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SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA

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Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the **Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection** Monday, March 25, 2024 9:00 a.m. **Conference Room 229 and Via Videoconference**

On the following measure: G.M. 654, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES AND GUARDS. **GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, GAISON ONTAI,** FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Nadine Y. Ando, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the appointment of Mr. Gaison Ontai to the State Board of Private Detectives and Guards (Board) as a public member.

With over a decade of experience as a corporate attorney in the healthcare industry, Mr. Ontai brings a wealth of expertise and a proven track record of success to this role. Throughout his career, Mr. Ontai has demonstrated exceptional leadership and strategic vision. His tenure at The Queen's Health Systems, where he served as Corporate Counsel and Director of Physician Contracts, involved overseeing a myriad of legal affairs, including regulatory compliance, contract negotiations, and litigation

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management. His instrumental role in managing complex corporate transactions and acquisitions underscores his ability to precisely navigate intricate legal landscapes.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Ontai is committed to community service, as evidenced by his involvement in various charitable organizations and pro bono work. His dedication to upholding the highest standards of professionalism and ethical conduct makes him an exemplary candidate for the Board.

The Department believes that Mr. Ontai's experience and accomplishments offers a welcomed perspective to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-654

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 1:29:41 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/25/2024 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dawn Kurisu | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Gaison is an experienced legal professional and community leader, who is committed to strengthening the health and safety of Hawaii. His experience in employment law, contracting, and community will be valuable to the board of private detectives and guards and ensure sound fiduciary oversight. I enthusiastically support Gaison's gubernatorial nomination for service and respectfully request the committee's favorable consideration.