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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, May 14, 2020
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

in consideration of
GM 666

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMUNITY-
BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, NANCY LO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2023.**

Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports GM 666, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Nancy Lo**, for a term to expire 6-30-2023.

Ms. Lo has unselfishly volunteered her time and expertise to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council since 2016 and has graciously accepted the nomination for an additional 4-year term to the Council. Ms. Lo, is a graduate of the University of Hawaii Manoa, whom many consider one of Hawaii's more successful entrepreneurs having created several successful businesses and possessed with many skills and areas of expertise. She is an active licensed general contractor and real estate agent. Her responsibilities include the administration, management, leasing, design, coordination and development of extensive properties in Honolulu, Continental U.S.A. and foreign destinations properties that include commercial, industrial, single family and apartment complexes.

In 1989, Ms. Lo started Hibiscus Aloha Corporation, Elvira Chocolat of Hawaii, and in 1992, Hawaii Monarch Chocolate. Currently, as President of her own company, she has dedicated herself towards her company's continuous development and growth.

Ms. Lo is a Past President of the Hawaii Food Manufacturers Association (1999-2001), a 170-member organization of local food manufacturers and affiliates. She continues to promote Hawaii-made products outside of Hawaii to Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and the U.S. She is also an active advocate for activities that foster opportunities for new and profitable ventures that involve e-commerce, group discounting and financial benefits.

The Community-Based Economic Development (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 and skills Ms. Lo brings to the CBED Program and CBED Advisory Council has and will continue to prove invaluable to our State, Department and our communities.

We humbly ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of Ms. Elvira (Nancy) Lo to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.