

# GM 548

## **LATE** Testimony

**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee, ERNEST WILSON, JR., for a term to expire 6-30-2019 (term amended to 6-30-2020 by GM717).

**Report Title:** Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii

**Description:**

**Companion:**

**Package:**

**Current Referral:** HEA

**Introducer(s):**

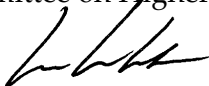


# KĀ'ANAPALI BEACH HOTEL

## HAWAII'S MOST HAWAIIAN HOTEL

April 14, 2015

TO: The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair  
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

FROM: Mike White   
General Manager, Kā'anapali Beach Hotel

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF APRIL 15, 2015; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 548,  
ERNEST WILSON FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF  
REGENTS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Mr. Ernest Wilson's confirmation to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. As general manager of the Kā'anapali Beach Hotel since 1985, and currently serving as chair of the Maui County Council, I am honored to support Mr. Wilson's nomination.

The University of Hawai'i faces many challenges as it works to adapt to the changing educational needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. Rising tuition costs, class sizes and system-wide accountability all come to mind as top priorities that the University leadership must address. As an alumnus of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, I feel Mr. Wilson can help steer Hawai'i's only public university system in a direction that will help to cultivate a new generation of leaders.

I have been professionally acquainted with Mr. Wilson for many years as a fellow visitor industry executive, and feel he possesses many unique qualities and experiences needed to be a strong regent.

He also possesses a background in the military and most recently in academia. Over the past 15 years, he has had teaching and management roles, while simultaneously developing new curriculum and degree programs.

I am certain that Mr. Wilson is well prepared for this challenge and I strongly support his nomination. Please feel free to contact me at (808) 667-0210 or via email at [mwhite@kbhmaui.com](mailto:mwhite@kbhmaui.com) should you have any questions or need additional information.

April 14, 2015

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF NOMINEE ERNEST KAAUMOANA. WILSON JR. FOR  
BOARD OF REGENTS FOR UNIVERITY OF HAWAII

Dear Chair Taniguchi and members of the committee,

My name is Denise Nohealani Wilson, Consultant at Family Health Hawaii, Senior Account Executive at Land Home Financial and board member of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce.

Please accept this testimony in support of Ernest Kaaumoana Wilson, Jr. for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

I believe that Ernest's broad range of knowledge and expertise in academia, the military and the hospitality industry will serve for the betterment of the university, its board, faculty, administration and students.

My support comes from a lifetime of years seeing the accomplishments of this man who truly cares and works with diligent purpose and, who does so, with great character, integrity and values.

I plan to give public testimony, as well, at the hearing on April 15, 2015 and will focus on the four main points of desire, experience, time and calling to explain further my support of Ernest Kaaumoana Wilson for Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Naki Nohealani Wilson

**THE SENATE**  
**THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE**  
**REGULAR SESSION OF 2015**  
**COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS**

**Testimony on GM 548**

**April 15, 2015**

**Conference Room 211, 1:30 p.m.**

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, ERNEST WILSON, JR., for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Dr. Wilson was my professor at Hawaii Pacific University. He is a compassionate educator who knows how to motivate, mentor, and lead his students to their full potential. As the Assistant Dean of the Travel Industry Management (TIM) Program at Hawaii Pacific University, Dr. Wilson was actively involved in the activities of the TIM Student Organization, in which I was an active participant serving in various leadership positions. I am thankful for his guidance.

Dr. Wilson's wealth of experience as an educator and an entrepreneur will make him an asset to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. With Dr. Wilson as a member, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii will unquestionably carry out its charge to formulate policy and exercise control over the university through its executive officer to their maximum capacity.

Sincerely,

Titin L. Sakata, BSBA, MBA