

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 521 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KALEOKALANI KURODA, 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 521, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, KALEOKALANI KURODA, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Mr. Kuroda is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, and the University of Hawaii with university degrees in Accounting and Finance. A CPA by trade, he currently is an officer at one of Hawaii's largest credit unions – Hawaii USA Federal Credit Union. His position focuses on strategy development, organizational effectiveness, and special projects.

Mr. Kuroda brings to the CBED Advisory Council skills that include: enterprise-level project management; the ability to transform data insight into actionable plans and results; knowledge of all facets of the accounting field - specializing in financial services and construction industries; an extensive auditing background; and, most importantly, a desire and commitment to support community sustainability and low income families, and to *make a difference* in his birth place --- Hawaii.

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The CBED Program incorporates community vision and values into an effective strategy to achieve community goals by empowering communities, increasing capacity, and conserving local resources.

The experience, skills, and commitment Mr. Kuroda brings to the CBED Program and the CBED Advisory Council will prove invaluable to our State, Department and our communities.

We humbly ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of **KALEOKALANI KURODA** to the CBED Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.