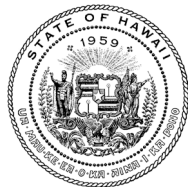


JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

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

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

In consideration of G.M No. 521

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Tax Review Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, STACEY KATAKURA, for a term to expire 05-08-2026. (Term corrected to 05-07-2027 by GM675)

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Monday, April 27, 2026
TIME: 12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

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

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Ms. Stacey Katakura to the Tax Review Commission.

Ms. Katakura brings over twenty years of experience in accounting, financial management, and tax-related work in Hawai'i. As CEO and Founder of Accumulus Advisors, she leads a firm that strengthens financial operations, governance, and transparency for nonprofits and mission-driven organizations statewide.

Her previous roles include President of HiAccounting and Vice President/Chief Financial Officer of Forest City Hawaii, where she oversaw \$2 billion in assets, \$300 million in annual revenues, and managed \$1.4 billion in private bond offerings with government partners. Earlier positions at MBK Real Estate and Ernst & Young provide her with technical tax expertise, as well.

She holds a degree in Accounting from the University of Southern California and is a Certified Public Accountant in Hawai'i and California.

Her experience, integrity, and commitment to public-serving work make her exceptionally well-qualified to be a valuable member of the Tax Review Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 521.

GM-521

Submitted on: 4/23/2026 12:24:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/27/2026 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Evan Leong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 24, 2026

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Stacey Katakura to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission. I have known Stacey for nearly seven years, since we first met over coffee in Manoa in the fall of 2019 to talk story about our work and Hawaii's small business community.

Stacey brings exceptional qualifications to this role. As a Certified Public Accountant with more than 30 years of experience spanning public accounting, corporate finance, and firm leadership, she has the technical depth and practical perspective the Tax Review Commission requires. Her career arc, beginning in tax at Ernst & Young, then serving as Vice President and CFO of Forest City Hawaii where she led financial strategy for \$2 billion in assets and managed \$1.4 billion in private bond offerings in partnership with government agencies, and culminating in founding Accumulus Advisors in 2017, reflects a rare breadth of expertise across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. What I have observed directly is that she does not just know the rules. She understands how those rules actually land on real businesses and real families here in Hawaii.

I saw this most clearly during the pandemic. On March 27, 2020, the day the CARES Act and PPP were announced, my brother and I recruited a small team to provide free guidance to Hawaii businesses trying to make sense of what was happening. Stacey was one of the first people we called, and she said yes without hesitation. Alongside attorneys Darin Leong and Jeff Harris, we stood up Save Hawaii Jobs and Businesses. Over the following months the team ran 19 webinars with 500 to 1,000 participants each, published three core memos with 27 significant revisions as the rules kept changing, triaged over 1,400 emails from business owners, and helped an estimated 5,000 Hawaii businesses navigate PPP, EIDL, and the federal relief programs. All of it was pro bono. Stacey was the technical backbone of that work. Executives at American Savings Bank, Central Pacific Bank, and Bank of Hawaii told us that our webinars were the reason their customers came in prepared and got their applications processed. Hawaii received a disproportionately higher share of PPP funds than most states. Business owners across the islands have told us plainly that this effort kept them from bankruptcy. That is who Stacey is when no one is watching.

Beyond her professional credentials, Stacey is deeply committed to the people of Hawaii. Her civic service reflects that: Vice Chair of the YWCA O'ahu Board, Trustee of Island Pacific Academy, Trustee of Abilities Unlimited, Treasurer of Hawai'i Fi-Do, and mentor to emerging leaders through the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii and the Shidler Executive MBA Program, among others. Her firm serves nonprofits and mission-driven organizations across the state, which means she sees every day how fiscal policy affects the institutions holding our community together. I have also referred a number of young accounting professionals and Shidler students to her over the years. She takes mentorship seriously, and every one of them has been better for the experience.

I urge the Senate to confirm Stacey Katakura's appointment to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission without hesitation. She will serve the people of Hawaii with integrity, expertise, and genuine dedication.

Mahalo,

Evan Leong

GM-521

Submitted on: 4/23/2026 2:22:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/27/2026 12:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I have known Stacey Katakura for twenty years and worked very closely with her for probably half of that time. She is smart, caring, and would be a terrific addition to any board in any capacity. In the case of the Hawaii Tax Review Commission, she is uniquely qualified and will be particularly effect.

I strongly endorse her application and believe the State's financial standing will benefit from her involvement.

Mahalo - Jon Wallenstrom

KAREN S MUKAI

April 23, 2026

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am writing to strongly support the confirmation of Stacey Katakura to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission. I have known Stacey for six years through our work on several non-profit organization boards, in particular Abilities Unlimited, YWCA Oahu, Manoa Valley Theatre, and Women's Fund of Hawaii.

I believe that Stacey is highly qualified for this role. She has more than 30 years of experience in tax and public accounting, financial management, and governance. Specifically important for the Commission is her extensive experience in implementing technology solutions to improve accuracy, efficiency, and fiscal transparency.

Stacey's professional reputation and community dedication are acknowledged and respected in Hawaii. She is compassionate and very committed to Hawaii's people. She is my trusted friend and colleague.

I urge the Senate to confirm Stacey Katakura's appointment to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission without hesitation.

Sincerely,

Karen S Mukai
President & CEO
Abilities Unlimited, a dba of Winners at Work, Inc.

808) 722-4897
karenmukai@yahoo.com



April 24, 2026

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Stacey Katakura to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission. I have known Stacey for 22 years in many different capacities.

For 10 years, Stacey mentored me as her direct report at Forest City where she served as the CFO. She consistently provided me with opportunities to step out of my comfort zone and grow both technically and managerially; I consider her mentorship as pivotal to my development as a leader. I watched as Stacey advocated for our team in conversations with the corporate office, demonstrated a tireless commitment to excellence in reporting, and managed the financing of \$1.4B which provided homes for 6,700 service members and their families- a point that she would always bring us back to as a reminder of why we do what we do. Stacey also lobbied to ensure that military housing gained a permanent spot on the list of projects that are eligible for a general excise tax exemption. This exemption was crucial to the economic health of the project which has contributed significantly to Hawaii's economy since 2004.

For 5 years, Stacey and I have served on two boards together: YWCA Oahu and Island Pacific Academy. As a board member is where Stacey's passion for the community shines. During COVID, she saw a need for non-profits to be informed about the various grants and assistance programs and stepped up to hold numerous webinars helping organizations navigate federal assistance during that time. In vetting the numerous board opportunities that Stacey is presented, her first questions are always about the mission and ensuring its values are aligned with her own. She lends her time, treasure, and talent beyond what is obvious. For example, she serves on the Fund Development & Advocacy Committees of the YWCA Oahu, a testament to her passion for advancing initiatives that empower women.

For 4 years, I have been a client of Accumulus Advisors. Having seen her dedication to timeliness, accuracy, and client service firsthand during our time together at Forest City, there is no one else I would trust with the accounting of my business.

I strongly urge the Senate to confirm Stacey Katakura's appointment to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission without hesitation. She will continue to serve the people of Hawai'i with thoughtfulness, passion, and effectiveness.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cayenne Pe'a".

Cayenne Pe'a

Co-Owner, Alaka'i Development

CayenneP@alaka-i.com

April 24, 2026

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Ellen Ng and I am a founder of a local blockchain technology consulting company, Inoa.ai. I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Stacey Katakura to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission – given her qualifications and heart for community service.

I have known Stacey for 3.5 years through our service on the board of directors for the Women's Fund of Hawaii (WFH). WFH is a grant-making non-profit organization that disburses financial aid to support the programs of Hawaii-based civic organizations focused on improving the lives of women and girls in need.

During my time serving on the board, I have had the opportunity to witness Stacey's dedicated leadership as the Treasurer of the board for WFH. With her guidance, it enabled the Fund to maintain a clean financial record and uphold fiscal integrity to our stakeholders.

Through our service to WFH together, I have also had the good fortune in learning about and participating in other nonprofit endeavors that Stacey is passionate about. Particularly, her involvement with the YWCA O'ahu and uplifting women is inspiring and a solid demonstration of her commitment to improve the lives of the vulnerable in Hawaii.

Professionally, Stacey brings exceptional qualifications to this role with her experience enabling a varied perspective as a public accountant, executive leader and business owner with regard to tax matters. Additionally, as a fellow entrepreneur, I can attest to the respect she garners from the local business community.

I strongly believe Stacey Katakura will be a valuable asset to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission and urge the Committee members to confirm her appointment.

Mahalo,

Ellen Ng
Founder, Inoa

GM-521

Submitted on: 4/27/2026 10:44:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/27/2026 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Kracher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

4/27/26

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Stacey Katakura to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission. I have known Stacey for 4 years through our work together at the Chamber of Commerce. As a former woman owned business, Stacey and I understood each other's businesses and are in alignment with the same mission to help other's through our own expertise.

Stacey brings exceptional qualifications to this role. As a Certified Public Accountant with more than 30 years of experience spanning public accounting, corporate finance, and firm leadership, she has the technical depth and practical perspective that the Tax Review Commission requires.

Her career, beginning in tax at Ernst & Young, continuing as CFO of Forest City Hawaii, and culminating in founding Accumulus Advisors, reflects a rare breadth of financial expertise.

Stacey leads a dedicated team of accounting professionals and is excellent with servicing her clients. Her accounting knowlege, detail in her work and community involvement is highly respectable.

Beyond her professional credentials, Stacey is deeply committed to the people of Hawai'i. Stacey's character, integrity, and giving back to the community is shown throughout her years of involvement on multiple Boards, as listed below which are geared towards her dedication to nonprofits and mission-driven organizations, and through her mentorship of others:

YWCA O'ahu – Vice Chair & Fund Development Chair | Island Pacific Academy – Board of Trustees |
MADD Hawai'i – Treasurer & Advisory Board Member | Manoa Valley Theatre – Board Member |
Abilities Unlimited – Trustee | Hawai'i Fi-Do – Treasurer | XLR8X – Board Member | Women's Fund of
Hawai'i – Past Treasurer & Board Member | Hawai'i HomeOwnership Center – Past Board Chair |

Mentor, Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, Impact SmallBiz Accelerator & Shidler Executive MBA Program

This written testimony does not do justice without meeting Stacey Katakura in person and knowing what she can contribute to the Tax Review Commission. I urge the Senate to confirm Stacey Katakura's appointment to the Hawaii Tax Review Commission without hesitation. She will serve the people of Hawai'i with integrity, expertise, and genuine dedication.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further questions.

Mahalo,

Lisa Kracher

Former Owner of Staffing Solutions of Hawaii & Kahu Malama Nurses

VP of Array Corporation

Lisa@Arraycorp.com

808.772.6109

April 26, 2026

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Linda Jameson Myers, Vice President of Advancement at Assets School, and Leadership Committee Chairwoman at MADD Hawaii Advisory Board

Re: Candidate Stacey Katakura, CPA, CEO & Founder of Accumulus Advisors, LLC

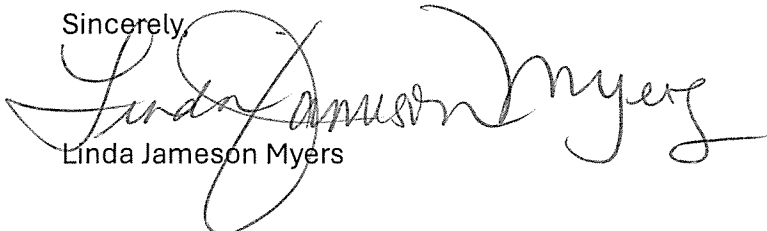
I am writing today in strong support of the confirmation of Stacey Katakura, CPA, to be appointed to the Tax Review Commission. I have known Stacey for a long time and recruited her to serve on the Mothers Against Drunk Driving Board. While serving on the Board as the Treasurer, Stacey did an outstanding job analyzing our finances and making recommendations. She was articulate and demonstrated a passion to make a difference for the MADD Hawaii not-for-profit organization, as well as other not-for-profit organizations where she serves on the board, or offers pro bono services.

I would like to emphasize Stacey's background of founding and leading Accumulus Advisors, LLC, an accounting firm specializing in accounting for not-for-profit organizations, and her extensive background, previously serving as the CFO of Forest City Hawaii, and before that, working as a tax accountant for Ernst & Young.

Stacey is honest and exemplifies excellent character. She also has an outstanding work ethic, expanding her business while mentoring young accountants. In conversations with her, Stacey always shares her willingness to educate high school and college students about the importance of understanding accounting. She is truly a role model for young men and women, as well as adults. If selected for the Tax Review Commission, Stacey will do an excellent job with passion and integrity.

If you have any questions about my testimony, feel free to contact me at (808) 221-3552 or by email at lmyers@assets-school.org

Sincerely,



Linda Jameson Myers