

RYKER WADA DIRECTOR

ANDREW T. GARRETT DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT 235 S. BERETANIA STREET HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813-2437

February 1, 2021

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

For Hearing on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3 p.m. via video teleconference

By

RYKER WADA DIRECTOR

Governor's Message 504: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Ihara and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to submit this testimony in **Strong Support** of the confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I have had the opportunity to work closely with Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio over the past few years as colleagues within the Ige administration.

Anne has dedicated her entire professional career to serving the people of Hawaii for over 30 years with DLIR. Considering the unprecedented halt to our economy last year, I know she has spent countless hours working to deliver unemployment benefits to those in great need. She is a dedicated and compassionate public servant who is perfectly suited to lead DLIR during these trying times.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 504. We humbly request your favorable consideration.



DAVID Y. IGE

JOSH GREEN LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310 P.O. BOX 541 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 Phone Number: 586-2850 Fax Number: 586-2856 cca.hawaii.gov CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00 p.m. Via Videoconference

On Governor's Message No. 504, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the **Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Anne Perreira-Eustaquio**, for a Term to Expire on December 5, 2022.

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and I am writing in **support** of the appointment of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to serve as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, for a term to expire on December 5, 2022.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's more than thirty years of experience with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations demonstrates her strong commitment to public service. Over the past couple of years, I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio, wherein I observed her to be a conscientious, competent, and collaborative leader.

I firmly believe Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio will continue to be a valued and highly productive member of Governor Ige's cabinet, and respectfully request that you recommend approval of her nomination as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 504. I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have.

JOSH GREEN Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

> MORRIS M. ATTA Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

FEBRUARY 3, 2021 3:00 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 225

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 504

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Chairperson Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 504, consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022. The Department strongly supports this measure.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's extensive experience with the unemployment system makes her an ideal candidate to head the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) at this pivotal time. She has served as the unemployment insurance (UI) system administrator and took over as Deputy Director of DLIR in October of 2019. She has been serving admirably in her role as interim Director since June of 2020. Her in-depth knowledge and 30 plus years of government experience will serve her well as Hawaii responds to the COVID-19 emergency and its impact on the employment market. She is highly respected by her staff and will be an asset to DLIR and to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



To: Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts Attn: Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair, and Committee members

Hawaii Workers Center Testimony for February 3, 2021, Confirmation hearing **Opposing GM504, Confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as DLIR Director**

The Hawaii Workers Center (HWC) is a resource and organizing center which addresses the issues and concerns of low-wage workers and immigrants. For the past 6 months, we have been publicly advocating for unemployed workers, urging the DLIR to reopen its unemployment offices and provide safe, direct, in-person services for the thousands of workers who have been furloughed or permanently laid off since March 2020. Given the poor condition of DLIR's archaic mainframe computer, the difficulty of submitting a claim, and the department's failure to be responsive to claimants' emails and phone calls, direct servicing is urgent and essential.

We have met twice with DLIR Director Perreira-Eustaquio, conducted news media conferences, launched a petition to the Governor, and held several peaceful demonstrations to urge that the DLIR Director and state officials to reopen DLIR offices so that unemployed workers can be served directly, get assistance as needed, and receive answers to their questions. It was pointed out to her that banks, pharmacies, groceries and other businesses had instituted ways to serve customers safely and directly and not closed their sites to the public.

The Director responded by expressing concern about exposing her staff to Covid, but said DLIR would examine ways to provide for safe, direct services in the future. Yet nothing was done to implement this. She also said DLIR had already made contracts to update the computer system but months later, very little has been done and thousands of workers are left without assistance. And DLIR's call center efforts have been laughable though very painful to those frustrated in trying to get resolutions of their claims and assistance. Many have also received no answers to their emails. This failure of DLIR to respond and communicate adequately is deplorable and inexcusable.

The Century Foundation, a think tank, used data from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) on May 27 for state unemployment payments for the month of April, in addition to weekly DOL and ongoing releases of Treasury data, in order to take a deeper dive into Unemployment Insurance. Their research revealed a heartbreaking discovery that unemployment benefits were only **paid out** to **less than 1 in 3 workers** by April¹. Unfortunately, the only numbers the public can really seem to get through DLIR's website is how much money is being given out, but we have yet to truly figure out how many people are being left behind during a time when Unemployment Insurance remains vital to the livelihoods of our families. This lack of transparency and accountability must change now.

In a more recent interview, the Director said she was not worried about exposing her staff to the pandemic but was concerned that the DLIR would be overwhelmed by the number of unemployed persons submitting claims or seeking answers or assistance. Yet it was the

ineptness of her department that created the problem of thousands needing to file claims and get timely responses and assistance.

We believe the DLIR Director has not been honest, transparent, responsive, compassionate, or fair to UI claimants and their advocates. She has steadfastly refused to allow for direct services and assistance to unemployed workers. For this reason, we believe she should NOT be confirmed as DLIR Director since she and DLIR have so grievously failed in their responsibilities to unemployed workers and the public and have caused a great amount of unnecessary suffering and anxiety. She should not be confirmed by the Senate to remain DLIR Director. <u>Please do not recommend her nomination to the full Senate.</u>

Submitted by Rev. Sam Domingo, John Witeck, and Jun Shin of the Hawaii Workers Center Phone Number: 808-255-6663 Email: hiworkerscenter@gmail.com

1

https://tcf.org/content/commentary/unemployment-payouts-accelerated-april-may-still-slow/?session=1



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

> Testimony of **David Y. Ige** Governor, State of Hawaiʻi Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE, AND ARTS

February 3, 2021 3:00 p.m., Room 225

In consideration of Governor's Message 504

Submitted for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Perreira-Eustaquio

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to serve as the Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio is a long-time public servant and leader who has more than 30 years of experience within the Department of Labor. After completing her BBA in Accounting and MBA at Chaminade University, she started at the Department as an Auditor and then later as a Program Specialist where she developed program policies and standards and implemented operational improvements in line with federal standards, court precedents, and internal security considerations. She next moved to the Unemployment Insurance Administration Office as a Development Officer and soon became the UI Administrator. After many years in the UI Program, Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio became Deputy Director and is presently the Acting Director.

With the Unemployment Insurance Program being severely impacted by COVID-19, Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's deep and broad knowledge, experience, and expertise in all areas of the Department's purview has been invaluable and will be needed to navigate the coming years. She has stepped into this unprecedented challenge without hesitation and worked tirelessly to keep UI benefits flowing to eligible recipients while identifying fraud and keeping the program compliant with Federal law. I can think of no better individual to lead the Department as we work to emerge from this crisis.

Mahalo for your consideration.



DOUGLAS MURDOCK CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119 Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922 ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of DOUGLAS MURDOCK Chief Information Officer Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 504 Gubernatorial Nominee Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the committee:

I am testifying in support of Ms. Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio, nominee for director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio currently serves as the department's interim director. Her career at DLIR spans decades, serving as its deputy director, unemployment insurance program administrator, and managing the safety net of the federal-state program. She has spent her career in the unemployment division, working in various capacities.

I recommend Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio to the position. Her in-depth knowledge and 30-plus years of experience in the department will be an asset to the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of the nominee.

HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO



RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii Hawaii State Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 3, 2021

<u>GM 504 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations,</u> <u>Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Perreira-Eustaquio</u>

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. In these extremely challenging times, the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic has proven that a strong director must be a clear communicator, driven team player, responsive to both the public and to her employees, and well-respected in her field – qualities that Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio possesses in great abundance. Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio brings with her over 30 years of experience and has led the Department with grace and tenacity during arguably one of the most fiscally challenging periods in state history.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio began her career with the State as an Auditor I in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in 1989 and steadfastly worked her way up through the ranks to become the Unemployment Insurance Program Administrator, where she and her staff managed the safety net federal-state program. Through her tenure at DLIR, Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio developed a comprehensive understanding of the inner workings of the Department and the complexities of the various benefit structures. Given her background and expertise in unemployment insurance, it is fortuitous that Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio served as Deputy Director and Acting Director during the COVID-19 pandemic where the state has overseen over \$4 billion in claims to date.

On a personal note, Anne and I have worked together throughout her career and I consider her a friend. She's unflappable, hardworking, and incredibly bright – therefore it comes as no surprise that she is a valued part of the executive leadership team. I have no doubt that Anne will continue to excel as a Director and will be an exceptional leader, not only to the public that the department serves, but also for the employees under her charge.

Now, more than ever, our state needs Anne's technical expertise and leadership. For these reasons we offer our unequivocal support on the confirmation of Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director for the Department of Labor.

espectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira Executive Director

- To: The Honorable Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair The Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
- From: Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio, Nominee for Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
- RE: Support of GM504 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio for a term to expire at noon on December 5, 2022

Hearing: February 3, 2021 @ 3:00 pm Conference Room 225, State Capitol

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts. My name is Anne Perriera-Eustaquio, Gubernatorial Nominee for Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and I respectfully request your support.

I am here today for different reasons and circumstances than my last request for support. I am not here for my career or my own development. I am here because of core values instilled in me by my parents and my faith. I am here as a servant leader.

As you all know the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has been dealt a monumental challenge.

In the last eleven months we have experienced unprecedented workloads and held the weight of many in our hands. With inadequate technological tools, complex and inefficient programs and lack of resources the Team continues to steadfastly march on. All this under the continued danger, fear and life disruptions caused by COVID.

Despite the odds I am here because of the DLIR team and our Aloha State. I stand one with them and am proud to be one of them. We have a job to do and I will do everything in my power to continue to lead our charge.

I have witnessed the sacrifice and tireless effort my team has given, working seven days a week, long hours and spending holidays at the office, instead of being with their families. It is my honor to serve as their leader and to be there for our great Aloha State when we are needed the most.

This is what fuels me to lead.

I thank you all for the opportunity to testify.



CURT T. OTAGURO COMPTROLLER

AUDREY HIDANO DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF AUDREY HIDANO, DEPUTY COMPTROLLER DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021, 3:00 PM CONFERENCE ROOM 225, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 504

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 504.

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, **ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO**, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

I strongly support the nomination of MS. ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO to the position of the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

I have known Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio for over 20 years, especially during my tenure at DLIR. Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio was employed in the Unemployment Division of DLIR for many years. During her employment at DLIR, I know firsthand that she did her job over and beyond the call of duty. Unemployment claims can be very complicated and there are some "Federal" interjections with the processes and procedures but Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio knew her job very well. She is a problem solver and would get to the bottom of any issue and have a resolve.

She's led many task forces within the department to create new programs and she is a great leader.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM504 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

SENATOR BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Hearing Date: February 3, 2021 Room Number: N/A

- 1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of Ms.
- 2 Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
- 3 (DLIR). Her thirty years career at DLIR in a variety of staff, management, and leadership roles
- 4 makes her well suited to guide the department through the pandemic and post-pandemic
- 5 situation.
- 6 The Department of Health looks forward to working with the Department of Labor and Industrial
- 7 Relations under Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's leadership on critical health care workforce projects.
- 8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 9 Offered Amendments: N/A.
- 10

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 504 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022

The Department of Land and Natural Resources strongly supports Governor's Message 504 nominating Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio to serve as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for a term to expire at noon on December 5, 2022.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has spent most of her career in successively more responsible positions at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. As such, she was an excellent candidate to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department as she is well aware of the Department's operations and can provide invaluable insight as part of the leadership team.

Her long tenure and career path shows both her commitment to the Department, and her increasing ability to strategically address big picture issues within the Department. The Department of Land and Natural Resources is confident that Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio will continue along these lines as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Governor's Message 504, nominating Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> ROBERT K. MASUDA FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

Written Statement of **EDWIN H. SNIFFEN**

before the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

February 3, 2021 3:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Room 225

in consideration of

G.M. 504

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Dear Chair Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair Senator Les Ihara, Jr., and Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of the appointment of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

My personal experience working with Anne at the Unemployment Call Center before she became acting Director was positive. Anne has worked tirelessly to implement the varied Federal-State unemployment benefit programs. She demonstrates resilience under pressure at a time when our state's unemployment rate has increased nearly tenfold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I believe she is the best equipped to continue the DLIR mission to administer programs designed to increase the economic security, physical and economic well-being, and productivity of workers in these unprecedented times.

For these reasons I humbly request your favorable consideration of the nomination of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN DEREK J. CHOW ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 3, 2021 3:00 p.m. State Capitol, Teleconference

G.M. 504

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and Arts

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). Ms. Perreria-Eustaquio earned her BBA in Accounting and her MBA from Chaminade University.

She has been with the DLIR since 1991 and rose up the ranks to become its Acting Director, specializing in Unemployment Insurance. The economic crisis brought by the pandemic caused a sudden surge of people filing for unemployment. The chaos that ensued was very dynamic and difficult but, under her leadership, the DLIR has acknowledged its unprecedented challenges and has made great strides in working through these highly complex issues.

While unemployment remains painfully high and with unemployment funds exasperated, the DOT believes Ms. Perreria-Eustaquio has the experience and compassion to restore public trust in government. She has a proven track record of team leadership and is driven to work and strategically transform DLIR to meet the challenges and needs of the people suffering today.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

<u>GM-504</u>

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 6:38:49 AM Testimony for LCA on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JoAnn Vidinhar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Chair Taniguchi, Honorable Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the Senate on Labor, Cuture and Arts.

I offer this testimony in full support of Anne Perrerira-Eustaquio as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. She has dedicated her career to Hawaii's Department of Labor and it's community. She is a hard working and dedicated individual who understands the needs of the community and brings stability to the department with her expertise. She is honest and transparent in her decisions and I respect her as a true leader.

I thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony.

Aloha,

JoAnn A. Vidinhar

TESTIMONY

Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 225

GM 504, Consideration and Confirmation of ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO As Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Committee Members:

I have worked as a Deputy Attorney General representing the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the past 26 years and am currently a Supervising Deputy Attorney General. I am writing to express my strong support to confirm Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

I have had the honor and privilege of working with Anne during this past year as she has adeptly lead the DLIR through these difficult times as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the complex federal programs the DLIR has been required to implement. With her nearly 30 years of experience in the Unemployment Insurance Division, Anne is uniquely and exceptionally well-qualified to continue leading the DLIR through these challenging times. On top of those challenges, Anne has quickly learned and familiarized herself with the mission and needs of the other DLIR programs. Anne is representative of what it means to be a public servant. She takes great pride in her work, has a strong work ethic, and has a desire to do the best job possible. What makes Anne a great leader is that she genuinely cares about the DLIR employees and the public she serves. These are qualities needed for the position of Director and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations would be extremely fortunate to have Anne as Director.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 504 and for considering my testimony.

<u>GM-504</u>

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 10:54:17 AM Testimony for LCA on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Yoshitomi-Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this due to her ability to remain steadfast against media and public relations pressure for a statement which could have resulted in adverse consequences to the department. Furthermore I have full trust and confidence that she will be able to helm and lead the department moving forward.

JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 417, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Phone: (808) 586-8630 Web: http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/

February 1, 2021

- To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
- Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021
- Time: 3:00 p.m.
- Place: Conference Room 225
- From: Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director Hawaii Workforce Development Council

Re: GM 504 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Perreira-Eustaquio, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.

I am submitting testimony in strong support of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

The Workforce Development Council is administratively attached to the department. In the last six years that I have worked within the department, I have found Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio to be a strong and compassionate leader, intelligent, articulate and willing to listen objectively. She is fair and even tempered.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has committed her entire 32 years of public service in DLIR focused on the intricacies of the unemployment insurance system. She has the experience and knowledge of the department and is well poised to tackle the current challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I have every confidence that her professional skills will continue to move the department forward. She is the right person for the directorship at this time.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in strong support. I urge the Committee to confirm Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's nomination.

JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE EUSTAQUIO DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

> SHERYL LEE ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS WAGE STANDARDS DIVISION

WAGE STANDARDS DIVISION 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 340 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 www.labor.hawaii.gov/wsd Phone: (808) 586-8777 / Fax: (808) 586-8766 Email: dlir.wages@hawaii.gov

February 1, 2021

- To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
- Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Time: 3:00 PM

Place: Conference Room 225

From: Sheryl Lee, Administrator Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Wage Standards Division

Re: GM 504 Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to Serve as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara Jr., and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sheryl Lee and I am the Administrator for the Wage Standards Division of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I strongly support the confirmation of Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the DLIR. Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's leadership as the past Administrator for the Unemployment Insurance Division and as current Director, demonstrated she has the capability and knowledge of leading the DLIR though the utmost trying times that the department is currently facing. Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio is well suited to carry on the mission and initiatives of the DLIR.

Therefore, I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's nomination to serve as the Director of the DLIR as she will provide excellent leadership and service to the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustquio.

"Service With Aloha to Improve the Quality of Work-Life in Hawaii"

JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



DAMIEN A. ELEFANTE CHAIR

MELANIE S. MATSUI MEMBER

MARIE C.L. LADERTA MEMBER

LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS APPEALS BOARD KEELIKOLANI BUILDING 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 404 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 (808) 586-8600

February 1, 2021

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, The Honorable Les Ihara. Jr., Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Time: 3:00 p.m.

From: Damien A. Elefante, Chair Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board

Re: Support of GOV. MSG NO. 504

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts. I am testifying in support of GM 504 for the confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

In my capacity as LIRAB Chair, I have worked with Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio and witnessed her leadership and management of the Department of Labor. She has over thirty years of experience working for state government in the Department of Labor. This has provided her with an inner understanding of the administrative process and procedure within the Department, which is an asset for the State. Finally, her goal to transform the Department and restore the public's trust in government is fundamentally important.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for GM 504 in support of the confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN LT. GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR CHAIRMAN HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE, AND THE ARTS HEARING ON FEBRUARY 3, 2021 AT 3:00PM IN CR 225

IN SUPPORT OF

GM504

for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, **ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO**, for a term to expire 12-05-2022

February 3, 2021

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the Committee:

We provide this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio's experiences as an Auditor, Program Specialist, Program Development Officer, and Administrator for the Unemployment Insurance Division serve her well for this appointment. Her goals are to serve the community, and to restore the public's trust in government. We look forward to continuing to work with Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio.

We respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination, and we thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

CURT T. OTAGURO COMPTROLLER

AUDREY HIDANO DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

FEBRUARY 3, 2021, 3:00 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 225, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 504

SUBMITTING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 504. I support the nomination of Ms. Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio to the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has led the DLIR as Deputy Director since October 2019. She has also served as the UI program development officer since 2012. In addition, Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio worked as a program specialist V & VI at UI from 2000 to 2012.

She has a proven track record of team leadership within DLIR. Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio would be leveraging 30 years of experience within DLIR to improve the organization as well as restore the public's trust in government. I had the pleasure to work closely with Anne during the pandemic in 2020 and found her to be a tremendous leader with insight to get things done.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM HAWAI'I EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER



CRAIG K. HIRAI DIRECTOR

ROBERT YU DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE P.O. BOX 150 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE AND ROBERT YU DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 504

February 3, 2021 3:00 p.m. Room 225

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee:

We strongly support the appointment of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to the position of director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

Governor Ige's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our state in a direct and forthright manner. We strive to do the right thing, the right way to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable economy to support our keiki, our kupuna, and the disadvantaged.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio is an integral part of a team that is committed to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has been serving as director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations since September 2020. Prior to that, she served as the department's deputy director and held various positions in DLIR's Unemployment Insurance Division for 30 years. Her work experience and knowledge of DLIR will benefit the department and the State; therefore, we support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN CHIEF F ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5TH Floor, Honolulu, HI 96813 | energy.hawaii.gov

(808) 587-3807

Testimony of SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 3:00 PM Via Videoconference

In SUPPORT of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 504, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO As Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (Written Testimony Only)

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee, I am writing in support of the appointment of Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio to serve as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has admirably led the Department as the acting Director, especially through the COVID emergency. Under her leadership, unemployment insurance processing has steadily improved and public understanding has increased regarding the immense challenges for the Department to process an unprecedented number of claims and integrate new federal funds into its current technology. She is proactive in informing the public about developments in federal funding and how DLIR is working to integrate and make it available. She is proactive and collaborative with other departments and understands the department needs, strengths, and areas for improvement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE EUSTAQUIO DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MARICAR PILOTIN-FREITAS ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 329 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 www.hawaii.gov/labor Phone: (808) 586-8877 / Fax. (808) 586-8822 Email: dlir.workforce develop@hawaii.gov

February 2, 2021

To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, The Honorable Les Ihara Jr., Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

From: Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Administrator Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Workforce Development Division

<u>GM 504 Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to Serve as Director of the Department of Labor and</u> <u>Industrial Relations</u>

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara Jr., and Members of the Committee:

My name is Maricar Pilotin-Freitas and I am the Administrator for the Workforce Development Division of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I <u>strongly support</u> the confirmation of Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio for over 15 years. Our interactions when she served in her various capacities and as the Administrator for the Unemployment Insurance Division leads me to believe that she would be perfectly suited for advancing the department's mission and initiatives.

I urge you to confirm Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to serve as the Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations where, if confirmed, she will provide excellent leadership and service to the people of the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Anne Perreira-Eustaquio.

JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JOANN A. VIDINHAR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 <u>www.labor.hawaii.gov</u> Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099 Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

February 3, 2021

- To: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
- Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021
- Time: 3:00 p.m.
- Place: Via Videoconference
- From: Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: G.M. No. 504 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee,

The DLIR is testifying in <u>strong support</u> of Governor's Message 504, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio, as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Anne has demonstrated that she has the leadership and experience to lead the DLIR. Before serving as the Director, Anne served as the Acting Director and Deputy Director during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Anne worked tirelessly to address the highvolume computer issues and spearheaded the redeployment of hundreds of state workers to assist in the processing of unemployment insurance claims. She also addressed employee COVID-19 concerns and quickly implemented a telework program.

As the Director, Anne worked with the Legislature to obtain funds to modernize the Unemployment Insurance system and executed a contract to do so. Anne also continues to work with the Unemployment Insurance Division to improve claims processing and responses to claimants. Anne's enthusiasm and energy for serving the community have inspired employees to persevere through this challenging time.

We urge you to confirm Anne to serve as the Director of the DLIR so that she may continue to provide leadership and service to the public.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Anne.

JOSH GREEN M.D. LT. GOVERNOR





STATE OF HAWAII **DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION** P.O. BOX 259 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540 FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

To:	: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair;		
	The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair;		
	and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts		
From:	Isaac W. Choy, Director		
	Department of Taxation		
Date:	February 3, 2021		
Time:	3:00 P.M.		
Place:	Via Videoconference, Hawaii State Capitol		

Re: G.M. 504, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Perreira-Eustaquio

I am in <u>strong support</u> of G.M. 504 and the confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has served in various positions at the DLIR for over 30 years. She has an intricate knowledge of the operations and follows team-focused method of leadership. She is well respected by the DLIR staff and I believe that she will excel as the Director of the DLIR.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of the confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director of the DLIR.

<u>GM-504</u>

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 1:32:35 PM Testimony for LCA on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Will Caron	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please oppose the nomination of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio to the DLIR. Her time at the DLIR during this extremely critical period of difficulty for so many workers has been a diasaster. There has been no transparency and no accountability for the painfully slow rate at which Hawaii workers have been receiving unemployment throughout the pandemic. We deserve better, and I have confidence that new leadership can provide better.

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov Telephone: (80 Fax: (80

(808) 586-2355 (808) 586-2377

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Statement of MIKE MCCARTNEY Director Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

> Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 225

> > In consideration of **GM504**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO, for a term to expire at noon on 12-5-2022.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee.

I am writing in support of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio, to serve as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Anne has been supporting the state's unemployment agency for over three decades, in various positions from auditor, program development officer to deputy director and acting director. Her varied and extensive job responsibilities will give a wide perspective to support the state's unemployment challenge during this time. She is committed to transforming the department and leading it forward to restore the public's trust.

I strongly support the confirmation of gubernatorial candidate, Anne Perreira-Eustaquio, as Director of the Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY DIRECTOR



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 MAX N. OTANI DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook Deputy Director Administration

Tommy Johnson Deputy Director Corrections

Jordan Lowe Deputy Director Law Enforcement

No.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 504 NOMINATION OF ANNE PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS By Max Otani, Director

Senate Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chari

Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 3:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Via Videoconference

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support for the confirmation of Anne Perreira-Eustaquio as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). Ms. Perreira-Eustaquio has stepped up to the unprecedented challenges faced by DLIR in serving Hawaii's people who became unemployed in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which decimated the state's economy. We were very fortunate to find such a competent individual to take on the responsibility of a department under incredible pressure to perform amid intensive public scrutiny. The pandemic has forced departments to "think outside of the box" to deliver services to the public under oftentimes difficult conditions, and Anne has the determination, experience, and ingenuity to get the job done.

I humbly ask that you give Anne your favorable consideration for the position of Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.