:15 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: jkim0409@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM

GM518

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the confirmation of Kenneth Hara to the position of Deputy Adjutant General. Ken is a combat veteran and has commanded the Hawaii Army National Guard's 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team with distinction and honor. He is a proven leader and possesses the personal qualities and traits to succeed and continue to serve the State Department of Defense and the State of Hawaii.

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09 Mar 15

MEMORANDUM FOR the Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chairman, and members of the Public Safety, Military Affairs and Intergovernmental Committee

FROM: CMSgt Robert S.K. Lee III, Hawaii Air National Guard

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Colonel Kenneth Hara, Deputy Adjutant General, Hawaii National Guard (HING)

Dear Senator Espero:

It is a privilege to write and submit this letter of support on behalf of Colonel Kenneth Hara, for confirmation as the next State of Hawaii, Department of Defense, Deputy Adjutant General.

Colonel Hara's dedication to serve, coupled with an enormous amount of military experience and an innate capability to lead with finesse and grace, lends to the perfect ingredients to shoulder the responsibility of the Deputy Adjutant General of the most complex National Guard organization in the nation. Col Hara is a proven leader who puts country, state and community first. A well respected leader who employs an unmatched capability of intelligence, compassion, courage and dignity when addressing difficult decision making situations. These qualities are absolutely necessary in fulfilling the duties of the Deputy Adjutant General, all while meeting the expectations of our island communities while serving the Governor of the state.

Colonel Hara is also in complete alignment with Governor Ige's leadership philosophies and core values. Collaboration is one of Colonel Hara's trademark leadership traits that fosters trust, a feeling of value and increases morale within the organization of the Hawaii National Guard. The Hawaii National Guard is poised to continue its journey into the future by being diverse, collaborative and innovative, which a leader like Colonel Hara deeply believes in and has adopted as his mantra for many years. Your confirmation of Colonel Kenneth Hara as our Deputy Adjutant General will set the Hawaii National Guard to succeed well into the future.

Sincerely,



ROBERT S.K. LEE III, CMSgt, HIANG

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:45 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: nmitsuyoshi@dod.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM

GM518

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am pleased to submit this testimony in support of COL Kenneth Hara. I have known and worked with COL Hara for over 13 years in my capacity as a Soldier/Officer in the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG), and as the Chief Engineer for the State Department of Defense. I have also deployed with COL Hara on two separate combat deployments with the 29th Brigade Combat Team. From my personal experience I know that COL Hara is an outstanding officer and that he has been a dedicated senior leader in the organization. He is a proven combat veteran and is intimately familiar with the department, serving in various senior positions in the department, to include the successful tours as the 29th Brigade Commander and the HING Chief of Joint Staff. COL Hara is someone that I have great personal trust in, and he is someone that I believe will always try to do what is right and best for those that serve in the Department of Defense and for the people of the State of Hawaii.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:28 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM*

GM518

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 1:45 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: galen.yoshimoto@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: GM518 Testimony PSM 15.03.17.pdf

GM518

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Galen Yoshimoto	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Governor's Message 518 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLONEL KENNETH HARA, for a term to expire 12-3-2018.

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

My name is Galen Yoshimoto, a Hawaii Air National Guard retiree.

I am providing written testimony in **support** of Colonel Kenneth Hara's nomination as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Colonel Kenneth Hara has a proven record of achievements throughout his military career. His record over the years led to his selection to command the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the largest component of the Hawaii Army National Guard. During his command, the brigade successfully deployed to Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan.

After returning from the Afghan deployment, the Adjutant General selected Colonel Hara to serve as the Chief of the Hawaii National Guard Joint Staff. He served as the Chief until his nomination at the Deputy Adjutant General.

The Adjutant General nominee, Brigadier General Arthur Logan and Colonel Hara have served together in the Hawaii Army National Guard. They know each other well and will be a dynamic team to lead the Department of Defense.

I urge your committee to recommend Senate confirmation on the nomination of Colonel Kenneth Hara to serve as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **support** of Colonel Kenneth Hara's nomination as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

17 MARCH 2015, 1:15 PM, CONFERENCE ROOM 229

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
APPOINTMENT OF NOMINEE COLONEL KENNETH S. HARA (GM 518)
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, STATE OF HAWAII

Honorable Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Baker, and members of the Committee,

I am testifying in support of Governor's Message 518 appointing Colonel Kenneth S. Hara as our State of Hawai'i Deputy Adjutant General.

I was first introduced to Colonel Kenneth S. Hara in 1978 when we shared a social studies class at Waiakea Intermediate School. Being the youngest son of a very military family, Colonel Hara impressed me with his seriousness about military history and citizenship. His career of selfless service to protect our State and Nation continues to speak volumes about his commitment and patriotism.

Amongst our friends, Colonel Kenneth S. Hara developed a reputation as a strong, honest, determined and extremely intelligent leader. Colonel Hara is a very disciplined and a punctual person. He is able to work efficiently under stressful conditions with a composed demeanor.

I have also witnessed Colonel Kenneth S. Hara as a productive member of our community ranging from giving back with presentations to our high school students or contributing to support our community events such as ACS Relay for Life.

For 37 years, I have remained in close touch with Colonel Kenneth S. Hara and I feel very fortunate to have him as a loyal friend and excellent support to myself and my family. Colonel Hara is an inspiring patriot with a heart of a servant, his dependability, and his desire for excellence makes him an ideal nominee for this opportunity.

Therefore, it is my honor to provide this written testimony in support of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara to serve our State of Hawai'i as our Deputy Adjutant General.

Mahalo,



Jodie Tomonaga Kimura
Resident of Hilo, Hawai'i

March 17, 2015

TO: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

FROM: Ronald P. Han Jr.
Colonel, USAF (Ret)
95-204 Hoailona Place
Mililani, HI 96789

SUBJECT: GM 518 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Duputy
Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, Gubernatorial Nominee,
COLONEL (COL) KENNETH HARA, for a term to expire 12-3-2018.

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee:

I would like to express my wholehearted support to COL Kenneth Hara for his confirmation as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense. I have known COL Hara for over ten years and served with him in uniform and as a member of the State Department of Defense. He is a passionate leader who has earned the respect of his troops and all he comes into contact with. As the most current Commander of the State DOD Joint Forces Headquarters, he has worked with multiple military, State, county, and federal agencies to deal with the lava flow in Pahoa on the island of Hawaii while at the same time prepare his troops for deployment to undisclosed hot spots around the world. He thrives in critical and stressful environments and can be counted on to provide the right decisions and the right time. I believe he has all of the qualities necessary to assume the role and responsibilities as the Deputy Adjutant General.

I have also personally worked with COL Hara on several important Veterans initiatives and have found him to be very supportive about helping our Veterans seek better care and services. He has volunteered to be a part of the 50th Commemoration Committee for the Vietnam Conflict and has offered recommendations to make this viable program even stronger. His work in defining and orchestrating the battle operations tempo for the entire State Department of Defense is just one example of how he is trying to streamline our operations to be more efficient and effective and to hopefully drive us to a paperless environment. I am confident he will excel and do very well supporting and shaping our future as the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:36 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: william.parker.10@us.af.mil
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: LOE - Col Hara - Confirmation.docx

GM518

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Parker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER
HEADQUARTERS HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495**



Personal Data - Privacy Act 1974 (Title 5 USC 552a)

16 Mar 15

MEMORANDUM FOR the Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chairman, and members of the Public Safety, Military Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

FROM: CMSgt William A. Parker, Hawaii National Guard – Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL)

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Col Kenneth Hara, Deputy Adjutant General, Hawaii National Guard (HING)

Dear Senator Espero:

As the SEL of the HING, I represent over 4800 enlisted members. I am charged with ensuring the pulse of our enlisted membership is provided by timely and concise feedback to the HING Commander. Quality of life, morale and welfare, professional growth and development, policies, procedures, programs and initiatives, family readiness to include the health and well being are the primary concerns that our HING Commander passionately addresses with regards to our enlisted force. It is an honor and pleasure to provide this letter of support on behalf of Col Kenneth Hara, for confirmation as the next State of Hawaii, Dept of Defense Deputy Adjutant General.

Even though I have worked only on a few occasions with Col Hara he demonstrates an innate drive and dedication to ensure that programs and policies of the organization are clearly understood and applied equally throughout the organization at all levels. Col Hara has served in several key positions with the Hawaii Dept of Defense, Army National Guard, and has been successful in every challenge he has been charged with. The Hawaii National Guard requires leaders that will put the needs of the organization first, and understands the path that is needed regardless of the challenges we may face in the future and I believe Col Ken Hara clearly has capability to serve in that capacity.

The enlisted men and women of the HING are behind Col Hara as we continue to take the Hawaii National Guard to new heights of excellence, while ensuring the safety and security of our state and nation is paramount as the Deputy Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM A. PARKER, CMSgt, HING
Senior Enlisted Leader

Aloha members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs.

My name is Gerry Silva and I served in the Hawaii Army National Guard for over 30 years, including service as its Chief of Staff between 1983 and 1994. I strongly support the confirmation of Colonel Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General (DAG) of Hawaii.

I have known COL Hara since 1987. His character and his credentials are impeccable, and his education and assignments have prepared him well to be DAG. COL Hara's military education includes graduation from the year-long resident Army War College course at Carlyle Barracks in Pennsylvania. Attendance at the course is highly competitive and only those with great potential are selected to attend.

Over the years, his assignments have prepared him well for the position of Hawaii's Deputy Adjutant General. Let me highlight a few.

- His career in the Hawaii Army National Guard includes graduation from the Hawaii Military Academy, an institution that has produced many of Hawaii's finest military leaders. He has served in successive leadership positions, including commander of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. In short, he has worked his way up in the ranks and knows the Hawaii Army National Guard intimately.
- As Chief of Staff of the Hawaii DOD Joint Staff, COL Hara also understands the structure and the capabilities of both the Army and Air National Guard.
- He is no stranger to federal activation. His deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan helped him better understand the demands of deployments on both troops and their families.

COL Hara is also familiar with the State's Emergency Management system. As a young officer, he assisted with recovery efforts on Kauai after Hurricane Iniki. There were major lessons learned then that are still valid today.

I've known COL Hara, his brothers and his parents for nearly three decades. He is honest, compassionate, fair, decisive, and mission-driven. His word is his bond and he is dedicated to his family, the people of the state of Hawaii, and the soldiers and airman of the Hawaii National Guard.

COL Hara meets and exceeds the requirements to serve as the Deputy Adjutant General of Hawaii and I urge that you support his nomination and move it to the full Senate for confirmation.

Testimony supporting Governor's Message 518: Colonel Kenneth Hara

I am writing in support of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara as the State Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

Col Hara served with me as a junior officer and an aviator with the Hawaii Army National Guard's 103rd Troop Command. Col Hara also participated in the State's recovery efforts for Hurricane Iniki in September-December 1992.

Col Hara also served with distinction during two tours in the Middle East while on Federal Service with the Hawaii Army National Guard. He served in Baghdad, Iraq in January, 2005 thru January, 2006 and again in Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan from November, 2012 thru July, 2013.

Col Hara has the training, experience and ability to serve in the State Department of Defense with distinction. I fully support his confirmation to the position of State Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii.

Maj. Gen. Edward V. Richardson, USAF (Ret)
Retired State Adjutant General

Testimony supporting Governor's Message 518: Colonel Kenneth Hara

I am Maj Gen (ret) Darryll Wong and submitting testimony in support for Col Kenny S Hara for the position of Deputy Adjutant General.

Colonel Hara has a very long and successful career in the Hawaii Army National Guard. He has served this National and our State with distinction both in his two deployments with the Hawaii Army National Guard to Iraq and Afghanistan and his support in Hurricane Iniki. As my Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff in these past few years he had been in the forefront of the Department's role in the most recent recovery efforts for Tropical Storm Iselle as well as the Puna lava flow.

His career in the Hawaii Army National Guard speaks for itself as you read his biography. What is more important is his role as the most recent Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff that has prepared him well for the position as the Deputy Adjutant General. He has been exposed to all the most recent issues and concerns that the State Department of Defense faces. I had tasked him to work in areas that exposed him to the entire department and not just the military. He had done an outstanding job and learns quickly and kept the staff on task. He is very qualified for his new role as the Deputy Adjutant General (DAG). He would bring great continuity now as the DAG.

I support his nomination and confirmation for the State Deputy Adjutant General.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:35 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: kurtlajala@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM518 on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM*

GM518

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kurt Lajala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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March 16, 2015

Dear Senators Will Espero and Rosalyn A. Baker,

It is with honor and pleasure to write this testimony on behalf of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara, candidate for Deputy Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii. I have known Colonel Hara for twenty years as a fellow officer in the Hawaii National Guard. I can state with confidence that Colonel Hara is one of the strongest and highly regarded leaders in the Hawaii National Guard.

No other leader in our Hawaii National Guard history has deployed in support of overseas contingencies at the frequency and level of responsibility as Colonel Hara has. He has paved new ground as the first 2/299 Infantry Battalion Commander to mobilize and deploy an infantry unit, comprised of Soldiers from multiple islands, to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. His performance left a mark and legacy due to the success of this deployment. Not long after, Colonel Hara's leadership was recognized, and he was made the Deputy Commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard's premiere 29th Infantry Brigade, where he served as the Commander's right-hand and helped to lead the brigade on multiple dangerous convoy security missions through the entire country of Iraq while maintaining security in Kuwait. Again, his leadership and performance was recognized, and he was granted the privilege of serving as the Commander of this historic unit. For the third deployment, Colonel Hara led training teams in Afghanistan. His previous experience, his calm disposition, and clarity of mind under the most intense pressure again resulted in mission success in Afghanistan. I would describe Colonel Hara as one of our "War Heroes" who will go down in the annals of the National Guard as achieving what few officers have – leading troops during multiple deployments with sound leadership, valor, and honor.

Most recently, I have worked directly for Colonel Hara as his Vice Chief of the Joint Staff and Senior Intelligence Officer for the Hawaii National Guard. Colonel Hara's professionalism, work ethic, integrity, and talent never cease to amaze me. He is a poised and confident leader who builds on the strengths of his Soldiers and Airmen and works with leaders to improve their weaknesses. He is the consummate leader, and no doubt his character and skills will contribute to this very important position. Again, it is with great pride and honor to testify on behalf of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions at 808-690-0982 or suzanne.p.vareslum.mil@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Puanani Vares-Lum
Colonel, Military Intelligence
Hawaii National Guard

To: Senator Will Espero,
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Senator Sam Slom

From: Keith Y. Tamashiro

Date: March 16, 2015

Re: Letter of Support for the Confirmation of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara as Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense

My name is Keith Y. Tamashiro and I am writing this letter in full support of the confirmation of Colonel Kenneth S. Hara for the Deputy Adjutant General position of the Department of Defense. I've known Ken over 25 years having served with him in a variety of military positions within the Hawaii National Guard.

Ken Hara is a decorated combat veteran who served on 3 deployments to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. He is an exceptional leader, a strategic thinker, an effective planner and a gentleman who displays the highest work ethic, integrity, loyalty and dedication to the organization. In his 30+ years of military service, Ken has always achieved the top rankings, highest accomplishments and produced positive results always improving the organization.

In addition to his military service, Ken is a terrific husband, a caring father, a devoted member of the community and a supportive friend who would give the "shirt off his back" for you. Ken Hara is the ideal choice as the Deputy Adjutant General. He works extremely well with others and is the glue to the organization. He is highly respected by his superiors, peers and subordinates. He is creative and thinks "outside the box". He finds the win-win solution and always treats everyone with warmth and kindness.

In summary, I ask the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs for your support in Colonel Kenneth Hara's confirmation process. I testify and know that Ken will be the best Deputy Adjutant General in the history of the Hawaii National Guard.

Sincerely,



Keith Y. Tamashiro

March 16, 2015

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate District 19,
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 206

SUBJECT: Recommendation and Support for Colonel Kenneth S. Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense.

Dear Senator Espero,

I am writing this testimony to express my support for Colonel (COL) Kenneth S. Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense. I've known COL Hara as a member of the Hawaii National Guard since 1988.

COL Hara has demonstrated outstanding leadership and wisdom during his time within the Hawaii National Guard. His extensive experience as a full time employee of the Hawaii National Guard makes him the perfect candidate to face the future challenges and opportunities of the State Department of Defense. COL Hara's experience in operations, training, and command during combat provides him the experience to act as Deputy Adjutant general.

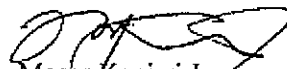
As a training officer COL Hara has experience has been able to understand requirements necessary to keep the National Guard trained and ready for the Governor to call upon in time of a natural disaster or catastrophic event.

As a battalion commander in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2005-2006 and brigade commander for Operation Enduring Freedom from 2012-2013, COL Hara has demonstrated the leadership skills necessary to lead an organization in combat and during high stressful situations.

As the Chief of the Joint Staff for the Headquarters, Hawaii National Guard, COL Hara has taken on complex projects. He led the Hawaii National Guard Joint Staff in planning and executing Hawaii National Guard response during Hurricane Iselle, Tropical Storm Ana, and for the Puna Lava Flow.

I thank you for the consideration of this letter, and hope that I have provided information that will help you to confirm COL Kenneth Hara as the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii. If you have any questions of me you may reach me at 808-271-8541.

Sincerely,


Moses Kaoiwi Jr.



HEADQUARTERS
HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

March 16, 2015

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Colonel Kenneth Hara

Senate Committee on Public Safety
Intergovernmental and Public Affairs

DATE:

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

GM 518

To Whom it May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Colonel Kenneth Hara for the position of Deputy Adjutant General, Hawaii National Guard.

I have known and worked with Colonel Hara for 25 years. He has served as a Hawaii Guardsman for over 30 years. He is a 3rd Generation Hawaii Guardsman.

Colonel Hara is technically and tactically proficient. He has trained and excelled amongst the active and reserve components and set the example of everyone to follow. He is respected amongst his peers, supervisors as well as his subordinates. Colonel Hara not only has spent over three years in combat deployments in the Far East, he had commanded during those deployments and led Hawaii National Guardsman throughout those combat missions.

In addition, Colonel Hara has supported State Missions dating back to the mid 1980's. He has participated in Hurricane Iniki to most recently orchestrating the departments support to Hurricane Iselle and the lava flow on the Island of Hawaii.

Colonel Hara is the future of the Hawaii National Guard and we would be remised not to appoint him into the Deputy Adjutant General's position.

I look forward to your favorable consideration. I am available if you require further information or clarification. I can be reached at william.r.spray.mil@mail.mil or 808-672-1258.

Sincerely,

Rusty Spray
Colonel, Hawaii Army National Guard
Chief of Staff

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 518
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DEPUTY
ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, COLONEL KENNETH S. HARA FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12/3/2018

PRESENTATION TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY COLONEL KENNETH S. HARA
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

March 17, 2015

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I am Colonel Kenneth S. Hara, the gubernatorial nominee for Deputy Adjutant General, State of Hawaii, Department of Defense. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony and provide you with information for your consideration.

I have over 30 years of military service, of which 24 years were on Active Federal Service as a full-timer with the Hawaii National Guard. My military career has provided many leadership opportunities that have progressively led to positions of great responsibility.

I commanded an Infantry battalion with over 600 soldiers in Baghdad, Iraq; served as the deputy commander of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team responsible for camp commands in Kuwait and convoy security missions throughout Iraq; commanded the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat team with over 3,500 soldiers and simultaneously led the deployment of 16 Security Forces Assistance Advisor Teams to the Regional Command South, Afghanistan.

Prior to my nomination to the Deputy Adjutant General position, I served as the Chief of the Joint Staff of the Hawaii National Guard in which my role as the Adjutant General's senior staff officer and advisor provided me with unique opportunities. My duties included leading the Hawaii National Guard's Joint Staff to ensure that units were manned, equipped, and trained to accomplish its wartime and state domestic operations missions.

As part of the Chief's duties, I directed Hawaii's State Partnership Program with Indonesia and the Philippines. The Hawaii National Guard engaged with foreign military and civilian agencies to improve the capabilities of partner nations to protect their citizens, to strengthen relationships, to facilitate interoperability, and to improve cultural awareness.

The Chief of the Joint Staff is a challenging, yet rewarding, assignment. The position provided me exposure to and understanding of the entire department's functions, personnel, and key initiatives. In addition to my military duties, I routinely attended key meetings and events with the Adjutant General and also participated in several key projects not normally controlled by the military divisions of the department.

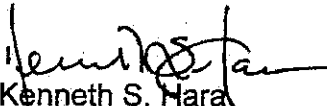
As a member of the Hawaii National Guard, I have supported numerous state disaster response operations – most notably as a battalion operations officer in support of Hurricane Iniki response; Task Force Commander of the Hawaii Island 2006 earthquake response; and more recently as the Chief of the Joint Staff for Hurricane Iselle, Tropical Storm Ana, and the Puna Lava flow response.

I believe that my leadership experience, understanding of the department, and excellent relationship with the command team of the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense, makes me highly qualified for the position. I am fully committed to serving the people of Hawaii. I also look forward to supporting the Adjutant General's priorities, future initiatives, and key projects assigned to me:

1. Developing a departmental strategic plan that codifies our mission, vision, core competencies, and objectives for the next six to eight years;
2. Encouraging individuals, communities, businesses, and our government to commit to whole-of-community resilience to facilitate preparation, prevention, response, and recovery from disasters;
3. Leading the department's innovation initiatives to streamline processes, improve productivity, and to reduce waste and cost;
4. Updating the department's organizational charts, functional statements, and budget tables. Recommending repurposing of positions to improve departmental functions and to establish the Division of Homeland Security; and
5. Continuing to develop key engagements in support of US Pacific Command's Theater Cooperation Program with countries from the Asia-Pacific region.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide testimony as you consider my nomination for the Deputy Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense.

I look forward to the privilege of serving the people of the State of Hawaii in this new leadership role.


Kenneth S. Hara
Colonel, IN, HING
Deputy Adjutant General

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RESPONSE TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS QUESTIONNAIRE IN RESPONSE
TO GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 518, THE NOMINATION OF
COLONEL KENNETH S. HARA TO THE POSITION OF DEPUTY ADJUTANT
GENERAL OF THE STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

March 17, 2015

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

This letter is in response to assist the Senate with its constitutionally mandated responsibility to confirm gubernatorial nominees.

The following are my written responses to committee questions:

1. A description of your experience in the field of the Deputy Adjutant General of the Department of Defense, or any related field.

I have over 30 years of military service, of which 24 years were on Active Federal Service as a full-timer with the Hawaii National Guard.

I served as the Chief of the Joint Staff of the Hawaii National Guard, the most senior staff officer position in the Hawaii National Guard responsible for ensuring that the Joint Staff, units of the Hawaii Army National Guard, and Hawaii Air National Guard were manned, equipped, and trained to accomplish its assigned wartime and state domestic operations missions. As the Chief of the Joint Staff, I worked closely with each of the department's divisions and staff which provided me valuable insight into departmental personnel procedures, budgeting, and maintenance operations.

Other significant military assignments include command of an Infantry battalion with over 600 soldiers that deployed Baghdad, Iraq; deputy command of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team responsible for camp commands in Kuwait and convoy security missions throughout Iraq; and command the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team with over 3,500 soldiers and simultaneously led the deployment of 16 Security Forces Assistance Advisor Teams to the Regional Command South, Afghanistan.

In addition to my three combat deployments, I've supported numerous state disaster response operations – most notably as a battalion operations officer in support of Hurricane Iniki response; Task Force Commander of the Hawaii Island 2006 earthquake response; and more recently as the Chief of the Joint Staff for Hurricane Iselle, Tropical Storm Ana, and the Puna Lava flow response.

2. An assessment of your strengths and weaknesses.

Strengths:

- a. My greatest strength is my leadership style. I emphasize collaboration, make informed decisions that support the department's people and priorities, and when required I am not afraid to make difficult decisions.
- b. Another significant strength is my experience. As the Chief of the Joint Staff, I was involved in the majority of the department's operations, initiatives, and projects. As a proven military leader, I've served in the most challenging assignments in the Hawaii National Guard, which includes three combat tours and several National Guard Domestic Operations in response to natural disasters.
- c. My planning, organizational, and supervision of tasks is also a strength of mine. As a senior military leader, I've developed the ability to analyze complex problems, develop detailed plans, and supervise actions to completion.

Weaknesses:

- a. I need to better understand and assess the State of Hawaii personnel and budget process to lead the department's innovation initiatives.
- b. As with most senior leaders of the department, I find it difficult to balance to demands of the position with my personal needs. Thankfully, I have the full support of my family and friends that was a critical part of my decision to apply for the position of Deputy Adjutant General.

3. An assessment of the Department's strengths and weaknesses. Please include an explanation of how the Department of Defense may be best utilized, as well as how the Department of Defense's weaknesses may be improved.

The strength of the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense is our people. Everyone in the department is dedicated to the organization, committed to their mission and job, and is dedicated to get their assigned tasks completed in a professional manner.

However, a significant weakness is the department lacks a comprehensive strategic plan that codifies our mission, vision, core competencies, and objectives. Everyone is working hard, but not everyone understands why or where they fit in, and what the department's priorities are. This is why the Adjutant General and I have made the development of a strategic plan a priority for the department.

Another significant weakness is that the department's organizational charts, functional statements, and budget tables have not been updated since 2001. Resultantly, the

current organizational charts fail to reflect how the department is organized. This hampers needed reorganization initiatives and impedes effectiveness. The Adjutant General designated me to lead the department's team to update our organizational charts, functional statements, and budget tables.

4. An overall vision for the State DoD, specifically what goals can be accomplished within the next four years and what types of annual benchmarks can be used to evaluate the State DoD's progress toward those goals.

The vision for the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense is, "A safe and secure Hawaii, whose citizens and communities are resilient."

The Adjutant General tasked me to organize a department-wide strategic plan with key members from each of the six divisions by the end of March 2015. The strategic planning team's goal will be to publish a comprehensive strategic plan by the end of calendar year 2015.

As mentioned previously, a major project for the department is to update our organizational charts, functional statements, and budget tables. Once our baseline is established, I will work with the division heads and key staff members to reorganize the department to improve our effectiveness. Positions that are historically vacant, or needed elsewhere will be repurposed within the department. If necessary, the department will work with the Governor's office, Budget and Finance, and the State Legislature for the establishment of new positions.

The Adjutant General and I, together with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and the Hawaii National Guard will work with community leaders to encourage participation in the Hawaii Hazards Awareness and Resiliency Program (HHARP). The HHARP progresses participants through ten modules to help communities prepare to be self-reliant during and after natural hazard events, improve their ability to take care of their own needs, and reduce the negative impacts of disasters. Within the next four years we hope to have at least ten communities on Oahu, and one on each neighbor island participating in the HHARP.

5. The Department of Defense's top budgetary priority for the biennium.

I support the Adjutant General's top budgetary priority to transition the Homeland Security Office into the Homeland Security Division of the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense.

6. An assessment of the Department of Defense's morale, including the turnover rate for personnel.

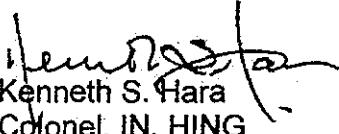
Morale of the department worker is very high, however some key personnel are overworked. This problem is linked to the outdated organizational charts. I believe that some workers are working overtime to clear backlogged work, however they are not

claiming the overtime to keep costs down. As part of the reorganization initiatives, we will work towards improving the effectiveness of the department to accomplish all of its functions. The turnover rate in the department is very low.

7. Any foreseeable possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service in the Department of Defense and how you would overcome them.

None that I know of.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written responses to the committee's questions.


Kenneth S. Hara
Colonel, IN, HING
Deputy Adjutant General