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To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair;

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair; and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Rona M. Suzuki, Director

Department of Taxation

Re: STRONG SUPPORT of GM 788

Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 Time: 10:30 A.M.

Place: Auditorium, State Capitol

The Department of Taxation (Department) strongly supports GM 788 and the confirmation of Kaiyo Hirashima to the Tax Review Commission.

Mr. K. Sayle Hirashima serves as a Vice President and Controller of Hawaiian Airlines. We appreciate Hawaiian Airlines' commitment to community service. Mr. Hirashima will bring his extensive tax experience to this important commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of GM 788 and the confirmation of Kaiyo Hirashima to the Tax Review Commission.



May 18, 2020 Hawai'i State Capitol Auditorium Honolulu, HI 96813

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM788 NOMINATION OF KAIYO HIRASHIMA TO THE TAX REVIEW COMMISSION

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Shannon Okinaka and I am testifying today in strong support of the appointment of Kaiyo Sayle Hirashima as a member of the State of Hawai'i Tax Review Commission.

I have known Sayle for many years in different capacities, including in his current role as VP and Controller at Hawaiian Airlines. Born and raised in Hawai'i, Sayle has a very good understanding of the issues we face in our community, and has a strong business sense, specifically about doing business here in Hawai'i.

I have observed Sayle to be consistently collaborative and results-oriented and careful to provide viewpoints from different stakeholders. He views problems from a big-picture perspective, setting any personal interests aside. I am confident Sayle will be a valuable, contributing member of the Tax Review Commission, and I am happy that he has been nominated for this honor.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Shannon Okinaka EVP and CFO Hawaiian Airlines