

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2018

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAY 02 2023

RE: GOV. MSG. NOS. 622,  
623, 642, 645

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2023  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 622, 623, 642, and 645, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD

G.M. No. 622	PAUL ALEJADO, for a term to expire 06-30-2027;
G.M. No. 623	ERIC HIGASHIHARA, for a term to expire 06-30-2027;
G.M. No. 642	RANDALL LAU, for a term to expire 06-30-2027; and
G.M. No. 645	DARYL SUEHIRO, for a term to expire 06-30-2024,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal histories, resumes, and statements submitted by Paul Alejado, Eric Higashihara, Randall Lau, and Daryl Suehiro for service on the Contractors License Board.

PAUL ALEJADO

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the reappointment of Paul Alejado from the Contractors License Board; Commercial Roofing & Waterproofing HI,

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Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the nomination for the reappointment of Paul Alejado from one individual. Your Committee notes that the testimony submitted in opposition to this nominee contained no substantive information or commentary relating to his reappointment.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Alejado's experience, knowledge, and proven leadership on the Contractors License Board qualify him for reappointment to the Contractors License Board as a general contractor member. Your Committee notes that Mr. Alejado has over thirty-five years of experience in the construction industry and has been licensed as a general building contractor in Hawaii since 2004. Mr. Alejado currently serves as the President of Noa Pacific Construction and prior to that worked as a field superintendent and chief estimator for bidding and securing projects. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Alejado has served on the Contractors License Board since 2019 and his experience and knowledge will continue to be assets to the Contractors License Board. Your Committee therefore recommends that Paul Alejado be reappointed to the Contractors License Board based on his experience, knowledge, and commitment to public service.

#### ERIC HIGASHIHARA

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the reappointment of Eric Higashihara from the Contractors License Board and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the nomination for the reappointment of Eric Higashihara from one individual. Your Committee notes that the testimony submitted in opposition to this nominee contained no substantive information or commentary relating to his reappointment.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Higashihara's knowledge, background, and proven leadership on the Contractors License Board qualify him for reappointment to the Contractors License Board as a public member. Your Committee notes that Mr. Higashihara has over twenty-five years of experience as a private wealth advisor and has owned an Ameriprise Financial franchise since 1997. Additionally, Mr. Higashihara has served on several boards and committees, including on the Board of Trustees at Assets School, as a Finance Committee member for Mid-Pacific Country Club, as Treasurer for Punahou Aquatics, and on the Board of Governors of the Japanese Cultural Center of



Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Higashihara has served on the Contractors License Board since 2019 and his background and perspective as a public member will continue to enhance the effectiveness of the Contractors License Board. Your Committee therefore recommends that Eric Higashihara be reappointed to the Contractors License Board based on his knowledge, experience, and continued desire to serve the public.

#### RANDALL LAU

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Randall Lau from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the nomination for the appointment of Randall Lau from one individual. Your Committee notes that the testimony submitted in opposition to this nominee contained no substantive information or commentary relating to his appointment.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Lau's experience, background, and proven leadership on the Contractors License Board qualify him for appointment to the Contractors License Board as a general contractor member. Your Committee notes that Mr. Lau has thirty-five years of experience in the construction industry and has been licensed as a general building contractor in Hawaii since 1991. Mr. Lau is currently the principal RME for CEG Solutions, LLC and prior to that was a consultant and sole proprietor for Randy Lau & Associates. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Lau previously served on the Contractors License Board from 2010-2014 and served four years as the Chair. Mr. Lau's professional background and prior leadership experience will be assets to the Contractors License Board. Your Committee therefore recommends that Randall Lau be appointed to the Contractors License Board based on his experience, background, and dedication to public service.

#### DARYL SUEHIRO

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Daryl Suehiro from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Electrical Contractor's Association of Hawai'i, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 1186, and Hawaii Electricians Market Enhancement Program. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the nomination to the appointment of Daryl Suehiro from one individual. Your Committee notes that the testimony



submitted in opposition to this nominee contained no substantive information or commentary relating to his appointment.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Suehiro's experience, background, and prior leadership on the Contractors License Board qualify him for appointment to the Contractors License Board as a specialty contractor member. Your Committee notes that Mr. Suehiro has over thirty-five years of experience working as a licensed electrical contractor and licensed journey worker electrician. Mr. Suehiro is currently the President of D. Suehiro Electric, Inc., and the Vice President of 808 Underground Utilities, Inc. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Suehiro previously served on the Contractors License Board from 2008 to 2016 and his experience as a specialty contractor and unique knowledge will continue to be assets to the Contractors License Board. Your Committee therefore recommends that Daryl Suehiro be appointed to the Contractors License Board based on his experience, knowledge, and desire to serve his community.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominees, has found the nominees to be qualified for the positions to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce and  
Consumer Protection,



JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**CPN**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 622</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPN</b>	Date: <b>4/19/23</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report                      Clerk's Office                      Drafting Agency                      Committee File Copy				

\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes

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**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**CPN**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 623</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPN</b>	Date: <b>4/19/23</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345</span>				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

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**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**CPN**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 645</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPN</b>	Date: <b>4/19/23</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345</span>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

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