

## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of LUIS P. SALAVERIA Director Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY

> Wednesday, March 02, 2016 1:15pm State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of GM 520 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JOANN INAMASU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2019.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Slom and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) <u>strongly</u> <u>supports</u> GM 520, which submits for consideration and reconfirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOANN INAMASU, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Ms. Inamasu brings to the CBED Advisory Council more than 29 years of experience in business, economic development and workforce development. Currently, she is the Community Outreach Coordinator for Goodfellow Brothers, Inc., coordinating public information meetings, public events, working to organize company and community support efforts statewide, and other community outreach duties necessary for the company. From 2012 to 2014, Ms. Inamasu served as the Governor's representative for Maui County linking constituents and State and County agencies. She is the former Vice-President for the Sterling Group, Inc., assisting with the coordination and execution of events such as the 2011 Hawaii Association of Counties and the Boys and Girls Club of Maui "Teen Expo." She has served as Deputy Coordinator for the Office of Economic Development for Maui from 2008 to 2011; and Executive Director for the Office of Economic Development for Maui County from 2000 to 2008.

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Her expertise and experience in community economic development on the Island of Maui has proved to be a valuable resource for our Department, the CBED Program, CBED Advisory Council Members, and Maui community. Her past and present accomplishments provide invaluable insight towards the needs, culture and vision of our Neighbor Island communities.

Ms. Inamasu is and has been a passionate advocate for agricultural initiatives such as the Grown on Maui Program, Kula Agricultural Park Committee and other programs to promote agriculture and small businesses on Maui. With your confirmation, she will continue to be an important part in the support of community economic development and capacity-building initiatives of the CBED Program and CBED Advisory Council.

We are proud to support the re-nomination of **JOANN INAMASU** to the CBED Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.