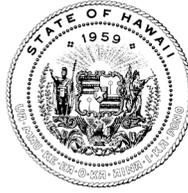


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



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 WAYS AND MEANS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 531
NOMINATION OF SABRINA NASIR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
FINANCE
Friday, March 31, 2023

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of Governor Josh Green's nomination of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nasir has been a public policy professional for more than a decade and has served as the Special Project Assistant Manager for Budget and Finance and as Senior Special Assistant at the Office of the Governor. In these roles, she researched policy issues, consulted with stakeholders, and tracked state and federal policy developments to maximize federal funding opportunities for the state.

She also served as Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Project Manager for the Harbors Division at the Department of Transportation, and as a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator for the East-West Center.

With her extensive experience developing, managing, and executing projects in government and research institutions, I am pleased to support her confirmation.

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



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

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

Friday, March 31, 2023
10:30 A.M.
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
State Capitol

In consideration of
Governor's Message 531
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of
Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as
the Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

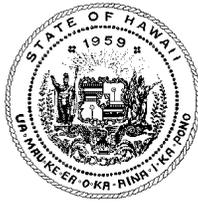
Ms. Nasir received her M. A. in Demographic and Social Analysis from the University of
California, Irvine, her M.S.c. in Globalization and Development from the University of
London, and her B.A. in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Ms. Nasir has held various positions within the state, most recently, she served as the
Special Project Assistant Manager for B&F. Prior to that she served as Senior Special
Assistant at the Office of the Governor, Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means
Committee, and Project Manager for the Harbors Division at the DOT.

In these roles, Ms. Nasir was responsible to research policy issues, consult with
stakeholders and monitor federal legislation to maximize federal funding opportunities
for the state. She has the background and knowledge of state operations to serve as
Deputy Director for B&F.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Michael J. Hoffman
Acting Deputy Director
Corrections

William F. Oku
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 531
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE SABRINA NASIR

By
Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Friday, March 31, 2023; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Via Video Conference

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in strong support of the nomination and confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget, and Finance (B&F). Her impressively vast knowledge of government operations, and work experience with the State and private sector, coupled with her advanced education, make Ms. Nasir an ideal leadership team partner to the Director of B&F to move the department forward.

She clearly has the prerequisite knowledge, honed leadership, managerial skills, and interpersonal skills required of such a complex and diverse position. I strongly urge the committee to recommend advise and consent for this highly qualified nominee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531 and the confirmation of Ms. Nasir.

JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

RYAN YAMANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

Statement of
Ryan Yamane
Deputy Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
GM531 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for
a term to expire 12-07-2026

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran, and the members of the committee.

I would like to submit my testimony in support for the appointment of Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I have only recently worked with Ms. Nasir and during those short few months she has displayed a high level of work ethic and commitment to supporting the State of Hawaii.

Ms. Nasir is dedicated to public service and has worked hard to support the State of Hawaii and the Legislature. In her current role as Deputy Director, she has displayed transparency, commitment, and responsiveness.

Prior to Ms. Nasir's position as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance she served as a Special Project Assistant Manager for the Federal Relief Program, where she helped lead the department for federal Broadband funding. Sabrina continues to be a conscientious and caring person, dedicated to working with others and supporting our State.

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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



JORDAN LOWE
DIRECTOR

MICHAEL VINCENT
Deputy Director
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

VACANT
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY
TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 531
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF SABRINA NASIR
TO BE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF
BUDGET AND FINANCE

By
Jordan Lowe, Director

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 31, 2023; 10:00 a.m.
CR 211 & Via Video Conference

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget & Finance (B&F).

Ms. Nasir has extensive work experience in planning and management work. Her many years of work experiences, along with her impressive academic achievements make her a highly qualified candidate to take on the complexities of the duties and responsibilities, and the authority as the Deputy Director for B&F.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531 and the confirmation of Ms. Nasir.

JOSH GREEN
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 531,
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE SABRINA NASIR

PRESENTATION TO
THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
ADJUTANT GENERAL,
DIRECTOR OF HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY,
AND HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISOR

MARCH 28, 2023

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

I am Major General Kenneth Hara, Adjutant General, Director of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and Homeland Security Advisor, Department of Defense, State of Hawaii.

I respectfully submit testimony in **SUPPORT of GM531**, relating to the Gubernatorial Nomination of Ms. Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nasir will be an invigorating addition to the Department of Budget and Finance. She possesses expertise and experience in understanding the state's budget operations and has a diverse background in federal and state legislation and policy development. The state will need to navigate through tough economic challenges in the days ahead. Ms. Nasir's pragmatic understanding of the state's budget process and her experience with strategic planning and analysis at the department and the most senior levels of the administration will provide leadership and ideas to develop policies that will assist departments to operate more efficiently and effectively.

My senior staff has worked with Ms. Nasir in previous years and our experiences have been positive. She listens to problems and tries to find solutions. Her service in Governor Ige's administration, working at the department level, and serving as the Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means committee has provided her with a breath of experience and the opportunity to develop and foster relationships that will prove invaluable. Ms. Nasir has been deeply committed to her work and has a genuine interest to serve the people of Hawaii. She is someone I would be honored to serve with and am confident she will be a pillar to help guide and lead our state into the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

MG Kenneth S. Hara: kenneth.s.hara@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1001.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



THOMAS WILLIAMS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KANOE MARGOL
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Governor's Message No. 531, Consideration and Confirmation of Ms. Sabrina Nasir as the
Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

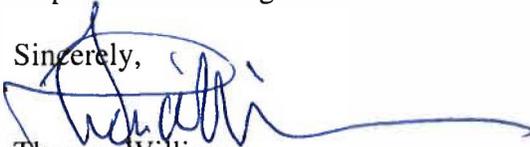
I am writing to express my support of the confirmation of Ms. Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy
Director of the Department of Budget and Finance for a term to expire on December 7, 2026.

Ms. Nasir has gained deep experience in financial management including development and
planning the State's economic policies as a Senior Special Assistant in the Office of the
Governor and as a Project Manager for the Harbors Division of the State Department of
Transportation. During her tenure with the Office of the Governor, she worked with the
Department of Budget and Finance Office of Federal Awards Management on federal funding
opportunities for the state. Ms. Nasir's experience includes her having served as Budget Chief,
Capitol Improvements Program Specialist and Budget Analyst for the Ways and Means
Committee. A former Chairwoman of the Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. Representative
Jill Tokuda, speaks reverently of the integrity and skills of Ms. Nasir.

Ms. Nasir has demonstrated strong knowledge of the complex financial issues facing the ERS,
the Executive Branch and the State more broadly. Ms. Nasir brings invaluable professional
experience, energy and new perspective to her role. I have worked very effectively with
Ms. Nasir since her appointment and have benefitted from her leadership and collaboration.

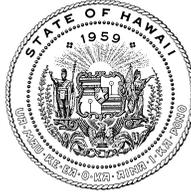
For these reasons I urge the Committee to confirm Ms. Nasir as Deputy Director of the
Department of Budget and Finance.

Sincerely,


Thomas Williams
Executive Director



Employees' Retirement System
of the State of Hawaii



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawaii

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 531

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

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 531, appointment of Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina's extensive work and leadership experiences in developing, managing, and executing projects in government, non-governmental organizations, and research institutions make her well-equipped to carry out the responsibilities of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Her former work experiences in state government include serving as Senior Special Assistant of the Office of the Governor; Project Manager under the Department of Transportation Harbors Division Deputy Director's Office; and CIP Specialist and Budget Chief of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Since December 2022, Sabrina has been serving as Deputy Director-nominee to the Department of Budget and Finance and has demonstrated her ability to carry out the responsibilities of the Department in managing public fund expenditures, state investments and financing, federal awards management and compliance, and administrative functions for attached agencies.

Sabrina also brings to the Department of Budget and Finance a strong grasp of government and its processes, budgeting, and public policy, all of which are necessary in administering the development of the State's financial plans, administering the State

Budget, and providing programs for the improvement of management and financial management of state agencies. Her experience developing, managing, and executing projects in government and research institutions have been invaluable to the review and scrutiny necessary in the state budgetary process and the work of the Department.

Sabrina cares deeply about public service and the people of Hawaii. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sabrina worked with the Legal Clinic to develop and administer a program that delivered grocery cards for low-income immigrant communities adversely affected by the pandemic. Her Ph.D. focused on socioeconomic inequality in Hawaii, and she held positions as a researcher at the University of California, Irvine and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator at the East-West Center.

Sabrina earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley; Master of Science in Globalization and Development from the SOAS University of London; and Master of Arts in Demographic and Social Analysis and Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology, both from the University of California, Irvine. Sabrina also holds a Certificate in Government Retirement, Risk Management, and Procurement from the Government Finance Officers Association's Certified Public Finance Officers Program, which prepares individuals for leadership positions in state and local governments through enhanced fundamental skills and increased knowledge of best practices and standards in public finance.

Sabrina's extensive work experiences, dedication to public service, hard work ethic, and ability to enable a positive work culture of teamwork and accomplishment solidify her ability to help lead and carry out the responsibilities of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I am confident that Sabrina Nasir's professional and educational attributes will enable her to serve the State and community well as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Mahalo for your consideration.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 AM
Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 531

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SABRINA NASIR,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026**

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 531, to consider and confirm Ms. Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Over the past several years, I have had the honor and privilege of knowing and working with Ms. Nasir, first while she served as a budget analyst, then Capital Improvements Program Specialist, and then as the Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and also when she served as Governor Ige's designee on the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) Board of Directors, where she played an important role in providing policy guidance with a focus on improving the living conditions of the families and communities we serve.

Currently serving as the acting Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F), I can wholeheartedly say that there have been many positive changes that I have seen when it comes to the processing of HPHA's requests through B&F, and her leadership has shown in

meetings that I attended with her, where she asks smart questions and provides prompt follow up answers to questions that were asked of her.

Ms. Nasir is an approachable, pleasant and hard-working individual who has a surplus of knowledge in the areas of creating the State Operating and Capital Improvements Program budgets and her extensive institutional knowledge and experience in State budget policy issues that affect all State departments and agencies will be invaluable to our community in establishing and implementing Governor Green's and the Legislature's long-range goals for the State.

Please know that Ms. Nasir is an exceptional human being with high moral character and integrity. She is someone you can trust to do what is right for the State and our people, and she will provide vision and leadership to advance our State forward in a positive direction.

The HPHA urges the Committee to pass GM 531 and confirm Ms. Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR, DBEDT



ALOHA STADIUM

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

BRENNON MORIOKA
VICE CHAIRMAN, STADIUM AUTHORITY

RYAN G. ANDREWS
STADIUM MANAGER

RUSSELL UCHIDA
DEPUTY STADIUM MANAGER

March 31, 2023

TESTIMONY
OF
RYAN G. ANDREWS, STADIUM MANAGER
STADIUM AUTHORITY
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS
ON
March 31, 2023
10:00 A.M.
Room 211 and by Video Conference

G.M. 531

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of Dr. Sabrina Nasir.

Dr. Nasir comes to the State of Hawaii, Department of Budget and Finance with quite an extensive and impressive educational and professional background. Dr. Nasir's wealth of knowledge and experience in both the public and private sectors of finance as well as working at various levels of state government service will undoubtedly be beneficial to the State of Hawaii. I am appreciative of Dr. Nasir taking the time and energy to analyze the complexities of financing a new multi-sport and entertainment facility and participating in dialogue on the subject. My experience in working with her has been professional, transparent, and efficient.

With this skillset, I believe Dr. Nasir will be a tremendous asset to state government and a definite asset to effectively navigate the complex financial responsibilities of the Department of Budget and Finance.

G.M. 531
March 31, 2023
Page 2

As such, I respectfully ask for the Committee's favorable consideration in confirming gubernatorial nominee, Dr. Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance for a present term to expire on December 7, 2026.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testify in support of Dr. Nasir's confirmation.

JOSH GREEN
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 531,
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE SABRINA NASIR

PRESENTATION TO
THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY

BRIGADIER GENERAL STEPHEN F. LOGAN
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL,

MARCH 28, 2023

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

I am Brigadier General Stephen Logan, Deputy Adjutant General, Department of Defense, State of Hawaii.

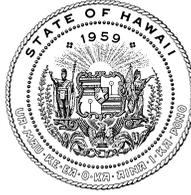
I respectfully submit testimony in **SUPPORT of GM531**, relating to the Gubernatorial Nomination of Mrs. Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nasir is someone I have appreciated and enjoyed working with as a peer. Her expertise and experience in understanding the state's budget operations will prove invaluable as the state navigates through the economic challenges that lie ahead. She is also well versed in policy development at both the state and federal levels, and I believe her pragmatic approach and understanding of the state's budget will help her support the Budget and Finance Director in developing policies that will streamline bureaucracy and make departments more efficient and effective.

Ms. Nasir has always been insightful and thoughtful when helping the Department of Defense in the past as the Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means Committee. She seeks to help us solve our problems and our staff has always found her open to compromise, and all our experiences have been positive. She is a devoted public servant that I would be honored to serve with, and I hope you give her the opportunity to serve the people of our state.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

BG Stephen F. Logan, stephen.f.logan@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1003.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of **James Koshiba**
Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness
Before the
Senate Committee on Ways & Means
March 31, 2023
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 212

In consideration of
GM 531

CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & FINANCE,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE SABRINA NASIR, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget & Finance.

Given her past experience and leadership roles, I believe Ms. Nasir has the knowledge, skillset, and leadership abilities to excel in this position. Furthermore, in the short time I have worked with her in this new administration, I have found Ms. Nasir's experience and knowledge to be invaluable to myself and others. I believe she will make an excellent Deputy Director of the Department of Budget & Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531.



**STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
COMMISSION
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809**

Co-Chairs:
Chair, DLNR
Director, OPSD

Commissioners:
Chair, Senate AEN
Chair, Senate WTL
Chair, House EEP
Chair, House WAL
Chairperson, HTA
Chairperson, DOA
CEO, OHA
Chairperson, DHHL
Director, DBEDT
Director, DOT
Director, DOH
Chairperson, DOE
Director, C+C DPP
Director, Maui DP
Director, Hawai'i DP
Director, Kaua'i DP
The Adjutant General
Manager, CZM

**Testimony of
Leah Laramee
Coordinator, Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference**

**In consideration of
Governors Message 531
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

Governors Message 531 nominates Sabrina Nasir for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the, Department of Budget and Finance, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. **The Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this bill.**

The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. Sabrina Nasir is a dedicated civil servant and would serve Hawai'i well in this role. At her time as the Senior Speial Assistant to Governor Ige, Sabrina navigated difficult issues and complex concepts with ease. Sabrina worked hard to ensure that Hawai'i was well represented on the national level while supporting many diverse initiatives at home. Sabrina has the skillset and knowledge required for this position but she also has a unique background which brings a needed balance to the position. Serving at the deputy director of budget and finance requires strong financial knowledge but it also requires strong interpersonal skills and a broad knowledge base to be able to understand and communicate between state departments, legislature and external agencies. Sabrina has that capacity. As Hawai'i becomes the recipient of more federal dollars through IJA and IRA we will need a strong leader like Sabrina to help us navigate the influx of funding and get it spent in the allotted time. She has this capacity and will serve the state well in this role.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023
10:00 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 & VIDEOCONFERENCE**

GOVERNORS MESSAGE NO. 531

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, **SABRINA NASIR**, for a term to expire noon on 12-07-2026.

Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir, as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

Dr. Nasir has held positions of increasing responsibility since receiving her PhD in Sociology from the University of California, Irvine. Her work history starts as a College Outreach Specialist with GEAR UP, where she conducted college outreach to the students at Waipahu Intermediate School, then joined the government staff as Budget Analyst, CIP Specialist, Budget Chief on the Ways and Means Committee, and Senior Special Assistant to Governor Ige, where she coordinated state agencies to seek federal grants.

Sabrina adds community service, proficiency with software applications, and two publications to her resume. She is multi-skilled and is the right person for the position.

Respectfully requesting your vote to confirm Sabrina Nasir's nomination to serve as Deputy Director, B&F.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Ka 'Oihana 'Auhau
P.O. BOX 259

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**TESTIMONY OF
GARY S. SUGANUMA, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION**

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

In consideration of G.M. No. 531

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial nominee, Sabrina Nasir

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Friday, March 31, 2023
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Ms. Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

I believe that Ms. Nasir's experience in the legislature and experience in public policy, budget, research, and financial analysis provides her with a strong foundation to help lead B&F. I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Nasir on issues related to several bills this session and have been impressed by her ability to understand and quickly grasp issues and offer helpful suggestions. I believe Ms. Nasir will do a great job if given the opportunity to continue to serve in her current position.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 AM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

**In Consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 531
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SABRINA NASIR,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON 12-07-2026**

Governor's Message 531 submits for consideration as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance (B&F), Sabrina Nasir, for a term to expire on December 7, 2026. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly support this nomination.**

The Department had the pleasure of working with Dr. Nasir when she was the Senate Committee on Ways and Means budget analyst many years ago. We found her to be professional, prepared and always pleasant to work with. Since Ms. Nasir has been the Deputy Director, the Department staff have worked closely with her and Budget Director Luis Salaveria. Ms. Nasir has taken the time to meet with and assist Department's Division of State Parks and Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation with practical guidance on how to quickly move through funds so that repairs can be made to State Parks and State boating facilities in a timely manner. The Department is grateful for Ms. Nasir's availability and willingness to work together with the Departments and other departments to fix slow processes and set departments up for success.

Several themes run through Dr. Nasir's career that point to success as the Deputy Director of B&F. First, she has strong analytical skills. As a researcher, she is able to gather and analyze data to help make decisions about next steps. Second, she has strong collaborative skills. Her work alternated between a need to work directly with people she wants to help and a focus on analysis. At the Governor's office she seemed to be able to bring both sides together as she worked on budget analysis, policy and developed communication documents, represented the Governor on various boards, and

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

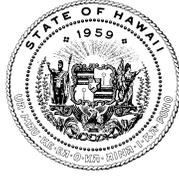
consulted with stakeholders in helping the governor develop responses to various federal, legislative or group concerns.

Dr. Nasir will bring strong analytic skills as well as strong collaborative skills to B&F. She is passionate about work that improves people's lives and reduces inequality. As such she will be in the right place at the right time as our state seeks to balance the inequities leading to a lack of housing, low wages and high poverty rates.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Governor's Message 531.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawai'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawai'i*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRMAN, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. DUCATT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawai'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
HEARING ON MARCH 31, 2023 AT 10:00AM IN CR 211**

IN SUPPORT OF

GM 531

for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Budget and Finance,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **SABRINA NASIR**,
for a term to expire 12-07-2026

March 31, 2023

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

Early in the legislative session, DHHL needed assistance with one of its legislative proposals and Ms. Nasir's ability to understand DHHL's position and coordinate with B&F staff on a solution was a demonstration not only of her intelligence, but also of her problem-solving skill and collaborative style. DHHL is confident that Ms. Nasir will exceed expectations in her role, which would oversee the management of public fund expenditures, state investments and financing, federal awards and compliance, and administrative functions for B&F and attached agencies. Her experience as the current Deputy Director of B&F and various other management roles will provide the leadership and institutional knowledge necessary for B&F to continue to produce work that is beneficial for the State of Hawaii.

Ms. Nasir's work in the Office of the Governor and at the Hawai'i State Legislature, the Department of Transportation, and The Legal Clinic reflects the diverse skills and expertise that she will continue to utilize at B&F. Ms. Nasir's experience as a coordinator of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX at the East-West Center, and as an organizer in various other capacities will aid in the execution of collaborative efforts with other state agencies and non-government organizations.

DHHL looks forward to working in partnership with Sabrina Nasir and we respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWÉ KANAKA
Office of the Director
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 30, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **Testimony in Strong Support**
G.M. 531, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy
Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee,
SABRINA NASIR

Hearing: March 31, 2023 at 10:00 am
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of GM 531, for the appointment of Sabrina Nassir as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nassir has longstanding and exemplary experience in government and public service. Her background in public policy, state budget, and data analysis will serve the state well in the role of Deputy Director. Having worked with Ms. Nassir in various state government roles, I can attest that she is thoughtful, hardworking, and understands all intricacies of the state budget and state budget process. However, perhaps more importantly, she understands that our budget is an example of the state's collective values and that we have an opportunity to improve residents lives through those values.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of Ms. Nassir.

JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

**TESTIMONY OF
KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

GM No. 531

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, **SABRINA NASIR**

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Friday, March 31, 2023
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance. Ms. Nasir has experience in budget, public policy, and research, and has worked in various government agencies and offices, including the Office of the Governor and the Hawai'i State Legislature.

I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Nasir in her role as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance on several occasions over the past few months, including on matters relating to the tax omnibus bill and other legislative proposals, and have found her to be knowledgeable, insightful, and collaborative. Ms. Nasir and I have established a great working relationship and I am confident that she will be able to help lead the Department of Budget and Finance in furtherance of its goals and mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531.

JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

RYAN YAMANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

Statement of
BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
GM531 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for
a term to expire 12-07-2026

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran, and the members of the committee.

We strongly support the appointment of Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy
Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nasir is a dedicated public servant and has extensive knowledge of the
legislature, the state budget process, and public policy. Since her appointment, I
found her to be engaged, accountable, and responsive.

Prior to Ms. Nasir's position as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and
Finance she served as a Special Project Assistant Manager for the Federal Relief
Program, where she helped lead the department for federal Broadband funding.
Ms. Nasir also served as a Senior Special Assistant to the Office of the Governor
where she worked on budget policy issues statewide.

We look forward to working closely with her in the future.

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

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:55:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Lucia L Pascual	Testifying for DBEDT	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of GM 531 for nomination of Sabrina Nasir as Dep Dir of Budget & Finance. She is a great fit for this role as her dedication and her willingness to explain budget policies and nature of appropriation symbols which can be very complex but she can present it simply and smartly. With this, I strongly urge for your positive support for her nomination as Budget & Finance Deputy Director. Thank you!

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

LATE

March 31, 2023

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

Date: Friday, March 31, 2023

Time: 10:00 am

Place: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: GM 531; Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (BUF).

Ms. Nasir possesses the knowledge and experience to serve as the Deputy Director of BUF. Ms. Nasir has tremendous experience with developing, managing, and executing projects in government and research institutions. She has served as Budget Chief for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Special Assistant at the Office of the Governor, Special Project Assistant Manager for BUF, and Project Manager for the Harbors Division at the Department of Transportation. In these roles, she researched policy issues, collaborated with stakeholders, and tracked state and federal policy developments to maximize federal funding opportunities for the state.

The DLIR shares her compassion and dedication to public service and helping the people of Hawaii. Ms. Nasir is very experienced with implementing public policy, and we look forward to working with her at BUF to develop short- and long-term financial plans and to improve the management and financial management of the DLIR.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531.



Testimony in support of
GM 531 Sabrina Nasir for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance
Testimony submitted by Amy Agbayani, co-chair Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights
March 31, 2023 @ 10 am
Ways and Means Committee

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee
The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights is in strong support of the nomination of GM 531 Sabrina Nasir for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I have worked with her since 2020 and am confident she will be a responsible and competent deputy. She has relevant, excellent and extensive academic qualifications, work experience in state executive and legislative organizations as well as educational institutions and non-profit agencies.

I first met Sabrina in 2020 when she was hired as staff on a COVID 19 federal grant to outreach to immigrants, including limited English proficient persons. Like many organizations receiving grant Covid funds there were time constraints, management, budget, personnel issues and community partnerships. Sabrina was given many tasks that she completed in an inclusive and effective way. I was able to work closely with Sabrina and other staff and volunteers to meet program goals and budgetary requirements. I also had contact with her after the project when she joined the Governor's budget and policy staff and also as a volunteer with immigrant legal non-profits and immigrant advocacy groups.

I feel that I have had ample opportunities to observe Sabrina's work ethic, competence and ability to work effectively and collaboratively. Although she has a strong academic and research background that is useful in this position, she is able to communicate and clearly (without jargon) and actively seeks feedback and input. She is honest, humble, transparent and knows how to work in a multicultural work environment and community.

As a woman and Asian American, Sabrina will add diversity to the cabinet. I really appreciate her experience at the East West Center related to diversity and inclusion policies and practices as well as her work in Title 9 gender equity. Her credentials and life experiences will allow her to contribute her talents and perspectives to meet agency program. Sabrina will serve our state well as Deputy Director at Budget and Finance I respectfully request you to vote for GM 531.

Mahalo,

Amy Agbayani, co-chair Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights
Emeritus Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Diversity and Equity, UH Manoa

GM-531

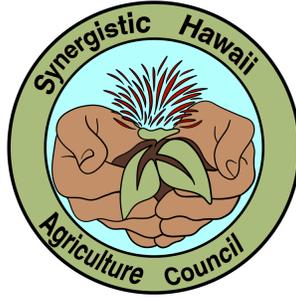
Submitted on: 3/29/2023 12:38:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ken love	Testifying for hawaii tropical fruit growers	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

She has helped to incxrease the number of grants available to growers
of all levels.



Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

**Re: GM 531 Testimony in Support of Sabrina Nasir
Deputy Director, Dept of Budget and Finance**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

Synergistic Hawaii Ag Council stands in strong support of the nomination of Sabrina Nasir.

SHAC is a non-profit trade organization representing all agribusinesses in the floriculture, papaya, macadamia and coffee crops. We assist our producers with responding to pests and diseases, increasing production at the farmgate and developing markets for our Hawaii origin agriculture products.

Our key funding source has been Federal grant programs. We are aware that Ms. Nasir's **diligent** work as a Federal Grants Coordinator for Governor Ige helped drive countless State programs forward. In SHAC's opinion, such **leadership and experience** in seeking and securing Federal funding for Hawaii programs is a rare and extremely beneficial skill. We would like to see more of such proactive management from other departmental staff.

Her work with stakeholders across the spectrum is appreciated. The ability to liaise with both public and private clientele is a strength.

We find her to be **professional and capable**, and ask your speedy approval of her nomination.

Mahalo nui loa!

Suzanne Shriner
Administrator



March 30, 2023

WAM COMMITTEE

Friday, March 31, 2023 – 10:00 a.m. – Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Good Food Alliance, in support of GM531 - Confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and WAM Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Hawai'i Good Food Alliance to express our unequivocal support for the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance for a term to expire on December 7th, 2026. Sabrina's comprehensive experience in public policy, budgeting, and financial analysis renders her an exceptional candidate for this role.

My name is Harmonee Williams, and I am the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Good Food Alliance (HGFA). Prior to joining HGFA staff, I served as the Executive Director of Sust'ainable Molokai, which is a founding organizational partner of HGFA. The other founding organizations are listed below. HGFA is a 501(c)(3) corporation formed by a statewide collaboration of organizations that are engaged in the production and distribution of food with the goal of rebuilding thriving community food systems. HGFA is a cross-sector network of food producers, food hubs, food banks, farmers markets, and healthcare providers from each major Hawaiian island. Our mission is that we join together—with a sense of urgency—to raise community voice and support one another in the belief that each and every person in Hawai'i can share in healthy, locally produced food.

Sabrina has a noteworthy history of diligently pursuing federal funding opportunities for the benefit of the state. In her capacity as a Senior Special Assistant in the Office of the Governor, she collaborated closely with multiple government department heads to identify and secure federal funding programs. Her dedication to maximizing financial resources for the state is a testament to her commitment to enhancing the lives of Hawai'i's residents.

We are confident that, as Deputy Director, Sabrina will be a staunch advocate for the Department of Agriculture in its endeavors to obtain federal funding. Her proven ability to work effectively with stakeholders in developing statewide initiatives, combined with her expertise in federal fund management and compliance, will be invaluable assets in this regard.

Sabrina's background in public policy, strategic planning, and state budget processes is well-documented. She has demonstrated her capacity to excel in positions that require a deep

understanding of policy, budget, and financial analysis. Moreover, her commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion is evident through her work as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator at the East-West Center, highlighting her dedication to creating inclusive and equitable environments.

As a researcher, Sabrina has a strong background in data analysis, data visualization, and project management. Her experience with the United States Census Bureau and the University of California, Irvine, has equipped her with the skills necessary to analyze complex data and make informed decisions. These skills will be crucial in her role as Deputy Director, ensuring that the state's financial decisions are rooted in sound data and analysis.

In addition to her professional experience, Sabrina's commitment to community work speaks volumes about her character. Her involvement with The Legal Clinic, the Hawai'i Coalition on Immigrant Rights, and Mana Maoli demonstrates her dedication to improving the lives of the people she serves.

In light of Sabrina Nasir's combination of skills, experience, and passion, we firmly believe that she is an outstanding candidate for Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. We wholeheartedly support her confirmation and eagerly anticipate the positive impact she will have on the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support of Sabrina Nasir. Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Executive Director, Hawai'i Good Food Alliance
harmonee@hawaiigoodfoodalliance.org, 808-646-1314

HGFA Founding Partners:

- The Food Basket
- The Kohala Center
- Kanaka Ha'aheo
- Maui Food Bank
- Sust'ainable Molokai
- Kōkua Kalihi Valley
- 'Elepaio Services, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center
- MA'O Farms
- Kahumana Organic Farm & Food Hub
- Mālama Kaua'i



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Friday, March 31, 2023 — 10:00 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports GM 531, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir, for a Term to Expire 12-07-2026.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports GM 531, which submits for consideration and confirmation Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director at the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nasir has vast experience in government, serving as the Hawai'i State Senate capital improvements program specialist and budget chief. Most recently, she served as the senior special assistant to the governor, notably interfacing with the Departments of Budget and Finance and the Attorney General to discuss and resolve state budget and policy issues. Along with her government experience, Ms. Nasir has held positions within organizations that make a difference in the community, serving as East-West Center's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX coordinator and a project specialist for The Legal Clinic's.

We believe her experience in government and other organizations will be an asset to her role as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. With Ms. Nasir as the Deputy Director, Ulupono looks forward to exploring any opportunity to support the State in its efforts to become more sustainable and resilient. Therefore, we ask for your support in confirming Sabrina Nasir for the position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:14:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keith Kogachi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support Sabrina Nasir's nonimation to be the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance (B&F).

My experience has been she is responsive, available and knowledgeable to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Deputy Director for B&F.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:24:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Seth Colby	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am submitting testimony to give my strong support for the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir. Having worked with her in a professional manner since she assumed the role of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, she has displayed high degrees of competence, professionalism, and care. I highly encourage you to let her to continue serving the role that she currently excels at.

Seth Colby

Tax Research & Planning Officer

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:12:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin L Fine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I heartily support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

I had the honor of working closely with Sabrina Nasir as staff at East-West Center during 2021. What impressed me most about Sabrina is her ability to listen closely to varying viewpoints, compromise and build consensus around difficult institutional issues. I once had the pleasure of participating in a meeting led by Sabrina and engaging people with varying opinions on the direction of DEI initiatives. Sabrina was able to disarm participants with different interests, gaining fuller participation while still finding a way forward.

As a combat veteran Army officer, I can also attest to Sabrina's strong leadership ability, which would be invaluable in this post. She is able to motivate those around her to accomplish the mission of the institution, bolstering morale with her genuine interest in those around her, and embuing her team with her own unflagging desire for excellence.

Sabrina has the skills and drive to excel in this position. I fully endorse her based on my knowledge of her character, intelligence, and drive.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:16:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Oku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I support the consideration and confirmation of Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:20:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keola Nakanishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I am writing with the highest possible level of support of Ms. Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. It is very rare to meet someone of her level of intellect at both macro and micro level, in the realm of budget and politics as well as real world and community.

No less important, her listening skills, integrity, and compassion to serve and better Hawai'i, are unparalleled. She also is very clear and articulate, and able to stay calm, cool and collected in the craziest of times.

Hawai'i needs Ms. Nasir. She will give you 110%, and is committed for the long-haul. All who know her know this is a no-brainer. Mahalo for your consideration and support.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:41:47 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Song	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Sabrina Nasir's nomination as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance. Sabrina has served and excelled in various roles across Hawaii for over 10 years. Those who know Sabrina know her as a dedicated and hard-working professional who is respected by her colleagues and friends. Due to her background and character, I have no doubt she will be an asset to the State of Hawaii in this role.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 1:30:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee,

I whole-heartedly support Sabrina Nasir in her bid to become the Deputy Director for the Hawai'i Department of Budget and Finance. She is an incredibly hard worker, brilliant researcher, and level-headed leader. As her colleague, I am constantly admire her organizational skills and how she excels in high-stress and busy environments with incredible grace and extraordinary work. She is incredibly caring and committed to public service. She is a gem and I know that she will only continue to shine in her career moving onwards.

March 28, 2023

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: GM531 Consideration and Confirmation of Ms. Sabrina Nasir for
Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, March 31, 2023, 10:00 AM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

This letter is in **strong support** of the appointment of Ms. Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I had the opportunity to work with Ms. Nasir when she was a session-hire, Budget Analyst for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM) from 2009 – 2010, and as a full-time WAM employee from 2011 - 2013, when I served as the Committee Clerk.

As you are aware, the learning curve for new session staff is fairly steep and the task is even more challenging for new staff on the WAM Committee, having to not only meet the session calendar deadlines, but to also deal with the assigned departments, committee briefings and hearings, and physical and emotional demands during the all too short 60-day session. Ms. Nasir handled all of the scheduling deadlines and demands with ease, professionalism, and a wonderful sense of humor and wit.

Ms. Nasir was so successful as a session hire that she was retained as a full-time WAM employee, and went on to do an internship with the Department of Budget and Finance during her tenure with WAM. I was privileged to witness the start of Ms. Nasir's professional career in fiscal policy and government service, and strongly believe that with her post-WAM graduate education, professional development, and varied work experience, she will be a tremendous asset to the department not only as an experienced and competent fiscal officer, but also as a supportive and encouraging individual in the workplace environment, which at times can be stressful and challenging.

Sincerely,
ANTHONY D. VALDEZ
Former WAM Committee Clerk

TESTIMONY
of
MARK K. ANDERSON
Submitted for consideration and confirmation of
Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR,
as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance,
for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

I support the nomination of SABRINA NASIR to be the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

I have worked with Sabrina first when she was with the Senate Ways and Means Committee, later when she was a Senior Special Assistant with the Governor's office, and most recently in her role as Deputy Director at the Department of Budget and Finance.

In working with Sabrina, I have found her to be exceptionally intelligent and well prepared. She can make substantial contributions to the analysis of complex public policy issues and can identify for policy makers workable solutions that will benefit the public's interest. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, I watched Sabrina help senior policy makers navigate how best to use federal resources to benefit the people of Hawai'i. Her work and insights made a difference. I am grateful for her professionalism and assistance during this time.

Sabrina is dedicated to public service. She is committed to using her intellectual abilities to improve other people's lives.

I urge you to support Sabrina to be the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. She will do a great job.

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:14:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to submit testimony in strong SUPPORT of Sabrina Nasir's nomination to be the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. As a former colleague of Sabrina's, I've been consistently impressed with the high level of professionalism, competence, and compassion she brings to work with her everyday. These attributes, coupled with a tireless work ethic make Sabrina an ideal candidate for the Deputy Director position.

Additionally, Sabrina's deep knowledge of the state budget process and familiarity with fiscal policy make her uniquely qualified to help lead the department under the new administration. Having spent years working on budget and fiscal policy in both the legislature and executive branch, Sabrina has gained intimate knowledge of a budgeting process that must constantly balance the needs of Hawaii's people with the everyday running of government operations.

Having dedicated a majority of her professional life to serving the people of the state of Hawaii, Sabrina is committed to ensuring our state is both an equitable and economically secure place to live, work, and raise a family. I strongly urge the members of committee to support Sabrina's nomination to be the next Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:26:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pankaj Bhanot	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. My name is Pankaj Bhanot and I am submitting this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Sabrina Nasir’s consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, for a term to expire at noon on December 07, 2026.

I have known Sabrina since 2009 and had the pleasure of working with Sabrina in her capacity as the Budget Analyst (2009-2013), CIP Chief (2014-2015), and Budget Chief (2015-2017) of WAM. I held the position of BESSD Division Administrator (2009-2010; 2012-2014), Deputy Director (2010-2012; 2015-2016), and Director (2016-2020) of the Department of Human Services during Sabrina’s tenure at WAM.

Sabrina has a strong professional experience in developing, managing, and executing projects in government, non-governmental organizations, and research institutions; and successfully guiding stakeholders in developing statewide initiatives. Sabrina is also passionate about work that improves people’s lives and reduces inequality. Sabrina is also very skilled in strategic planning, State budget process, federal fund management and compliance, financial policy, budget, and financial Analysis, project management, research, data analysis and data visualization, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and stakeholder mngement.

Sabrina’s educational background, professional experience, character, integrity, fairness, professionalism, desire to serve Hawai’i, and do the right thing for right reasons, makes her an ideal person to be appointed as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance during these challenging times.

For the foregoing reasons, I strongly urge the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to recommend Sabrina Nasir’s appointment to the full Senate to be confirmed as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

SUBJECT: Testimony in **Strong Support** of Governor's Message No. 531 – "Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026."

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Cuyler Otsuka. I worked with Ms. Sabrina Nasir during the administration of Governor David Y. Ige from 2021 through 2022. Although my role in the Office of the Governor was mostly clerical and administrative, I know that Sabrina's role was that of a leader and problem-solver.

When I first met Sabrina, my first impression of her was that she was an incredibly intelligent and competent woman who possessed a special sense of humility. As I got to work with her on Governor Ige's priorities, it was clear to me that she intimately understood the budget process from both the legislative side—thanks to her experience as the Budget Chief at the Senate Committee on Ways and Means—as well as from the executive side.

Sabrina acutely understands the needs of the divisions and attached agencies of the Department of Budget and Finance. I have no doubts that, under her leadership, morale within the Department will increase, as her collaborative approach is always informed by mutual respect and faithful execution of projects in accordance with all applicable statutes, policies, and procedures. Sabrina clearly understands that the Department's key asset is its civil servants, many of whom have decades of experience reviewing the State's budget and do their due diligence every day to ensure that the Executive Branch operates ethically.

The role of the Department of Budget and Finance is immense—the Department is responsible for fiscal oversight, and it plays an essential role in promulgating budget-related policies and procedures to ensure that the Executive Branch expends its resources responsibly and in accordance with all applicable statutes. Sabrina's roles have all prepared her to become one of the most qualified people I know to serve the people of Hawai'i in this capacity. Her commitment to the public good, her keen understanding of the budget process, and her collaborative style of leadership are all qualifications that will guide her service as Deputy Director of Budget & Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of Governor's Message No. 531.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 3:20:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Shimabuku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in support of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. As the former manager of Senate Data Systems, I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Sabrina during the years she was on staff of the Senate Ways and Means committee (starting in the 2010 session, through the end of the 2017 session). Sabrina was a key part of that committee. I can speak to the qualities that I saw in her – that she is very intelligent, extremely pleasant to work with, and from my interactions with her I believe her to be a very good person with a good heart. As far as I know, she was very well respected by staff and Senators. When I heard she was up for confirmation I was pleased both for her and for B&F. She will be a strong asset to our government; I can see her making a positive difference and being a solid part of the team at the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 6:04:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Schilla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is a dedicated public servant and highly qualified for this position. Sabrina will do her best to serve the people of Hawaii!

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:21:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taylor Henderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is a highly qualified individual who is a dedicated public servant. I know that she will serve diligently and give her all to make lasting impacts for the state.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:28:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Layla Kilolu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is very diligent, hardworking, and an excellent leader. She cares deeply about public service and giving back to the community.

Respectfully,

Layla Kilolu

PhD Student, UH Manoa

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:39:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Fragio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is diligent in her work and has proven to be an excellent leader. Public service is clearly her passion as she has always been known to think in the best interests of the community.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:39:45 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance because she cares deeply about public service. I have had the pleasuring of knowing Sabrina for several years. She has is enthusiastic about giving back to the community and making a positive impact. She is extremely hardworking and a very dedicated individual. Sabrina is highly intelligent and an excellent leader!

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:41:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amit Chaturvedi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a former Hawai'i resident and University of Hawai'i alumnus, I am writing in support of Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. In my personal contact with Sabrina, I've known her to be highly intelligent and dedicated to promoting the common good through public service. Her academic and economic policy qualifications are stellar. She is well-derserving of the honor to serve as Deputy Director.

Zachary Espino

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, March 31, 2023

Governor's Message 531

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

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

I am writing in **strong support** of Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina's professional work experience in state government makes her an exemplar choice to help lead efforts in relation to the state budget. I had the opportunity to work with Sabrina in the Office of the Governor and have found her to be an intelligent and competent leader who understands the key components of state government. In her previous role as Senior Special Assistant, she had a wide-ranging work portfolio that allowed her to gain valuable experience and understanding in various policy issues.

In the short time that I have known Sabrina, I have no doubt that she will bring much energy and passion to the role as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance. Her work experience and education has well-equipped her to take on this important role. As a member of the Governor's cabinet, I am confident that she will bring a much needed perspective on the state budget to many important discussions facing our state during these crucial times.

Sabrina's commitment to public service is evident as she has dedicated many years of her professional career to serving the people of Hawai'i in various capacities. As Deputy Director, I know that she will work everyday to ensure we make good budget decisions that will lead to a better future for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:21:02 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Burt Lum	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 531 for Sabrina Nasir’s nomination to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

I’ve known Ms. Nasir for a couple of years when she was part of Governor David Ige’s staff as a Senior Special Assistant. During that time Ms. Nasir was assigned broadband and I found her to be a very quick study. She was able to grasp the concepts and was very supportive of the work we’ve done in the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office (HBDEO).

Ms. Nasir was also a very important team member of a grant we received from the National Governors Association to develop a digital skills gap analysis for Hawaii’s workforce. As a team member she provided insightful guidance and collaboration amongst the contractors and key stakeholders.

Ms. Nasir has the intelligence, creativity, and meticulous attention to detail. She is an excellent choice for Deputy Director of B&F and has already made significant contributions to the department.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge Ms. Nasir’s confirmation as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:26:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Om Das	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ms. Nasir is a very strong and an appropriate candidate for the Deputy Director position with Budget and Finance. I endorse her for her experience, past performance and skill set. She will certainly serve our community well with her knowledge and compassionate approach towards our Ohana here in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Om Das

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:51:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NO !!!

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:55:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gretchen Alther	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is very diligent, hardworking, and an excellent leader. She cares deeply about public service and giving back to the community.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 10:56:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emma Yuen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of B&F. She is hardworking, experienced, and able to see the big picture. Mahalo.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:11:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn Behling	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I have known Sabrina Nasir for over 12 years and am honored to call her my friend. In this time she has proven herself as an intelligent, focused, hardworking individual. Her compassion and understanding of those from diverse backgrounds, and ability to find common ground with diplomatic solutions make her a great leader. Her humility and friendly nature seek to build relationships, and bridges to connection which make her a great part of a team.

I have seen her demonstrate the dedication in acquiring knowledge (a doctoral graduate) and experience (with many years in various Hawai'i Governmental positions, including Budget and Finance), that have all lead into qualifying for the appointment as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I have every confidence that her integrity and rational decision making skills as a trusted public servant make her worthy of such a post. She is a huge asset to have working for the people in our Island home and I strongly support her confirmation.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 12:27:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bettina Mok	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith Agaran, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I testify in strong support of GM531, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee Sabrina Nasir.

Sabrina is one of the brightest minds in our community, with a strong track record of public service, leadership, budget management, and dedication to affecting positive change. I've worked alongside Sabrina on several highly impactful projects over the past few years. She contributed significantly to a comprehensive data report on Immigrants and Migrants in Hawaii, using her skills as a trained researcher, statistician, and economy analyst to help us advance the project.

She also worked 10-12 hour days over several months on a complex and fast moving Covid relief project, where she helped manage a rapid response team that was charged with distributing over \$350,000 in supplies, grocery cards, and bill payments to hundreds of unemployed and underemployed residents with limited English proficiency. Given that we were redistributing federal and city funds, we needed to carefully track each disbursement, collect supporting documentation, and develop fair application and distribution systems for those seeking assistance. Sabrina is a pro at spreadsheets and formulas, in addition to having strong research and communication skills. She quickly created systems, forms, and processes for collecting and managing volumes of data from various sources, and then trained the rest of us in how to apply them. It was a high pressure, fluctuating situation, and Sabrina maintained a calm demeanor and reassuring professionalism throughout.

Sabrina has the integrity, impartiality, hard skills, work ethic, and leadership experience to effectively serve our State in this important role. I trust her implicitly and wholeheartedly support her nomination. I hope you will too. Thank you for your consideration.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 3:34:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is is hardworking, detail oriented, and highly ethical. She cares about improving systems, serving communities, and bettering futures.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:53:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jinna Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is one of the most hardworking, reliable, and diligent people I know. She is an excellent leader--one who is collaborative and supportive. Moreover, she is someone who is committed to public service and cares a lot about giving back to the community and helping people.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:31:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elisabet Barrios	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I had the honor of meeting Sabrina in 2018 at University of California Irvine's PH.D. program in Sociology. Sabrina's commitment to public service, equity, and ethics permates and grows through her work. As a colleague I have seen her plan, organize, and manage the budget for Departmental conferences with more than 150 people in attendance. Sabrina leads with kindness, integrity, fairness, and efficiency. She is detailed oriented and has extraordinary time managment. Sabrina's knowledge, abilities, and community-centered values make her the ideal candidate for Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance."

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:44:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reid Tomihara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing in support of Sabrina Nasir's nomination as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina has extensive experience working in public service. She has worked for the Senate Ways and Means Committee and in the Office of the Governor. I believe that these experiences have equipped her to be highly effective in the role of administering and overseeing a department which is responsible for managing public expenditures and funds.

I believe that she will serve the state of Hawaii diligently and with integrity as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Please vote favorably on her nomination.

Testimony of
Brenden L.J.B. Kinoshita

In consideration of G.M. No. 531

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial nominee, Sabrina Nasir

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to offer testimony, in my personal capacity, in strong support of the confirmation of Dr. Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

I have had the privilege to work with Sabrina both during her tenure in the Office of the Governor under the Ige Administration, as well as the appointee of the Deputy Director of B&F under the current Green Administration. Prior to my current position as the Administrative Services Manager for the Department of the Attorney General, I worked as a Program Budget Analyst (PBA) with B&F's Budget, Program Planning and Management (BPPM) Division. It is here that I witnessed and experienced Sabrina's leadership.

As a leader I have found Sabrina to be intelligent, sincere, and thoughtful. Recognizing the significance of her role, she is careful to seek out facts and information before speaking whether for a meeting, presentation, or just responding to an e-mail or phone call. I believe this commitment to making informed decisions at all levels of communication will serve her well as Deputy Director. The policies, instructions, and decisions set by B&F significantly shape the statewide execution of both executive and legislative initiatives; as such, it is important that the department's leadership carefully consider the facts and potential impacts of their decisions.

During my time at B&F I especially respected Sabrina's genuine concern for B&F employees and her accessibility. Whereas the Director and Deputy Directors of past administrations have sometimes felt distant and inaccessible to non-managerial employees, Sabrina was a frequent and familiar face. It was not unusual for her to walk through the different divisions to do a quick check-in with line-staff as to how they were doing or if they had any thoughts to share. Despite being a simple gesture, acts like these served to boost employee morale.

As a PBA we are supposed to become the subject matter experts of our assigned departments and develop positive rapport and insight into our department's operations, and yet past administrations did not always value consulting with PBAs on pending decisions. This is not the case with Sabrina. When issues affecting my department were before the Office of the Director, Sabrina would reach out to me to discuss the situation, asking pertinent questions to establish an informed understanding of the whole situation. While any final decision rests with the Director and Deputy Director, considering my input under advisement made me feel valued as an employee and was validating of the work I was doing.

If confirmed as the Deputy Director of B&F I am confident that Sabrina's robust experience, knowledge, and honesty would benefit the Department and in turn the whole state. I have no doubt that if permitted to continue to serve she would facilitate measurable and impactful change to the effectiveness, efficiency, and overall morale of B&F operations. While the Deputy Director serves as the primary support to the Director, I believe Sabrina also has the requisite heart and mind to step up to the role of Acting Director when needed and as expected.

I thank the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee for considering my testimony and strongly urge the confirmation of the nominee.

RE: GM 531, Submitting for Consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir, for a term to expire 12-07-2026

Attention: Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran and
Members of the Committee

I, Sarah Beamer, **strongly support GM 531**, to confirm the appointment of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina Nasir has dedicated her career to the State of Hawaii, addressing and resolving financial and budgetary issues from all levels within both the legislative and executive branches. Having served as the Ways and Means Budget Chief, CIP Specialist, and budget analyst, Ms. Nasir has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of both the State budget and Capital Improvements Program budget, including the work, research and analysis required to complete each. Additionally, Ms. Nasir has extensive knowledge and advisory experience on budget and policy issues, including pension shortfalls, Medicaid, charter school funding, and collective bargaining. During her time at the Department of Transportation and East-West Center, Ms. Nasir was entrusted with project managements tasks related to program development, planning, research, stakeholder engagement, and fiscal/budget analysis. Most recently, Ms. Nasir served under Governor Ige, working directly with the Department of Budget and Finance, and the Attorney General to resolve state budget and policy issues, as well as serving as the Governor's designee on numerous boards and workforce development teams, gaining further experience and knowledge on the application of the State Budget within the Departments.

Ms. Nasir's extensive, multi-level, multi-departmental budgetary expertise is an essential skill our State needs in its BUF Deputy Director.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of GM 531, to confirm the appointment of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Beamer
Individual

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:14:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Morishige	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in my personal capacity in ***strong support*** of the appointment of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have had the privilege of getting to know Sabrina as a colleague in a number of different roles over the past eight years - as the Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means Committee, as a Senior Special Assistant in the Office of the Governor, and for the past few months as the acting Deputy Director. In all of these roles, Sabrina has demonstrated the knowledge, experience, professionalism and demeanor to fill this important role.

The Department of Budget and Finance has a critical role in overseeing and developing the State's budget, and I can think of no one better qualified to lead in this department than Sabrina.

Once again, I write in strong support and encourage you to advise and consent to confirm Sabrina to this important role.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
March 31, 2023 | 10 am | Room 211

March 28, 2023

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Agenda Item GM531 Relating to the Appointment of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F)

Aloha nui e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

I write today in strong support of Sabrina Nasir in her nomination for Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

I have had the opportunity of working with Ms. Nasir around digital literacy and planning for programs and resources coming into the State. She was an integral part of a planning project and offered tremendous value in helping to develop a product on a very short project timeline while helping to navigate a national and state-level funding process. Ms. Nasir was a great team member and easy to work with. Her style was to always listen and offer deliberate and value-added ideas. She was able to synthesize key ideas quickly and was always extremely professional and responsive, with particular attention to meeting timelines.

Ms. Nasir's ability to navigate government systems while also being innovative in ideas and approach is unique and a great asset to the State. I believe that with her experience in multiple branches of government, she will add great value to B&F and work with both the executive and legislative branches to help deliver on key priorities. I am excited to support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir and encourage the Committee's support to confirm her nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my mana'o and for all of your work on behalf of our communities.

Me ka ha'aha'a,



Rebecca Justine 'Iolani Soon

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:11:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Parke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I worked with Sabrina in the Governor's Office and she was highly professional, an excellent manager, and was a key component of the office. She was relied on by many staff to complete projects and keep the office functioning. She is also very considerate, kind, and easy to work with.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:22:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gladys Gitau-Damaskos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. Sabrina is highly qualified and a dedicated public servant. I am positive that she will serve diligently and give her all to make lasting impacts for the state.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:28:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Ng	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

This testimony is in **support** for the confirmation of Gubernatorial nominee Sabrina Nassir for the position of Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F). I have known Sabrina for many years in a professional capacity and feel that she is well-suited to help lead B&F.

Although I have never worked on the same team as Sabrina, our paths have crossed several times. Sabrina was a Budget Analyst for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM) when I was Budget Chief for the House Finance Committee and later in the Governor's Office. Later, I became Budget Director for the University of Hawai'i (UH) and Sabrina became Budget Chief for WAM. Most recently, Sabrina has worked in the Governor's Office handling a variety of fiscal issues, just prior to her current position.

Throughout all of those years and shifting relationships, I have found Sabrina to be highly competent, knowledgeable, and hard-working. She may not be the loudest person in the room, but she's one of the most capable.

No candidate is perfect, but I think Sabrina is more than able at handling this position for the betterment of our state and I hope that the Committee will recommend advise and consent for Sabrina. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS**

Support of Governor's Message 531

**Consideration and Confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and
Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir**

Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee,

My name is Darlene Tsukazaki and I am testifying in support of Governor's Message 531, Nomination of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

I had the opportunity to work with Sabrina Nasir from 2015-2017, when she was Budget Chief, in my capacity as Office Manager for former State Senate Ways and Means Chair Jill Tokuda. I witnessed firsthand Sabrina's strong leadership and commitment to getting things done in a professional and collaborative manner. Sabrina's tireless work ethic will serve the department and State of Hawaii well.

Accordingly, I strongly support Sabrina Nasir's nomination as described in GM 531. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:05:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marvin Kaleo Manuel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I am Kaleo Manuel, Deputy to the Chairperson for the Commission on Water Resource Management, but I am testifying today in my individual capacity. I strongly support GM 531 nominating Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

I got to know Sabrina in her capacity as the Senior Special Assistant during Governor Ige's administration. Most of my engagement with her was around complex policy discussions, where I believe she was able to quickly grasp the issues and then frame and identify solutions. Sabrina is easy to work with and is very approachable. I believe these traits and her professional and academic experience makes her a qualified candidate to support and lead B&F in managing our State's public funds and finances.

I would be honored to serve alongside Sabrina Nasir as part of Governor Green's Cabinet and I humbly and respectfully ask for you to support and confirm her.

Ola i ka wai,

Kaleo Manuel

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:15:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Terry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I have known Sabrina for over 10 years. Sabrina cares deeply about her community and feels a sense of responsibility for public service. I have seen firsthand how hardworking she is, and how many extra hours she puts in to ensure her job is done well. In addition to her impressive educational background, she has a deep knowledge of government budgeting and operations from her many years working for the State. She would be exemplary in this role. We as the taxpayers of Hawai'i would be well served by Sabrina as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:18:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sadie Green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I know her through our shared community and via her community engagement work at the University of Hawaii where she led a group and hosted many South Asian-themed events for the larger public. She is committed to and cares deeply about the people of Hawaii. Her leadership has always been collaborative and she has a strong work ethic and sense of integrity. I have no doubt that she will be excellent in this role.

TIME/DATE: 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 31, 2023

PLACE: State Capitol Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

COMMITTEES: Senate Ways & Means

BILL: GM531, Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR

POSITION: Support

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and committee members:

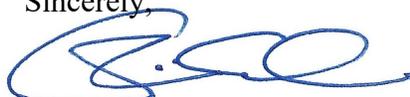
I strongly support Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of Finance for the Department of Budget and Finance.

Through my work as executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government, I know Sabrina to be a committed public servant and passionate about improving state systems and processes so that government can operate more efficiently and effectively to meet the many needs facing our community. I have found Sabrina to be easy to work with, collaborative, open to new ideas, and committed to strengthening the state's core business functions, .

I believe Sabrina and the Director make a strong team for the department as they are open to listening and value input from the community.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,



Christine Sakuda

Executive Director

Transform Hawai'i Government

email: csakuda@TransformHawaiiGov.org | phone: (808) 321-2811

web: www.TransformHawaiiGov.org

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:50:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nalya A Rodriguez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is very hardworking, passionate, and determined. I admire her dedication to community well-being and safety as an integral aspect of building towards a better future.

March 29, 2023

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Committee on
Ways and Means

Members Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Kate Stanley (retired)

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of SABRINA NASIR, Nominee for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, GM 531

I am Kate Stanley testifying in my individual capacity in support of the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known and worked with Sabrina for over 10 years. In all these years she has demonstrated leadership and professional behavior.

Both these attributes will make her an excellent Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.

As you know, I work part-time for the Superintendent of Education. In early January the DOE Leadership met with the new Leadership of Budget and Finance. Sabrina was well prepared for the meeting, knowing many of the issues facing DOE, asked excellent questions, followed up with information and worked to help the DOE in preparation of the budget requests to be considered by Governor Green.

After this meeting, Sabrina assisted the Superintendent in making a scheduled Zoom meeting by lending him her office so that he would not miss the Zoom meeting. Such courtesy and helpfulness will be greatly appreciated by the many departments Sabrina will be working with.

I wholeheartedly recommend that the Committee on Ways and Means support this nomination. Sabrina Nasir will serve Hawaii well.

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz:

This is a letter in support of Sabrina Nasir's appointment as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance (GM 531).

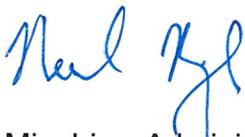
I have known Ms. Nasir for about 11 years and first worked with her when she interned with our department during the interim when she was working as a Budget Analyst with the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. She has an impressive academic background with a Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of California, Irvine, a M.Sc. from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley.

Ms. Nasir has wide-ranging experience working with the Legislature, Executive Branch, and federal governmental and quasi-governmental agencies. She also has hands-on experience coordinating and conducting research projects. From her jobs in the Governor's Office and Senate Ways and Means Committee, she is very familiar with State government and its programs, and State budgeting practices.

Ms. Nasir is intelligent, competent, dedicated, and hardworking. In the past four months as Deputy Director, she has consistently demonstrated her sound judgment, analytical ability, and ability to work with and manage people.

I believe that Ms. Nasir possesses the background and necessary skills to make an excellent Deputy Director of Finance. I urge the Senate to confirm her appointment.

Sincerely,



Neal Miyahira, Administrator
Budget, Program Planning & Management Division
Department of Budget and Finance

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 12:57:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sophie Sidhu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I had the pleasure of working with Sabrina at the East-West Center while she served as our inaugural DEI Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator. Her steady leadership, breadth of knowledge, collaborative approach and ability to focus carefully on issues from a micro and macro perspective played a tremendous role in moving the Center forward on all DEI related fronts. Sabrina is very hardworking, ethical, solutions-oriented, and a natural leader with a deep commitment to public service and building equitable and thriving communities.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 1:03:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Arif Rahman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am pleased to offer my wholehearted support for Mrs. Sabrina Nasir as a Gubernatorial Nominee for the Department of Budget and Finance Deputy Director. With her extensive background in public policy, government, and nongovernmental organizations, Mrs. Nasir brings a wealth of experience and expertise to this role. Her proven record of successfully guiding stakeholders in developing statewide initiatives demonstrates her ability to collaborate effectively with diverse groups and deliver results.

Mrs. Nasir's passion for improving people's lives and reducing inequality is evident in her work. Her commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion makes her an excellent candidate for this position. With her Ph.D. in sociology and experience working in the budget, Mrs. Nasir has the necessary skills and knowledge to manage and execute complex projects efficiently and effectively.

As a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator at East-West Center, Mrs. Nasir has demonstrated her commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable environment. Undoubtedly, she will bring the same level of dedication and expertise to her role as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

In conclusion, I strongly endorse Mrs. Sabrina Nasir's candidacy for confirmation as the Deputy Director Department of Budget and Finance position. I am confident that she will excel in this role and positively impact the state of Hawaii.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 3:29:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Yasuko & Saleem Ahmed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for allowing us to send in this recommendation for consideration & confirmation as the Deputy Director of Budget & Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR. She is not only highly qualified but, we believe will also exemplify in the task needed for this position. Her amiable personality will be an asset in her work with others. Please consider her favorably.

Mahalo, Carol Yasuko & Saleem Ahmed, PhD

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION, JR.
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of

Governor's Message (GM) 531

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

I strongly support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known and worked with Ms. Nasir for a number of years, and she continues to demonstrate competency of the broad range of budgetary and fiscal topics facing Hawai'i, as well as nationally and globally. With her experience in state government, the private sector, and non-profit organizations, it is my personal opinion that Ms. Nasir is the right type of leader that the Department of Budget and Finance needs to ensure critical initiatives are advanced for our island state and its residents.

Ms. Nasir possesses that right demeanor and collaborative nature to assist the Director of Budget and Finance in leading the Department of Budget and Finance, and she continues to demonstrate the highest level of leadership. Ms. Nasir has gained my trust as a colleague and a friend, and I have the utmost confidence that she will serve our State well.

I respectfully encourage the Committee to advise and consent to the nomination of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on GM 531.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 3:55:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liza Ryan Gill	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz,

I have worked with Sabrina Nasir over the last several years. There is no better candidate to fill the position of Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

At the beginning of the pandemic Sabrina and I had a chance to work together on a city and county project to get financial support to low-income individuals who were suffering. We were able to get over \$400,000 of CARES Act dollars in tiny increments (\$50-500) to hundreds of individuals including: laid-off hospitality workers, kūpuna, limited-English proficient folks, and many who had not received any other type of support due to being unbanked. Throughout that project Sabrina manage every dollar and cent with precious and tenacity. She always had an answer for where money was going and to whom it had gone. Not only was she incredibly efficient, she was kind, patient, and easy to work with. She often spent hours, late at night, teaching our navigators how to use Excel. Her grace in this high-pressure moment- with the real suffering of individuals on the line- showed me the kind of person she is. One full of integrity, competency, and compassion. I cannot recommend her more highly. Not only did I enjoy working with her, I have continued to learn from her.

Warmest aloha,

Liza Ryan Gill

Hawaii Coalition for Immigrant Rights

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:00:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Winber	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Ms. Sabrina Nasir's appointment to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. She has extensive knowledge of the budgeting process and considerable experience through multiple legislative sessions.

In the many years I have known Ms. Nasir, she has shown herself to be a true professional and a faithful public servant that cares deeply about our state.

Please confirm Ms. Nasir's nomination, so she may continue to provide excellent service to our state government.

**Testimony of Catherine P. Awakuni Colón
Before the Senate Committee
on Ways and Means
Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 AM
Conference Room 211 and Videoconference**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

On Governor's Message No. 531, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón and I am testifying my personal capacity in **support** of the appointment of Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

During the period 2015-2017 and then again in 2021-2022, I worked with Ms. Nasir while she was the Budget Chief at the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM) and also while she was a Senior Special Assistant to Governor Ige. I found Ms. Nasir to be competent, responsive, ethical and respectful in her dealings with me as the director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. She was clear in her guidance and collaborative in her approach, which was incredibly helpful for me as I navigated the budget process (while she worked in WAM) or worked with her on legislation or special projects (while she worked in the Governor's Office).

Ms. Nasir has already demonstrated herself to be a highly productive and effective member of Governor Green's administration, and I respectfully request that you recommend approval of her nomination as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 531.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:16:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raechele Joyo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:26:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter McLean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She will do an excellent job in this role. She is hardworking, diligent and cares deeply about serving her community.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:46:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ken H Kakesako	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Ken Kakesako and I am writing to express my support of GM 531, to confirm Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director at the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina has extensive experience working in state government and has a unique understanding of state finances given her experience as the Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means Committee at the Hawai'i State Legislature and her time in the Governor's office and in working at the Department of Transportation and the Department of Budget and Finance. This experience, coupled with her educational pedigree, make her an excellent candidate for the Deputy Director position.

During my time working at the Hawai'i State Department of Education, I have had the pleasure of working with Sabrina in her role as Senior Special Assistant under Governor Ige. During that time, I found Sabrina to be responsive to any inquiries that we had and quick to adapt to the ever-changing landscape of the Governor's office. She was able to quickly grasp new topics and was not afraid to put her head down and do the hard work.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director at the Department of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:51:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benjamin Fischberg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She was my supervisor when I worked as a budget analyst for the Ways and Means Committee. She was an excellent manager, created a great working environment, and was very easy to work with. She is passionate about her work and is a fantastic asset for the State of Hawaii.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 5:05:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rina Nagashima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Sabrina Nasir's confirmation for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina has a wealth of expertise working in various roles in our state, and will bring experience into the role.

Along with being a talented academic with a PhD in sociology, Sabrina will put her knowledge of the economics and finance to work to help improve the Department of Budget and Finance and ensure the strong fiscal health for the State.

As a talented female leader in the State, Sabrina represents the best Hawaii has to offer, and I am proud to stand by her.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 5:17:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
vladimir kerkez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I Vladimir Kerkez submit my testimony for SABRINA NASIR. I would like to go on record to support her for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is known to be hard working, diligent and a wonderful leader. Sabrina has always been pationate about public service and educated me many times on these topics. During the last time I visited Hawaii she gave me a wonderful overview of how the government there works and what her day to day job is. She deeply cares about the people she works for and sourrounds herself with. This is why I am honored to be supporting her for this role.

-Vladimir Kerkez

M. Jan Rumi

1419 16th Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Past practice leader for Grant Thornton LLP, an international accounting and consulting company, Honolulu office's consulting practice

Contact: mjrumi@hotmail.com (808) 383-2597 cell

Committee on Ways and Means, The 32nd Legislature, Regular Session of 2023; Friday, March 31, 2023 10:00 a.m. Conference Room 211

Written Testimony for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting this written testimony in my strong support for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. My strong support is based on my detail review of Ms. Nasir's impressive resume detailing her extensive experience for public service offices and her familiarity to Hawaii and its various government offices and other institutions.

I respectfully request that you favorably consider confirming SABRINA NASIR as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

M. Jan Rumi

March 29, 2023

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 5:23:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Visconti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this letter in enthusiastic support of my dear friend and former college classmate, Sabrina Nasir, who is applying for the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance role within your organization.

During our time at college, I had the pleasure of getting to know Sabrina on a personal and academic level. I can attest to the fact that she is a highly intelligent, dedicated, and motivated individual who consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic and a passion for her studies. Sabrina was always willing to go above and beyond in her academic pursuits, taking on additional research projects and coursework to deepen her knowledge and understanding of the subjects she was studying.

In addition to her academic achievements, Sabrina is an exceptional communicator and collaborator. She always eager to engage with her classmates, professors, and other individuals in the academic community, actively seeking out opportunities to learn and grow. Her ability to work well with others and her natural leadership skills made her an asset to our class, and I am confident that she would bring these same qualities to any team or organization she joins.

As I have kept in touch with Sabrina since our time at college, I have continued to see her professional development and growth firsthand. She has consistently sought out new challenges and opportunities to expand her skill set and knowledge, and I have no doubt that she would be an excellent fit for the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, role within your organization.

In conclusion, I highly recommend Sabrina Nasir for the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance role. Her dedication, intelligence, and interpersonal skills make her an outstanding candidate for the position, and I am confident that she would excel in this role. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nate Visconti

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 5:43:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Geoffrey Kusaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is a highly qualified individual who is a dedicated public servant. I know that she will serve diligently and give her all to make lasting impacts for the state. She has previously demonstrated great attention to detail and work ethic that I know will only provide great assistance to the state moving forward.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:18:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megumi Hora	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for the position of Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is an exceptionally hardworking, dedicated, compassionate, detail-oriented, responsible, and highly intelligent individual who I know will use all of her vibrant energy and talents to serve the public good and drive positive outcomes for her community. I cannot imagine a better person for the role!

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:19:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aphirak Bamrungruan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Aphirak Bamrungruan. I am the Executive Director of the Office of Language Access (OLA), Department of Health (DOH). I submit this testimony in my personal capacity in support of SABRINA NASIR.'s appointment as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known Ms. Nasir for several years in her roles as a volunteer at The Legal Clinic (TLC) and Senior Special Assistant, Office of the Governor under Governor Ige's administration. I have had the opportunity to witness first-hand Ms. Nasir's passion for providing public services to those in need. I have found her to be a committed and caring public servant. I believe that Ms. Nasir's years of experience and dedication will be a great benefit to the State of Hawaii.

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

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:23:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeremy Scholz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance. I have always known Sabrina to be a hard working, organized, and dedicated individual. I believe she would be an asset in this role. Additionally, Sabrina is compassionate and considerate to all, which I believe will help guide her decisions for the best of all constituents. I wish Sabrina the best, and ask you to support her as well.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:23:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corey Y Park	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I strongly support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I worked with Sabrina as a volunteer in providing services to certain low-income communities. In that work, it became apparent that she is extremely intelligent, diligent, hardworking, and committed to serving the community. She has the ability to succeed at a high level as the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

Thank you.

Corey Park

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:36:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaori Hora	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I have known her for almost 20 years and I whole-heartedly vouch for her character and integrity. I have seen her take on challenges with proficiency, determination and optimism. She is dedicated to her role in public service and in fighting inequality, while building community with her natural warmth and empathy. I know that she will commit herself with enthusiasm and positivity to any role she takes on, and I hope to see her excel in this position.

Dr. Kaori Hora

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:45:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Gonzalez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is highly qualified and is a dedicated public servant who is committed to serving the people of Hawai'i. I trust that she would serve in this role to the best of her ability and be a good fiscal steward of taxpayer funds.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:51:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nawahine Lanzilotti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Nawahine Lanzilotti, support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. As an equity professional and former colleague of Sabrina's, I can speak to her excellent leadership, dedication to public service, and diligence. Sabrina has the unique ability to communicate with many different stakeholders and identify necessary solutions to complex challenges. She cares deeply about civic responsibility and leaving systems better than she finds them. Sabrina is a trustworthy, reliable, and highly skilled addition to any team and will serve the state in this role with the utmost dedication and professionalism.

Sincerely,

Nawahine Lanzilotti

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:52:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keisha Barnard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholly and completely support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for the role of Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. As a former educator for the state of Hawai'i, I trust that she will execute the duties required of her and will dedicate her time and energy to serving the people of Hawai'i. Sabrina cares deeply about public service and has the skills, experience, and background to carry out the duties required of this position. Thank you for your consideration of her for this role.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:35:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ned Bertz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I know her from her engagement at the University of Hawai'i where she led a student group that held South Asian themed events for the larger campus community. She is a thoughtful and skilled person who is passionate about serving the community and the state. She is committed to public service and would be excellent in this role.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:35:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Parke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir to be the Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance. When I worked at the Ways and Means Committee as a budget analyst from 2015-2016 she was my direct supervisor in her role as the Ways and Means Committee Budget Chief. I really enjoyed working for Sabrina because not only was she incredibly knowledgeable and a great teacher, but she also fostered a very inclusive and supportive work environment.

Sabrina valued and respected each of her staff and created a work environment where we were able to collaborate and share ideas freely. She was very professional but also approachable and easy to work with. I always felt comfortable going to her for help to answer questions that I had or to raise any concerns. I had a great experience working with and under Sabrina and would eagerly work with her again. Because of her abilities to lead and teach, but also listen and be respectful and compassionate, my time working for the Ways and Means Committee was both a valuable learning experience and a very enjoyable experience. Sabrina was an excellent manager and team leader and I believe she will be a fantastic Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:37:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randall S. Nishiyama	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Ms. Sabrina Nasir in my individual capacity and not as a Deputy Attorney General.

I strongly recommend Ms. Nasir for the position of Deputy Director of Finance for the Department of Budget and Finance. As a colleague, I have had the opportunity to work with her on various projects. She is intelligent, straightforward, and has an excellent understanding of the workings of state government.

In addition to her technical skills, she has excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills. Her attitude is positive and sustaining.

I am confident that Ms. Nasir would be an excellent addition to the Department of Budget and Finance, and I recommend her for the position of Deputy Director of Finance. Her exceptional skills, dedication, and commitment to public service make her an ideal candidate for the position.

Very truly yours,

Randall S. Nishiyama

Testimony in Support of GM 531
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
10:00 a.m, March 31, 2023
Room 211

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

I am writing to express my full support of GM531 to nominate Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I had the pleasure of working alongside Sabrina for a year when she served as Budget Chief for the Senate Ways and Means Committee. During that time, I was thoroughly impressed by her intelligence, resilience, and hard work.

I saw firsthand Sabrina's deep understanding of the State's budgeting process. She was also diligent in ensuring that all aspects of an issue were carefully considered. Her skills were reflected in the quality of her work, which was always thorough, accurate, and of the highest standard.

Although we only worked together briefly, I know Sabrina to be a passionate individual who deeply cares about the needs of the people of Hawaii. She takes the time to listen to others and is always willing to help in whichever way she can. Her ability to build relationships and work collaboratively with others also makes me confident that Sabrina will excel in this role. The knowledge she's accrued over several years of public service and the integrity of her character makes her an ideal candidate. I wholeheartedly support her nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of GM531.

Mahalo,
Lena Phomsouvanh

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:44:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rafia Hasina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ms Rafia Hasina

3138 Waialae Ave apt 132.

Honolulu, HI 96816

Judiciary Court Language Interpreter

Secretary , Bangladesh Hawaii Friendship Association

Vice President , “Milun Hawaii “ A Multicultural Organization.

Contact : rafiahasina149@gmail.com . 808-469-1130

Committee on Ways and Means , The 32nd Legislature, Regular Session of 2023 ; Friday ,
March 31, 2023 10:00 a.m. Room # 211.

Written Testimony for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of
Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee,

SABRINA NASIR , for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Senator Donovan M.Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith -Agaram, Vice Chair.

Honorable Chair , Vice Chair and Members of the Committee :

Im submitting the written testimony in my support for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Ms Nasir's extensive experience for public services and other financial institution fields are impressive. Her devotion to improve people's life and reduce inequality is incredibly remarkable. My strong support for Ms Nasir is based on her excellent resume .

I respectfully request to value her capacity and knowledge in the respective field and you favorably consider confirmation SABRINA NASIR as the Deputy Director , Department of Budget and Finance , state of Hawaii.

Sincerely

Ms Rafia Hasina

March 29, 2023

Written Testimony before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

10:00 a.m., March 31, 2023

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my **strong support** of GM531 to confirm Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I had the opportunity to work with Sabrina for three years while she served as the Budget Chief for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. I can attest to her exceptional qualities as a diligent, hardworking, and intelligent professional.

Sabrina possesses an in-depth understanding of the complexities and nuances of the State's budget and the legislative process. Her expertise in these matters was invaluable to both staff and committee members alike. She was meticulous in her attention to detail and displayed the ability to analyze complex financial and economic data and extract meaningful insights. These skills have allowed her to make significant contributions along every stop of her career.

Sabrina's positive attitude, steady demeanor, and communicative leadership style also made it a pleasure to work with her. Her ability to work collaboratively and build consensus among a diverse range of stakeholders will help to ensure that the priorities of the State are better aligned with the needs of our local communities. She is a bright and passionate public servant, and I have no doubt that Sabrina can continue to make a meaningful difference to the people of Hawaii in this new role.

Thank you very much for your consideration of my testimony in strong support of GM531 to confirm Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sincerely,
Nicolas Ayabe

Testimony in Support of GM531

Sabrina Nasir

Deputy Director of Budget and Finance

SENATOR DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: 03/31/23

Room Number: 211

I support Governor's Message 531, Sabrina Nasir, for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance ("B&F")

I have had the opportunity to work with Deputy Nasir since her appointment by Governor Green for the position as Deputy Director of B&F in December of 2022. In the short time that she has been in that role, I have appreciated her responsiveness and attentiveness to details as the administration worked on the transitional budget as well as administrative bills. Deputy Nasir has been very responsive and helpful in working with the B&F staff and SFA on getting a release of funding for our pre-kindergarten facility expansion work and kept in the loop during session.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote in favor of Deputy Nasir for her appointment as Deputy Director of B&F. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:01:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shaneia Perkins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing with the highest possible level of support of Ms. Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

One thing Hawai'i has become infamous for is being a financially corrupt state with so many cases of financial mismanagement. I believe Ms. Nasir holds the integrity, accountability, and expertise to assure that financial corruption and mismanagement within Hawai'i government ceases.

Mahalo for your consideration!

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:08:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathalie Champion	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sabrina Nasir's experience and core competencies in the field of public policy are highly commendable. Her ability to successfully develop, manage, and execute projects in government, non-governmental organizations, and research institutions is a testament to her exceptional skills in strategic planning, project management, and stakeholder engagement. Her passion for work that improves people's lives and reduces inequality is truly inspiring and demonstrates her commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in her work. Additionally, her expertise in state budget processes, federal fund management and compliance, policy, budget, and financial analysis, as well as research, data analysis, and data visualization, makes her a valuable asset in the field of public policy. Overall, Sabrina Nasir's impressive track record and diverse skill set make her a highly qualified and capable public policy professional.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:12:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benjamin Ota	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Ms. Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. Her resume and previous experiences confirm that she is qualified for this position. I know that she will serve the state well in this role based on her productive track record and industrious work ethic.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:44:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marian Tsuji	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

During her tenure at the Governor's Office, I interacted with Sabrina on various policy issues. I found her bright, responsive and very professional. She possesses both the micro and macro views of state government which will be helpful in her role as Deputy for B&F.

Thank you for your consideration.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:52:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Suiso	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrinha Nasir as deputy director for the department of Budget and Finance. I hear good things from people that work with Sabrinha. She gets things done, works well with a variety of people and is very competent.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:04:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryoko Pilger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is a highly qualified individual who is committed to helping the people of Hawaii. I know that she will serve diligently and give her all to make lasting impacts for the state.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:09:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nada McClellan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I enthusiastically support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I have known her for over 10 years. She is very hardworking, intelligent, diligent, honest, an excellent leader, and someone who truly lives according to her moral values. She is the best kind of public servant - she truly cares about serving the community through her work. I first met her at the University of Hawaii where she volunteered with a student cultural organization. They were struggling with designing a budget for their activities and she volunteered to help them, ultimately reorganizing the budget and doubling the amount that they had asked for - resulting in the organization having its most successful year, hosting major events that created a tremendously positive impact on student life and enrichment. She is always quick to offer help generously without any expectation of reward or recognition. She is keenly intelligent in a very unassuming way and offers excellent insight on complex issues and problems. In the entire time I've known her, she has been incredibly hardworking, managing a challenging full time job and graduate school at the same time and excelling at both - her organizational and time management skills are exceptional. I can think of no better person than Sabrina to serve as Deputy Director - our state will be fortunate to have such a hardworking, honest, and capable person in this role.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:27:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Champion	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am testifying in SUPPORT of the nomination of Dr. Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance. Dr. Nasir is an accomplished professional with an established record of success in the governmental and non-governmental setting. She brings experience in finance, budgeting, project management, and data driven decision making to this role. She is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion in organizations and in the community. Her experience at the East West Center as the DEI Coordinator will add to the Department and her work in the Executive Branch. She is known for her collaborative approach to problem solving and work with stakeholders. All of these experiences and characteristics will benefit the Department and those working with their team.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY BY DEREK MIZUNO
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT WAYS AND MEANS
ON
GM 531
RELATING TO CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
SABRINA NASIR

March 31, 2023

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Sabrina Nasir to be the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance. During Ms. Nasir's short tenure at Budget and Finance, she has displayed a good understanding of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF) and its unfunded actuarial accrued liability and projected annual required contributions. She is eager to learn more about the EUTF and brings insightful comments.

Ms. Nasir and the Governor's nominee for Director, Department of Budget and Finance have been transparent and have opened lines of communication through monthly meetings with the division heads about operational, legislative, budget and human resource matters. They are both open to suggestions and concerns of the division heads.

I believe that Ms. Nasir's varied experiences, especially financial and in State government, and deep passion for serving the citizens of the State will bring significant value to the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:55:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Azeema Faizunnisa Vogeler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 29, 2023

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing to submit my strong support for confirmation of **SABRINA NASIR** as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, State of Hawaii. Sabrina has strong educational and work credentials and based on her career trajectory, I can attest to their exceptional leadership and commitment to public service.

Sabrina Nasir has a wealth of experience in the public and private sector and has consistently demonstrated ability to manage complex projects and provide critical analysis needed for policy formation. In addition to their professional accomplishments, Sabrina is dedicated to serving the people of Hawaii and ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used wisely and efficiently. Their strong work ethic and understanding of intercultural dynamics make them an invaluable asset to any team.

I have no doubt that Sabrina would excel in the role of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance for our state. I wholeheartedly endorse their nomination and urge you to give them every consideration for this important position.

Sincerely,

Azeema F. Vogeler

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:01:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Hirai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Sabrina Nasir, nominee for Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Sabrina has an extensive education and has legislative, departmental, and executive work experience giving her the perspective to understand and get things done. In my experience working with Sabrina, she has proven to be hardworking, knowledgeable, and thorough in her work. She also demonstrates professionalism and integrity and her commitment to public service and the people of Hawaii make her an asset to the department and State. I respectfully request that this Committee confirm Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:09:45 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ananda Mishra	Testifying for Milun Hawaii	Support	In Person

Comments:

My name is Ananda Mishra, and I am the President of Milun Hawai‘i, a non-profit organization focused on promoting South and Southeast Asian cultures through its annual cultural program “Confluence of Cultures”, where proceeds are donated to various nonprofit organizations that help the underprivileged. I support the nomination of Ms. Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance as she has vast experience and knowledge in working on budget and policy issues statewide. Her track record shows she has strong determination in reducing inequality in our community by embracing diversity and valuing differences in culture, belief, practice and preference. As a matter of fact, she has established the East-West Center’s first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) program. She has likewise assisted with managing Indo-Pacific Perceptions of Messaging Project, which is a multi-party research project that used focus groups and surveys across 9 Indo-pacific countries to test U.S. public relations. I believe with her professional knowledge and experiences, she will represent the best interest of all of us including the South and Southeast Asians in our community.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 12:12:36 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Perry Arrasmith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

In a personal capacity, I strongly support the appointment of Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget & Finance. In the time I've known her, I've developed a deep and abiding admiration for her silent strength and concerted commitment to public service in the State of Hawai'i. Where others on her career path might have justifiably quit amidst moments of great adversity, her tenacity under pressure is a testament to her endurance. This endurance is a demonstration of her fitness for this position.

In short, Deputy Director Nasir's commitment to public service is an asset to the State of Hawai'i. If confirmed, she will be one of the few members of the Green Cabinet with a Ph.D. in her field. Her versatile work experience will supplement the wisdom she brings to bear within this appointment position. When taken together, her professional and academic qualifications verify that she appreciates the importance of the State Department of Budget and Finance--a Department which is concurrently unknown to wide swathes of the public, highly technical in its role(s) and responsibilities, and altogether critical to the functions of the State of Hawai'i.

Sabrina's commitment to public service traces to a faith she maintains in state government. Where faith is diminishing and distrust in state government is on the rise, her vision for the Department's role at such a critical inflection point in the State of Hawai'i's history is deeply needed.

I humbly thank the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for their consideration.

Respectfully,

Perry Arrasmith

'Ewa Beach, O'ahu, Hawai'i

TESTIMONY OF
MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 531

Friday, March 31, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SABRINA
NASIR, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support for the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director for the State of Hawaii, Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Sabrina for many years, from her days as a session hire for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to her position as Senior Special Assistant in the Office of the Governor under the prior administration, and more recently, in her capacity as Deputy Director at B&F.

From the very start, I was impressed with her analytical skills and ability to review and properly vet budget requests for appropriateness and relevance. Her abilities as a budget analyst, and later as Budget Chief at WAM, were complemented by her professionalism in dealing with department budget contacts. These qualities are carried forward into her senior positions at both the Governor's Office and B&F.

In her capacity as deputy at B&F, Sabrina has already shown leadership and demonstrated her willingness to work collaboratively on projects; she recently reached out to see how we, as deputies, can work together to improve processes between our departments.

I am confident that Sabrina possesses the experience, aptitude, and skillset needed to take on the role of deputy director of a complex department such as B&F and I look forward to continuing to work with her.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Sabrina Nasir's nomination to serve as Deputy Director of B&F and I urge that the Committee and Senate confirm her appointment.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 2:07:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dyana Mardon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I have known Ms. Nasir for over a decade in both a personal and professional capacity. She is brilliant, hardworking, dedicated to her community and an excellent, fair and inspiring leader who serves with integrity. She cares deeply about public service and improving the lives of everyone in her community. There is no better choice than Ms. Nasir to serve as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 3:04:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Scala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is with great enthusiasm that I provide my testimony in support of the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance for the State of Hawaii. I had the distinct pleasure of working alongside Ms. Nasir during our tenure as senior analysts for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for the Hawaii State Senate from 2011 through 2014. During this time, I observed firsthand Ms. Nasir's exceptional intellect, expertise in economics, sustainable development, and public policy, as well as her remarkable leadership abilities.

Ms. Nasir is an incredibly accomplished and capable professional who has made a significant impact in every position she has held. Her extensive background in economics, sustainable development, and public policy, coupled with her analytical skills and attention to detail, have enabled her to develop sound fiscal policies that have benefited the State of Hawaii. Ms. Nasir's ability to understand complex issues and to devise innovative solutions to address them has been invaluable to the success of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

As a leader, Ms. Nasir has been exceptional. She has always been kind and level-headed, regardless of the situation at hand. Her ability to remain calm and composed in high-pressure situations has earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues. Moreover, Ms. Nasir has always cultivated positive relationships with her peers, encouraging collaboration and teamwork among all members of the team. Her peer development skills have enabled her colleagues to develop their professional skills and to become better public servants.

Ms. Nasir's work ethic and dedication to public service are truly exemplary. She has always been willing to go above and beyond what is expected of her to ensure that the needs of the people of Hawaii are met. Her commitment to excellence has been evident in all of her work, from conducting in-depth research to preparing detailed reports and analyses. She has always maintained a high standard of professionalism and has never compromised her values or integrity.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Ms. Nasir's candidacy for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance for the State of Hawaii. Her intelligence, expertise, leadership abilities, and dedication to public service make her an outstanding candidate for this position. I have no doubt that she will continue to make a positive impact on the State of Hawaii and serve its people with the utmost professionalism and dedication.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Sincerely,

Michelle Scala

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 531
Nomination of Sabrina Nasir for Deputy Director , Department of Budget and Finance
From Luis P. Salaveria

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran,

My name is Luis P. Salaveria, and I STRONGLY SUPPORT the nomination of Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I first met Ms. Nasir briefly in 2011 when she interned at the Department of Budget and Finance when I was in the position she is being considered for. I asked her about her thoughts on Keynesian vs. Classical economics and the role government can serve in supporting a state's economy through fiscal policy. It was then that I found her to be a person of intelligence and very good work ethic. Ms. Nasir is a product of the state's budgeting environment. She has worked in the field for over 10 years and has a deep understanding of the State's budget processes, its people, and its issues. She has proven her talents in various capacities and positions. She has worked in the Legislature and the Executive Branch, and she dedicates her own time in support of community social programs and charitable organizations. She is an ideal public servant.

Over the last 4 months, I had the opportunity to watch Ms. Nasir perform the duties as the Deputy and I have been absolutely impressed with her skills and talent. Her deep understanding of the budget is an asset to the State and her operational acumen has been welcomed by the staff and her colleagues. Ms. Nasir has taken on the role of Deputy with much enthusiasm and motivation. She has actively assumed control over the administrative functions of the department in support of the Director's Office. She has in the past four months exhibited a strong understanding of sound management practices in her interaction with employees of the department. She has also been tasked with leadership roles in the coordination of federal funding, the Hawaii Community Development Authority, and the State of Hawaii Employer Union Trust Fund, all roles she assumed with enthusiasm and without hesitation.

I urge you to confirm Ms. Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She is one of the most talented individuals I have had the pleasure of working alongside.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luis P. Salaveria', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Luis P. Salaveria

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 5:32:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheri Kajiwara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear WAM Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I respectfully submit testimony in support of Sabrina Nasir for the position of deputy director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

In all of my interactions with Ms. Nasir, she has been nothing but professional and competent. She has a strong ability to set goals and has a demeanor that can bring people together to work toward a common goal.

Ms Nasir has strong organizational and reporting skills, and is detail oriented, which is a must in B&F. Her personal character is irreproachable. She consistently displays respect, fairness, and humility with all whom she deals with.

I have no doubts that Sabrina Nasir is qualified and capable to serve as the deputy director of this department.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Kajiwara

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 6:31:28 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vanessa Baptiste	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I write in SUPPORT of GM 531 to confirm Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Sabrina since we were colleagues at the Department of Transportation – Harbors Division. While working together, I was impressed with Sabrina’s knowledge – in addition to her calm demeanor and her ability to work well under pressure. I am confident in her ability to bring all these skills, necessary of a great leader, to the Department of Budget and Finance and in support of Governor Josh Green and his Administration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Sabrina Nasir’s confirmation.

Mahalo,

Vanessa Baptiste

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, March 31, 2023 at 10:00 am

GM 531 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA
NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

My name is Garret Yoshimi, the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer at the University of Hawai'i System. My testimony is submitted as an individual and not as a representative of the University of Hawai'i.

I strongly support Governor Josh Green's nomination of Sabrina K. Nasir to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I worked directly with Sabrina since Fall 2021 to craft Hawai'i's strategy to maximize the benefits of federal investments in broadband infrastructure and workforce development. Her background and experience with public grant funds, coupled with attention to detail in administrative, budget and compliance tasks, provided strong support for our early grant and program submissions to US Treasury and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Her prior work with the East-West Center and the Hawai'i Legislature also provided a strong foundation to prepare her for a leadership role in state government service.

Sabrina's work under the previous administration also formed the basis for Hawai'i's broadband program governance efforts contributing to successful awards of US Treasury and NTIA administrative and planning funds that currently support our statewide broadband program efforts. As nominee for Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance under the Green administration, Sabrina has continued to oversee our efforts in grant administration and compliance as we near the next funding milestones that will benefit all of Hawai'i's residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support on GM 531.

March 7, 2023

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Consideration and Confirmation of Sabrina Nasir, Deputy Director for the
Department of Budget and Finance

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

I have the great honor to support the confirmation of Sabrina Nasir to be Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance for the state of Hawaii. Sabrina worked with me at the East-West Center on two projects: as Project Coordinator of the Indo-Pacific Perceptions of Messaging program, and as the Coordinator of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiative. In both positions, Sabrina exhibited the utmost professionalism, creativity, competence, and meticulousness. Her efforts were indispensable to each of these two projects.

The Indo-Pacific Perceptions of Messaging program was sponsored by the Department of State, and its purpose was to refine U.S. messaging across Asia and in the Pacific. It was considered the essential State Department Public Diplomacy initiative of 2019 to 2021, as State struggled to put forth a message that resonated with citizens in the host countries where U.S. Embassies had been established. As U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, I can attest to this – we did not have sufficient tools to craft a message that fully engaged the host country population, or to know if the message we conveyed was getting through. Through a number of ingenious and original probability and polling devices, Sabrina was able to gain insight into the real effects that U.S. messaging was having on Indo-Pacific peoples; and just as importantly, showed the differences in such messaging in each country. It also showed the way forward on how to much better refine U.S. messaging to make it far more effective. I said many times to the State Department, to other East-West Center employees, and to Sabrina that, as a U.S. Ambassador, I would have loved to have had these tools at my disposal. Similarly, the State Department was thrilled to have these tools at its disposal; and since Sabrina left the East-West Center, has asked the East-West Center to continue with other similar initiatives across the Indo-Pacific region. I attribute the program's great success solely to Sabrina's hard work and inventiveness.

Soon after I started working at the East-West Center in late 2020, it was apparent that DEI was becoming a particularly important initiative that was percolating from the bottom up. A DEI survey had been distributed to all employees, the results were tabulated, and there was a clear consensus that DEI needed to be better integrated into the fabric of East-West Center processes and procedures. A DEI committee was formed, but it became evident that more focus was needed, so I made the decision to create a DEI Coordinator. Sabrina expressed interest in the job, and I knew that she would be the person who could best organize the DEI program and integrate it into the East-West Center, so I enthusiastically accepted her appointment. I was right – Sabrina brought competence, persistence, steadfastness, creativity to the job, and firmly anchored DEI in

the East-West Center by the time she moved on to her next position. She was outstanding, and I can't imagine that anyone else would have been able to do a better job than she did.

I know that Sabrina can do any job that she sets her mind to, and do it fabulously well. I have no reservations whatsoever in giving her my highest recommendation for the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance position.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide my perspective on Sabrina's suitability for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance position. As I said at the outset, it is an honor to be able to support the candidacy of someone so worthy as Sabrina Nasir.

Best regards,

Robert A. Riley, III, Ambassador (ret.)
Chief Operating Officer
East-West Center

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 7:17:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heather Schulz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of Sabrina Nasir for the role of Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina was my supervisor when she was Ways and Means Budget Chief. She was an amazing leader who was always willing to listen and provide clear direction and feedback to staff. She provided a professional work environment and treated us with kindness and compassion. I would characterize her as a hard worker, and someone who is passionate about serving her community. Sabrina always made herself available for questions and concerns and provided guidance during the high stress moments that come with working for a committee with tight deadlines. She provided frequent check-ins and always reminded us that our work was valuable and mattered. Sabrina has an extensive educational background and has worked in both the legislative and executive branch, providing her expertise on the budgetary and financial realm. She has answered the call to serve the State of Hawaii countless times and I believe she will make an excellent Deputy Director for the Department.

Sincerely,

Heather Schulz



Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

**Re: GM 531 Testimony in Support of Sabrina Nasir
Deputy Director, Dept of Budget and Finance**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

Synergistic Hawaii Ag Council stands in strong support of the nomination of Sabrina Nasir.

SHAC is a non-profit trade organization representing all agribusinesses in the floriculture, papaya, macadamia and coffee crops. We assist our producers with responding to pests and diseases, increasing production at the farmgate and developing markets for our Hawaii origin agriculture products.

Our key funding source has been Federal grant programs. We are aware that Ms. Nasir's **diligent** work as a Federal Grants Coordinator for Governor Ige helped drive countless State programs forward. In SHAC's opinion, such **leadership and experience** in seeking and securing Federal funding for Hawaii programs is a rare and extremely beneficial skill. We would like to see more of such proactive management from other departmental staff.

Her work with stakeholders across the spectrum is appreciated. The ability to liaise with both public and private clientele is a strength.

We find her to be **professional and capable**, and ask your speedy approval of her nomination.

Mahalo nui loa!

Suzanne Shriner
Administrator

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 7:36:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Laramée	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I have had the opportunity to work with Sabirna in her role with Governor Ige and in her position today. She has always been easy to work with, clear in her direction, responsive and fair. Sabirna brings something unique to this position, a balance of professionalism and enthusiasm for supporting the work of the state. She is invested in supporting the State and its departments in achieving their goals while ensuring that we are working within the approved parameters. In my many years of experience working with the Department of Budget and Finance I do believe she truly is the right candidate for the job.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Sabrina Nasir's confirmation.

March 31, 2023, at 10:00 am
Conference Room 225

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

From: Joseph Campos II

Re: **Testimony in Strong Support**
GM531, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR

I am Joseph H. Campos II, and I am writing in my personal capacity. My assessment and testimony are informed by my position as Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS). I am writing this letter in **Strong Support** of the nomination and confirmation of Sabrina Nasir, Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (BUF).

Deputy Director Nasir's background and extensive experience qualify her for appointment and confirmation as the BUF Deputy Director. Dr. Nasir has demonstrated that she has the leadership and experience to serve as the BUF Deputy Director, especially in times of crisis and recovery. Dr. Nasir served in various positions that will enhance her insight and thoughtfulness around matters before her at BUF.

As the Deputy Director of DHS, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Nasir since September 2021, and I have seen her commitment to the people of Hawaii and have been impressed with her willingness to work with other departments and ensure that issues are addressed to facilitate the timely processing of BUF requests. Dr. Nasir has always shown herself to be responsive and willing to guide departments through the BUF process. Her proven leadership through the pandemic will serve Hawaii well through the transition to recovery.

Dr. Nasir's humility and openness are essential parts of her leadership. Throughout the last year and a half, I have seen her commitment to open communication and understanding of the community's needs to find ways to improve access to the State and assist DHS in providing essential benefits and services. Dr. Nasir is especially mindful of social and economic stressors on families with children and Hawaii's multigenerational households. Dr. Nasir has worked collaboratively with legislators, other executive branch agencies, and community providers to deliver additional federal stimulus funds and address community needs.

With her leadership and guidance, BUF will continue to be responsive to the needs of Hawaii's residents, Legislative Branch, and Executive Branch.

I **strongly support** the nomination of Dr. Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 7:44:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rod Becker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

GM 531 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

I support Sabrina Nasir’s nomination to serve as the State’s deputy director of finance.

I’ve had ample opportunity to observe Ms. Nasir’s tremendous professional and personal attributes since 2009 as Senate Ways and Means Committee (WAM) budget chief while she served the State as a WAM budget analyst, and, more recently, as the deputy director of finance and state comptroller as she served later in other noteworthy roles. I’ve known Ms. Nasir to have exceptional professional standards and an impressive drive to keep improving. She is also bright, pragmatic, and personable.

In 2009 Ms. Nasir was hired to work for WAM as a budget analyst for the upcoming legislative session and I was her direct supervisor. She proved to be an excellent choice. Ms. Nasir quickly learned the requirements of the job, executing them efficiently and needing less support and direction from management than would typically be expected of a new hire. As a WAM budget analyst Ms. Nasir interacted with many state officials as she worked to understand departmental budgets and priorities. Department staff enjoyed working with her and expressed appreciation for her efforts to understand their needs and goals. Her recommendations were sound, considered available input, and were grounded in achieving legal requirements and policy objectives.

As you know, working as a new WAM budget analyst can be challenging. There is a lot to learn in a limited amount of time and staff need to exercise sound judgement in an environment that can be difficult to navigate. Ms. Nasir rose to the occasion. She consistently worked extended hours and would come in the next day with a good disposition and focus on her responsibilities. When a full-time budget analyst position at WAM became available, her excellent prior work performance was considered, and she was selected for the job. As a full-time budget analyst, she consistently displayed a high level of competence and care while also

helping management train and support new session hires. She was heavily relied upon and often pulled into higher level meetings. The quantity and quality of her work was excellent.

Ms. Nasir is amongst the highest performing individuals I've had the opportunity to work with. As an administrator with the department of budget and finance, I've seen firsthand all the qualities that now make her an excellent leader for this department. Ms. Nasir is focused on helping make the department and the State more effective, efficient, and transparent. She has a keen understanding of budgeting processes and the State's functions, responsibilities, and constituencies. She is also articulate, asks thoughtful questions, and provides clear guidance.

I believe that Ms. Nasir has the background, experience, and temperament to be an effective deputy director of finance and that she will bring a lot of value to both the department and the State of Hawaii. I respectfully recommend that the committee act favorably on GM 531.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: In Support of the Nomination of Sabrina Nasir to the Position of
Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance
GM 531
Hearing Date/Time: March 31, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**

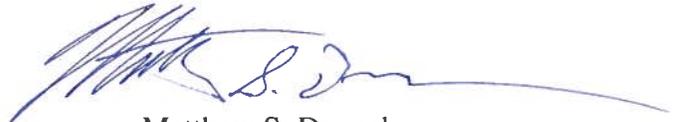
Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F). I am submitting this testimony in my personal capacity.

As First Deputy Attorney General, I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Nasir for the past several months. In that short time, I have found her to be intelligent, diligent, and very knowledgeable about B&F's operations. She is kind, generous with her time, and shows sincere humility, all of which are essential traits of a good leader and public servant. If confirmed, I have no doubt that Ms. Nasir will continue to be an outstanding Deputy Director for B&F.

Ms. Nasir is exceptionally well-qualified for this position and I urge the committee to support her nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew S. Dvonch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew S. Dvonch

Michael S. Vincent

CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
OF
SABRINA NASIR

Gubernatorial Nominee as Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance

Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, March 31, 2023; 10:00 a.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 211, Via Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F).

My personal or working relationship with Sabrina has been limited to working with her on budget issues relating to our Department. I have found her easy to work with, professional in her conduct, but more important is what I have seen to be a strong desire to do her best for the people of our state. She has a diverse background and has demonstrated in our interactions to have a sound fiscal understanding needed for one responsible for the public fisc. More important, she understands the obligations that comes with the responsibility. I believe she will be a great Deputy Director of B&F if given the opportunity.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of Sabrina.

Michael S. Vincent

Statement of

Benjamin Park

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

March 31, 2023, at 10:00 AM

In consideration of

GM 531

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SABRINA NASIR, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony in **strong support** of GM 531, to consider and confirm Ms. Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Over the past nine (9) years, I have known and worked closely with Ms. Nasir through her role as the Senate Ways and Means (WAM) Committee Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Specialist, while I worked as the Housing Planner at the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, and during our time working together under former WAM Chair Senator Jill Tokuda during the 2016 and 2017 Legislative Sessions, when she served as WAM Budget Chief and I served as WAM Bills Chief.

My recollection during our time working together at WAM was that she was an incredible supervisor, who was tough, but also fair, and always upheld a highly professional work environment, and produced high-quality work. I believe that she was respected and well-liked by Senators and staff because she was very approachable and carried herself with a calm demeanor. Her deep institutional knowledge and ability to address and resolve financial and budgetary issues for all State Departments and Agencies will be invaluable to our community in establishing and implementing Governor Green's and the Legislature's long-range goals for the State.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Ways and Means with my position regarding GM 531. I respectfully request the Committee to recommend Ms. Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

STATE OF HAWAI‘I
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**Testimony of James S. Tabe, State Public Defender
to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

March 31, 2023

GM 531: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I fully support the nomination Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. The Office of the Public Defender is administratively attached to the Department of Budget and Finance. Due to this administrative association, I have had an opportunity to work with Ms. Nasir in her brief tenure as Deputy Director.

Ms. Nasir’s wealth of experience in state government has prepared her well for this critical position as Deputy Director of Finance. She has worked in both the legislative and executive branches. Her relevant experience includes serving as the Budget Chief and the Capital Improvements Program Specialist with Senate Committee of Ways and Means, and most recently, as the Senior Special Assistant under Honorable David Y. Ige. Clearly, she is well-versed in the issues which face the state and can provide tremendous leadership with respect to budgetary matters.

In addition, her leadership experience as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator and as the Indo-Pacific Perceptions of Messaging Project Coordinator with the East-West Center, as well as her continuing work with The Legal Clinic, speaks to Ms. Nasir’s sensitivity and understanding of issues involving the less privileged and under-represented individuals in Hawai‘i’s multicultural

Ms. Nasir has shown a genuine interest in the operations of the Office of the Public Defender. She has devoted the time to learn about the issues which face our office and understand the mission of the Office of the Public Defender, which is distinctly different from the other attached agencies in the Department of Budget and Finance.

I am confident that Ms. Nasir will serve the department and the State of Hawai‘i with distinction, and I support her nomination without reservation. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in this matter.

For the consideration of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith Agaran, and members of the committee,

I support Sabrina Nasir for her nomination as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. Sabrina consistently impresses me with her hard work, intelligence, and integrity. I have known Sabrina since 2010, when we were both studying Hindi at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. We have maintained our friendship over the years as we both finished our doctoral degrees and moved on to serve our state in various capacities.

Sabrina has been the acting Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance since December. Previously, she served for two years as Senior Special Assistant to the Office of the Governor between 2021-2022. She was even the Budget Chief for the Hawaii State Legislature, Senate Ways and Means Committee for two years between 2015 to 2017, a position which surely prepares her to serve as the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

She was also the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator for the East-West Center for two years. Her commitment to social justice is also demonstrated by her dissertation work on housing and socio-economic justice for Micronesian immigrants.

Sabrina is committed to public service and will flourish in this position. Please confirm her nomination.

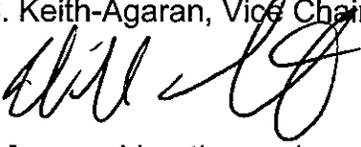
Me ke aloha pumehana,

Dr. Tamara Luthy
Ethnobotanist and lecturer

March 31, 2023
Conference Rm 221

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

FROM: William Kunstman 

RE: GM 531 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR

I am writing to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Ms. Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I have known Ms. Nasir since the 2010 Legislative session when she worked as a budget analyst for the Senate WAM committee. She has always impressed me with her intelligence, evaluative skills, and positivity that she demonstrates when problem-solving and working through complex issues.

Ms. Nasir's academic credentials coupled with her hands-on professional experience in matters related to the State budget make her well qualified to serve in the capacity of the Deputy Director for Budget and Finance. Considering her personal qualities, academic achievements and professional experience, I urge the committee to recommend advise and consent to Ms. Nasir's confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 531.

TESTIMONY BY SABRINA NASIR
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 531

May 31, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today regarding my nomination to serve as the Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F). It is an honor to be nominated by Governor Green to be a part of his Administration and it is with a great sense of humility that I look forward to serving the people of Hawaii.

As the Deputy Director, my role is to assist the Director with the operations of the department, and to support his vision that B&F provides the best budgeting and financial services for the State of Hawaii. My priorities for the department are to support the Director and his policy direction and strategic initiatives. These initiatives include improving communication with departments, stakeholders, and the Legislature; improving effectiveness and efficiency within the department; and protecting the state's credit through sound financial decision making.

I have attained degrees and certifications that I feel would be valuable in this position. I also believe my work experience, which includes working for the Senate Ways and Means Committee on state budgeting, the Office of the Governor on budget preparation and execution, and the East-West Center and other roles have provided me with experience developing and managing programs which will also be an asset in the role of deputy director. I have a strong working knowledge of the functional areas of the department, as well as good relationships and experience working with many of the long-serving administrators both in B&F and in other departments.

Working in the Legislative and Executive branches has allowed me to see the ways in which budget proposals develop, are analyzed, and further refined through the state appropriation process, and how many stakeholders should be engaged in order make good decisions for the betterment of our community.

Establishing the Title IX and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs at the East-West Center gave me additional insight into what leadership means. It was at the East-West Center and through my community work during COVID-19 that I further refined a consensus-based and collaborative leadership style. I highly value the input of others in the development of proposals and ideas.

My educational background has also provided me with skills in data analysis, visualization, and research which translate into being able to introduce more data-driven decision-making processes within the department, for the benefit of our own operations as well as the state overall.

I take public service very seriously and am always mindful that we must act for and on behalf of the public good. I am a hard worker, collaborative, and will continue to serve the state to the best of my capacity as the Deputy Director of Finance if permitted.

Thank you for considering my nomination.

Testimony of
CHRIS J. SADAYASU
to the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, March 31, 2023
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
GM 531
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, SABRINA NASIR, for
a term to expire 12-07-2026.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee.

I support the appointment of Sabrina Nasir to serve as the Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Nasir has the proven experience and academic credentials to support the State's initiatives in her current role. She has an extensive background in public service, including her previous positions with the Hawai'i State Legislature's Senate Ways and Means Committee and the Office of the Governor. Ms. Nasir's experience in the state budgeting process, managing and analyzing policy issues, and project management will continue to be beneficial to the State of Hawai'i as she is tasked with handling public fund expenditures and state investments.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for Ms. Nasir's confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

March 30, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Christine Aque

Subject: Governor's Message No. 531, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sabrina Nasir, for a term to expire 12-07-2026

Position: Strong Support

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of the appointment of Ms. Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F). I have worked under Ms. Nasir for the past few months as her secretary and have witnessed firsthand her passion and dedication to the department.

Ms. Nasir has been serving as the Deputy Director of B&F since December 2022. She has also held many other roles in state government, including positions in the Office of the Governor, East-West Center, and Senate Ways and Means (WAM) Committee, and her extensive work experience will be a vital asset to the department and the State. The knowledge and skills she gained on budget analysis and budget and policy issues, the different perspectives she has of the budget process, and her experience in developing and managing programs will help her make well-rounded decisions to cultivate a more efficient and effective department.

Ms. Nasir is hard working, persistent, and determined. She tackles issues head on, initiating conversations and meetings and actively seeking resolutions. She cares about the department and the individuals that work for it and often engages with employees because she values their input and opinions. I believe that her collaborative style of leadership and fresh ideas will positively impact and progress the department.

For these reasons, I strongly support the appointment of Ms. Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of B&F and respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Ms. Nasir to that position. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:59:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna Mau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee, I am testifying on my own behalf in support of confirmation of Sabrina Nasir, as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial nominee.

In my capacity as an Energy Program Manager in the Hawai‘i State Energy Office, I came to know Sabrina Nasir while she was a Senior Special Assistant in the Governor’s Office. She was always responsive with assisting HSEO in matters related to federal funding opportunities. When dealing with firm deadlines for submitting grant applications, communication with the Governor’s Office was crucial. Sabrina Nasir facilitated Governor’s letters in support of HSEO’s pursuit of federal funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Donna Mau

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:03:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Pfeffer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the consideration and confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:04:01 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nuri Kye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir in her nomination to Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance. I have had the privilege of knowing Sabrina for nearly two decades, from our first day as undergraduates at the University of California, Berkeley. In that time, I have witnessed Sabrina's evolution from brilliant young student to dedicated administrator, with the professional and academic expertise to match her passion for serving communities.

I believe that the breadth of diversity that Sabrina represents-- in her background and personal experiences, as well as in her studies-- prepares her well for the challenges and scope of the position of Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. She possesses equally high facility in the quantitative aspects of the position as she does in her understanding of demographic and sociological factors that lend vibrancy and complexity to the state of Hawai'i and its many communities. Sabrina would fulfill the responsibilities of her position with great skill, knowledge, nuance, and humanity.

Sabrina's academic career has taken her to many corners of the world, but she always carried memories of Hawaii, and the dream to make a difference in her adopted home, in her heart. I have had the pleasure of seeing Hawai'i through Sabrina's lens during many visits to the state; she takes great pride in sharing her love of the land and its people, and while continually endeavoring to understand more about the state's past and the present. I know that she will bring her unparalleled brand of excellence and dedication to the role of Deputy Director of Budget and Finance, and do her part to ensure Hawai'i's vibrant future.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:12:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
phyllis shimabukuro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ms. Sabrina Kiren Nasir is qualified to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I have know her professionally while she held the position of Senior Special Assistant in the Office of the Governor from September 2021 - October 2022. Ms Nasir is intelligent, respectful and very responsive to stakeholders especially with urgent needs and requests. She performs well under stressful situations. She is highly qualified to assist the Director and serve the State of Hawaii with integrity and aloha. Please advise and consent GM531 Sabrina Kiren Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Mahalo.

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

GM 531 – In Support

March 31, 2023

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Linda Chu Takayama, and I am submitting this testimony in strong support for the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina was a Senior Special Assistant, reporting directly to me when I served as Chief of Staff to the Governor. She is exceptionally qualified for the position. Her skills and knowledge of the, often arcane, budget process made her a valued team member in high level discussions related to complex fiscal and policy matters.

I found I could count on her to follow through on big and small assignments and critical deadlines, which sometimes represented hundreds of millions of dollars. Those assignments included major Federal programs on which she teamed with B&F staff on such issues as broadband and infrastructure funding. She also was involved in overall budget planning relative to department programs, helping to ensure accurate tracking and reporting.

She helped to coordinate Hawaii's representation in the Western Governors' Association, National Governors Association, and the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders. These were high-profile gatherings that often anticipated national policy direction.

Generally, I found Sabrina maintained a committed work ethic, high integrity and straight-forward dealings. She would be a significant asset to B&F and the State.

I strongly endorse her nomination and am available if you have any questions.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:19:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robbie Watland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

When discussing matters or collaborating on issues, Sabrina was always a good listener and very helpful and knowledgeable. She is an excellent choice for Deputy Director.

Written Testimony
Mary Alice Evans
Waimanalo, Hawaii

GM 531
Nomination of SABRINA NASIR for
Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, March 31, 2023, 10:00 am, Room 211

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

Please support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Sabrina Nasir has extensive experience analyzing state department budgets while serving as a Budget Analyst, CIP Specialist, and Budget Clerk for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. She also has experience working for state departments and programs.

Sabrina has the ability to analyze and forecast the impacts of budget decisions on the Legislature's policy priorities. This "big picture" understanding is needed to balance the many needs of Hawaii's families and communities with the limited fiscal resources available.

Please recommend confirmation of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:30:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Puna Na'auao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express strong support of Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I had the pleasure of working with Sabrina during her time with the Senate Ways and Means Committees. Throughout those years I was able to witness Sabrina's demonstrated competence, qualifications, knowledge, professionalism and integrity. She displayed a strong understanding of budgeting principles and solutions as well as the financial needs of our State and has already proven to be a valuable asset to the Department and Administration.

I urge the Senate to confirm the appointment of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Mahalo for your consideration.

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:41:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Mcmanaman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ms. Nasir has the experience, knowledge, and integrity to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Importantly, she is also committed to serving Hawai'i and its residents.

This level of management requires a person with exceptional skills, perseverance, and dedication. Ms. Nasir meets and exceeds these qualifications.

Pat McManaman

Testimony of

Tracy Ban

Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In consideration of

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 531

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SABRINA NASIR
TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-07-2026

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Governor's Message 531.

I **strongly support** the nomination of Sabrina Nasir as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I am submitting testimony in my personal capacity.

As the Administrative Services Officer for the Department of Budget and Finance, I have known and worked with Sabrina since she started as a Budget Analyst with the Senate Ways and Means Committee in 2009 and as she was later promoted to Budget Chief of the Committee in 2015. I have worked more closely with Sabrina starting from December of 2022 in her role as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Throughout the time that I have known Sabrina, I have found Sabrina to be intelligent, professional, thoughtful, and committed to serving the public. I strongly believe that Sabrina's educational background, experience in working with individuals and groups from a wide range of interests and backgrounds, along with her knowledge of the State's Budgeting process and organization will enable Sabrina to support the Director of Finance and the Department of Budget and Finance in moving forward on any challenges that are encountered.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Sabrina Nasir.

Respectfully submitted,



Tracy Ban

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:59:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maureen Yee-Lam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I know her personally and can attest to her strong character, work ethic, and desire to serve the community. She is the type of public servant Hawaii needs and I have no doubt that she will be an effective and inspiring leader in this role.

LATE

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 10:04:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pui Lam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Sabrina Nasir's nomination for Deputy Director of Budget and Finance. I know her personally and can attest to her strong character, work ethic, and desire to serve the community. She is the type of public servant Hawaii needs and I have no doubt that she will be an effective and inspiring leader in this role.

LATE

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 10:10:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan L Fernandez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the nomination of Sabrina Nasir as Deputy for the Dept of Budget and Finance. She is bright, hard working, gets along well with everyone she works with, and is a very committed public servant. BUF is a great place for her, and we will feel her work ethic throughout the state as she gets her job done.

LATE

March 30, 2023

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 531, RELATING TO THE
NOMINATION OF SABRINA NASIR TO BE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, BUDGET & FINANCE

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

I **strongly support** the appointment of Sabrina Nasir to the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I've had the pleasure and opportunity to work with Sabrina at the Governor's office during Governor Ige's term. During this period, Sabrina had a range of responsibilities, and through every project, she demonstrated that she is a distinguished leader, an exceptionally hard worker, and a person of great integrity.

While working with her, I immediately understood that she was incredibly intelligent, an excellent communicator, and a kind individual. Her written work and oral articulateness are both clear and concise, and her input was always valued due to her balanced and straightforward approach. When she was involved with any project, she would put in the extra hours as necessary in order to meet these specific deadlines. I've been consistently impressed with her ability to effectively solve problems, her logistical mind, and grace under pressure.

Sabrina is a rare individual that possesses the ability to inspire those around her with her strong determination and passion to serve the people of Hawai'i. Based on our experience together, I am confident that Sabrina's experience, skills, and attitude would make her an effective Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance. I have no doubt that Sabrina will be able to boost the Department's morale, productivity, and success.

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

Very respectfully,

Rei Kitagawa

LATE

GM-531

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 11:29:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurel Johnston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 31, 2023

Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

RE: GM 531 - Sabrina Nasir, Deputy Director

Dept. of Budget and Finance

Please accept my testimony in support of Ms. Nasir's nomination as Deputy Director for Dept. of Budget and Finance.

I have known Ms. Nasir since the beginning of her career as a budget analyst with the Hawaii state legislature. She has worked on both the operating and capital improvement project budgets, gaining valuable experience that will support her role as Deputy. Her academic pursuits have developed her as a critical thinker that will assist her in evaluating executive budget requests. She is someone who will ask questions, as appropriate, in shaping the executive budget request and monitoring executive agency budget execution. My experiences in working with her have always been positive, allowing mutual respect in performing our various duties during our careers.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of my testimony.

Laurel Johnston

LATE

Testimony on Governor's Message 531

Honorable Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gil Keith-Agaran, and Ways and Means Committee members:

I am respectfully offering testimony in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 531, the nomination of Sabrina Nasir for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Having worked in support of State budgeting for nearly thirty years and knowing the nominee for thirteen of those year, in my opinion the nominee possesses and/or has demonstrated:

- a genuine concern for public services, particular for the equity, efficiency, and effectiveness of resource decisions;
- a long standing interest in supporting sound fiscal management; and
- an open mind that allows her to be flexible when it comes to supporting and executing policy decisions.

It takes people to continue to both sustain and continuously improve upon the state's budgeting processes. As the years go by, my appreciation of the necessity to ensure individuals who are ready, willing, and able to support this work are in place grows. The disposition, skills, and experience that the nominee possesses in my view are assets for the State in this regard.

In short and in closing, the nominee is thoughtful, committed, and collaborative, and can be a capable Deputy Director for the Department of Budget and Finance.



Brian Hallett in my individual capacity

LATE

Testimony of David Y. Ige

Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, March 31, 2023

10:00 AM

Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

GM 531 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, **SABRINA NASIR**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Governor's Message 531, for Gubernatorial Nominee Sabrina Nasir, to be confirmed as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known Ms. Nasir for more than 10 years; she is a good leader and collaborator and is able to work with a wide variety of people. She takes the initiative and is able to handle complex problems and find solutions that work.

She understands both the operating and CIP budget from the legislature's perspective. I commend the Senate for recognizing her talent as she served under three different Chairs of the Ways and Means Committee, starting as a budget analyst, and being promoted to CIP Specialist, and finally Budget Chief. She is hard-working and has the highest level of integrity.

Ms. Nasir served as Senior Special Assistant in the Governor's Office researching policy and legal issues. She met regularly with the various departments and agencies to discuss and resolve state budget, fiscal policy, and legal issues that arose in budget execution. She also monitored federal legislation, policy development, and worked with the Department of Budget and Finance on federal funding opportunities and grants awarded to Hawaii.

Ms. Sabrina Nasir is very well qualified to serve as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Her skills, knowledge, and talent will be a tremendous asset for the State of Hawaii. I urge you to advise and consent to the nomination of Ms. Sabrina Nasir.