

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

April 12, 2023

To: The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference, State Capitol

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

Re: GM 656; Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Retirement Savings Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, JESSIE DEAN, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Jessie Keolamaikalani Minier Dean to the Hawaii Retirement Savings Board.

Mr. Dean is an attorney with experience in leading organizations and policy development. Mr. Dean is the Chief Executive Officer of the King Lunalilo Trust and Lunalilo Home where he administers the oldest testamentary alii trust. As the CEO, Mr. Dean has identified and implemented new programs that diversified revenue sources and ensured that the trust is financially sustainable. Previously, Mr. Dean served as the Tribal Affairs Administrator for the Health Care Authority and developed healthcare policies for American Indian and Native Alaskan tribes.

The DLIR commends Mr. Dean for his voluntary service in addressing Hawaii's retirement security crisis by allowing private sector employees to participate in a state-facilitated payroll-deduction retirement savings plan that will promote retirement savings needed for a secure retirement, improve the employee's financial security, and reduce wealth disparity as intended by State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of G.M. 656.



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**The State Legislature
Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Governor's Message (GM) 656- Jessie Dean
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
Conference Room 224
3:00 p.m.**

TO: The Honorable Sharon Moriwaki, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice-Chair
FROM: Keali'i S. López, State Director, AARP Hawai'i

RE: Strong Support for GM 656 – Jessie Dean

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice-Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social impact organization that advocates for individuals aged 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and nearly 140,000 in Hawai'i. We advocate at the state and federal level for issues that matter most to older adults and their families.

AARP strongly supports the confirmation of Jessie “Keola” Dean to serve on the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the King Lunalilo Trust & Lunalilo Home, Mr. Jessie Dean is a well-qualified candidate who brings his professional experience and knowledge of operating a small business in Hawai'i. While he represents the interests of small businesses, Mr. Dean also has the corporate knowledge complemented by an exemplary background in business, accounting, law, and finances. His skills and expertise provide invaluable depth to the retirement savings board's governance and oversight of the state's program's compliance to financial and legal benchmarks. AARP deeply appreciates Mr. Dean's commitment to serving on the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Mr. Dean's confirmation.

LETTER OF INTEREST

Aloha mai!

I am writing to explain my interest in serving on the Hawai‘i Retirement Savings Board (the Board).

1. Why do you wish to serve on the Board?

As the Chief Executive Officer of the King Lunalilo Trust, which provides various services to kūpuna, I see first-hand the challenges kūpuna face when they do not have enough resources in retirement. I want to serve on the Board to help make our Hawai‘i nei better for all of us, but especially our future kūpuna – meaning all of us.

2. What do you perceive as your role and responsibilities as a member of the Board?

My responsibilities as a Board member will be to work with the other Board members to implement and maintain the program, including designing the program in accordance with best practices for retirement savings vehicles and ensuring the program is easy to administer for covered employers, easy to understand for covered employees, and cost-efficient for everyone. My personal responsibility will be to closely review and analyze all information related to the program to ensure that I ask informed questions and take informed actions at Board meetings.

3. Given your understanding of your responsibilities as a member of the Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board.

With my diverse experience, I am qualified to serve as a member of the Board. With nearly five (5) years of experience as a financial and compliance auditor (during which time I became licensed as a CPA (no longer active)), I understand the importance of information flow design, internal controls, and financial and operating reports; this information is critical to effective financial and fiduciary oversight. With nearly ten (10) years of experience as a corporate attorney, I understand the importance of adhering to statutory directives, promulgating regulations in accordance therewith, and building a Board that understands our oversight role. With eight (8) years as a Washington State agency executive, I understand how state agencies develop and implement new policies and how state programs need robust channels for feedback from the public and program beneficiaries.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I hope to have contributed to the Board’s establishment of an effective program for the state, including the creation of rules and regulations, the design of a cost-effective and administratively simple program, and the effective oversight of expenses and administration to ensure that state resources are being used prudently.

5. Name one previous experience that relates to the work of the Board.

As a Washington State agency executive, I served on and helped facilitate the meetings of the Governor’s Indian Health Advisory Council (GIHAC), which included oversight of my former agency’s implementation of new state and federal policies. I regularly presented to the GIHAC on my former agency’s implementation plan and progress. As a result, I have experience with how a state board operated in a different state.

6. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any conflicts of interest that could arise during my service on the Board.

In conclusion, I look forward to returning to public service – this time as a member of a state oversight board.

Mahalo nui,



J. Keolamaikalani Dean

GM-656

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 8:32:40 AM

Testimony for LBT on 4/12/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kuuleilani Reyes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII RETIREMENT SAVINGS BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JESSIE DEAN, FOR A TEAM TO EXPIRE ON 06-30-26.

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the confirmation of Jessie Dean to the Board of the Hawaii Retirement Savings. I work Kamehameha Schools Kapālama as the Hawai‘i Pacific Collection Librarian, but I am testifying in my personal capacity.

Jessie (Keola) is an honest, hard working CEO for the King Lunalilo Trust. He has degrees in psychology, accounting, law, and health policy. He's worked in all of those fields, all over the country. He was an auditor at KPMG International and at American Savings Bank, a securities litigator in Washington, DC, a venture capital lawyer in corporate securities in California, a capital lawyer in corporate securities in California. He also worked another degree in public health policy, and worked for Medicaid, specifically to help Native Americans, because taking care of indigenous people is important to him.

Furthermore, Dean is committed to taking care of our kūpuna, our senior citizens. He brings all his skills, experiences, expertise, and drive to the improvement of our vulnerable citizens. He will be an excellent member of the Board of the Hawaii Retirement Savings.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide strong testimony.

LATE

GM-656

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 5:49:30 PM

Testimony for LBT on 4/12/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Moriwake, Vice Chair Lee and members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology,

I testify in strong SUPPORT of GM 656, Jessie Keolamaikalani Dean in being confirmed as the Gubernatorial nominee for the Hawaii Retirement Savings Board. His resume speaks for itself, but I would also share that if appointed, he would do his best to endure the Hawaii Retirement Savings program succeeds.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha...