### ALAN S. HAYASHI 207-4 Kawaihae Street Honolulu, Hawaii

March 30, 2022

- TO: COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS
  Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
  Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
  Committee Members: Senators Stanley Chang, Jarrett Keohokalole, Kurt Favella
- FROM: Alan S. Hayashi, Chairman Hawaii Workforce Development Council

SUBJECT: GM 764 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee CHERYL CROSS for a term to expire June 30, 2026.

Honorable Senator Taniguchi, Chairman of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts, and Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Jr., and Committee Members Senators Stanley Chang, Jarret Keohokalole and Kurt Favella:

My name is Alan Hayashi, Chairman of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council (WDC). We strongly support GM 764, the nomination of Cheryl Cross to the WDC.

Ms. Cross is an independent management consultant for small to medium businesses, working directly for short term, turn-around and build-out engagements. She most recently spent the last 6 years at Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., in talent acquisition and management filling openings with Department of Defense funded positions in Hawaii. She has over 35 years of human resources, training, marketing, and communications experience.

Ms. Cross is familiar with the WDC as a volunteer public member serving on the Employer Engagement Committee since 2018, and taking the lead on projects that included the development of videos highlighting the services of the American Job Centers throughout the State, and the outreach plan to reach more employers to engage with the State workforce system.

WDC will benefit from Ms. Cross' understanding of meeting the needs of employers and continued strategic thinking and workforce development ideas participating in the Employer Engagement Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE PERREIRA- EUSTAQUIO DIRECTOR

> JOANN A. VIDINHAR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS www.labor.hawaii.gov

## March 30, 2022

- 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, March 30, 2022
- Time: 3:00 p.m.
- Place: Conference Room 225, State Capitol
- From: Anne Perreira-Eustaquio, Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

# Re: GM 764 Cheryl Cross – Member of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council

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

My name is Anne Perreira-Eustaquio, and I am the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. The Department <u>strongly supports</u> the appointment of Ms. Cheryl Cross to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Ms. Cross brings 35 years as a professional in the areas of human resources, talent management and acquisition, training, marketing, and communications, most recently at Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., focusing on recruiting and staffing of positions funded through the Department of Defense in Hawaii.

The Department believes Ms. Cross' extensive experience in human resources and communications, leadership skills and understanding of workforce needs will enable her to provide valuable service as a member of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Ms. Cross as member of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

# CHERYL A. CROSS

Honolulu, HI 96825 · 808-953-7432

March 25, 2022

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

Re: Testimony of GM 764 Gubernatorial Nominee Cheryl Cross to the Workforce Development Council for a term to expire June 30, 2026 Hearing: Wednesday, March 30, 2021, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

Good afternoon, Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts, I am Cheryl Cross and I am a nominee for the Workforce Development Council supporting the State of Hawaii.

For the past four years, I have served as a member of the WDC- Oahu Employer Engagement Committee. As an active and engaged committee member, I worked on several initiatives to include the organizational development and communications efforts to support the State of Hawaii American Job Centers (AJC). This time has enabled me to learn more about our WIOA mandated training, programs, and initiatives. While I hope to continue as a member of this important committee, my desire to serve in a greater role would be to have a formal seat on the Workforce Development Council Board of Directors - Oahu.

Having spent 35 years as a professional in the areas of Human Resources, Talent Management, Talent Acquisition, Training, Marketing and Communications, I am poised to align my past experiences and knowledge to this important Council seat.

As a former Commissioner for the State of California, in the City of Hermosa Beach and Los Angeles County, I understand both Federal and State systems and will bring that knowledge to the Council role. During my two years as a Commissioner in California, I dedicated my efforts to the education, communications and training initiatives for the City, Region (Area G) and State of California.

I am a proud resident of the City and County of Honolulu in Hawaii Kai. During my 5 years in Hawaii, I have worked as a professional management consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton, and continue to act as an independent consultant and advisor. While here, I have focused on the hiring and retention of several hundred staff in the Indo-Pacific region, to include Hawaii. I am a staunch advocate and recognized leader in the field of Human Resources and Talent Acquisition and am often asked to speak on topics of Recruiting and Retention or Military to Veteran and Military Spouse Employment Support. Being a 'connector,' I have created strong alliances and stakeholder relationships to support both professional and civic interests. Since 2017, I have served as active board member for OWL, the Organization of Women Leaders-Oahu and am the upcoming President for 2023. In 2020, I was awarded "Woman of the Year" by the same organization.

I appreciate your review of my qualifications and thank you for allowing me to express my interest in joining this esteemed Council and serving the State of Hawaii and Oahu in this vital role.

Sincerely yours,

<u>Cheryl A. Cross</u>

Cheryl A. Cross

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

From: Jon Paul Akeo, HR Professional

RE: Testimony of GM 764 Gubernatorial Nominee Cheryl Cross to the Workforce Development Council for a term to expire June 30, 2026 Hearing: Wednesday, March 30, 2021, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

#### **POSITION: Strong Support**

Good afternoon Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts, I am Jon Paul Akeo, an HR Professional, testifying in strong support of Ms. Cheryl Cross' confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2025. Ms. Cross would fill a slot reserved for a private sector business member on the Council.

As an established human resource professional here within the State of Hawaii, I have known Cheryl Cross for the past five years, on both a personal and professional level.

Cheryl has experienced as well as established 35 years of professional milestones in the knowledge management areas of Human Resources, Talent Management, Talent Acquisition, Training, and Marketing and Communications. In addition, prior to her arrival in the "land of aloha," Cheryl served as a former Commissioner for the State of California, in the City of Hermosa Beach and Los Angeles County. Because of this, she is truly able to integrate and connect the necessary federal and/or state systems when they need to converge, should the need arise as part of her new role. In addition, during her two years as a Commissioner in California, Cheryl dedicated her efforts to the education, communications and training initiatives for the City, Region (Area G) and State of California. I see her being able to easily apply a transference of her skills, abilities and experiential knowledge into our State of Hawaii workforce development initiatives and priorities.

Cheryl has worked for a professional management consultant firm as a Talent Acquisition consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton, and continues to act as an independent consultant and advisor. She is also a strong advocate and recognized leader in the field of Human Resources and Talent Acquisition and is often asked to speak in various forums on relative topics of expertise such as: Recruiting and Retention, Women In Business, College/University Internships, Military Transitioning to Private Sector, or Military Spouse Employment Support. Cheryl also champions and creates strong alliances and stakeholder relationships to support both professional and civic interests. Since 2017, she has served as an active board member for the Organization of Women Leaders (OWL) on Oahu and is slated for the upcoming President seat for 2023. In 2020, she was also awarded "Woman of the Year" by the same organization. In addition to these noteworthy professional organizations, some others that come to mind are the YWCA O'ahu, the military's Transition Assistance Program (TAPS) and countless other volunteer opportunities.

In conjunction with this current appointment consideration, for the past four years, Cheryl has also continued to serve as a member of the Workforce Development Council (WDC)-Oahu Employer Engagement Committee. She has worked on several initiatives to include the organizational development and communications efforts to support the State of Hawaii American Job Centers (AJC). Her tenured time already earned with WDC, has truly given her ramp-up time in enabling her to learn more about the organization's WIOA mandated training, programs, and initiatives. In addition, with my own membership of the National and State Hawaii Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, a few of my own human resources colleagues who I know and who already sit on the WDC, will be greatly value-added, in having Cheryl join their professional ranks in meeting the mission and vision of the WDC.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Ms. Cross as a member of the Workforce Development Council where she would be a valuable asset to the Council.

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