

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

March 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair  
The Honorable Rachele Lamosao, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Labor and Technology Committee

Date: Friday, March 6, 2026  
Time: 3:00 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 224, State Capitol

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

**Re: G.M. 627 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GINA ANONUEVO, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.**

**G.M. 726 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GINA ANONUEVO, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.**

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Gina Anonuevo to the Workforce Development Council.

Ms. Anonuevo is the Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, where she leads the Human Resources, Digital Banking and Services, Enterprise Technology Management, and Enterprise Data and Analytics divisions. With a strong background in banking operations, compliance, and regulatory supervision, she brings a cross-functional leadership approach to driving innovation and organizational growth.

As a member of the First Hawaiian Bank foundation, she provides mentorship and professional development to enrich education opportunities for our youth, improving the lives of others, building healthier communities, and invigorating our diverse cultural life.

For these reasons, the department fully supports her appointments through June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2030.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Governor's Messages 627 and 726.



First Hawaiian Bank.

**Lea M. Nakamura**

Executive Vice President & Chief Risk Officer

March 3, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony **in strong support** of the appointment of **Gina Anonuevo** to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Gina for over ten years and have consistently been impressed by her leadership, integrity, and commitment to our community. In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, she has demonstrated a deep understanding of workforce development, talent cultivation, and the importance of aligning industry needs with education and training opportunities. Gina is a thoughtful and collaborative leader who brings both strategic insight and a strong sense of accountability. Most importantly, Gina sees the individuals in the workforce and is truly invested in helping them advance, succeed and attain personal happiness and fulfillment.

I am confident that her experience, dedication to Hawai'i, and passion for developing opportunities for the community will make her a valuable contributor to the Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lea M. Nakamura".

March 4, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

It is my honor to provide this testimony in strong support for the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council. I have had the privilege of working with Gina for more than ten years, and as our Executive Sponsor, she has consistently exemplified the highest standards of executive leadership, collaboration, and commitment to relevant lifelong learning.

In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, Gina has demonstrated unwavering commitment to developing people, building cohesive and high-performing teams, and strengthening career pathways to cultivate talent for future sustainability. I have experienced firsthand her dedication to mentoring emerging leaders and investing in professional growth with a deep sense of accountability.

Gina is also a steadfast advocate for workforce development, understanding the essential connection between industry needs, education, skills training, and economic mobility. Her commitment to expanding opportunities and strengthening talent pipelines reflects both strategic foresight and genuine care for the communities we serve.

I offer my strongest endorsement of Gina's appointment. Her experience, dedication to Hawaii, and passion for developing opportunities for a thriving local community will make her a valuable contributor to the Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,  
Sherri Okinaga  
Senior Vice President & Division Manager  
Organizational Effectiveness Division  
First Hawaiian Bank



**Carol M. Ono**  
Senior Vice President & Workforce Services Division Manager  
Human Resources Group

March 4, 2026

Dear Hawai'i Workforce Development Council Nomination Committee,

My name is Carol Ono and I am the Senior Vice President & Workforce Services Division Manager at First Hawaiian Bank. I am submitting this written testimony with great enthusiasm and conviction for Gina Anonuevo as a nominee for the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of knowing Gina since she started at First Hawaiian Bank nearly 20 years ago. Gina moved up quickly through the ranks starting in our Audit Division, advancing to Chief Compliance Officer and in her current role as Vice Chair, Chief Administrative Officer/Chief Human Resources Officer. Gina consistently demonstrates her leadership abilities with her strong yet caring and collaborative leadership style.

Throughout her career at the Bank, she has consistently been entrusted with complex and challenging leadership assignments that required courage, adaptability, and sound judgment. She has repeatedly demonstrated the ability to step into unfamiliar business areas, quickly assess the environment, and build trust with the team to help them grow professionally with confidence. Her leadership reflects a deep and genuine commitment to our employees and ensuring they have meaningful opportunities to advance their careers. Her dedication to employee growth, combined with her proven ability to lead through change, makes her an exceptional candidate for this nomination.

She has a clear vision for how workforce systems can better respond to industry needs and emerging opportunities across the State. Gina will bring a thoughtful, collaborative approach to aligning employers, educators, and community partners. She is particularly passionate about expanding technology and digital workforce pathways and ensuring the upskilling opportunities are inclusive and accessible to all communities. Her experience, dedication, and strategic mindset make her exceptionally well suited to contribute meaningfully to the Council's mission.

I am pleased to offer my strong support for the appointment of Gina Anonuevo, Vice Chair, Chief Administrative Officer/Chief Human Resources Officer, to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I am confident that she will be a valuable asset in advancing Hawai'i's workforce development priorities. Please feel free to contact me at [cono@fhb.com](mailto:cono@fhb.com) or (808) 525-6276 with any questions about her background or qualifications. Thank you for your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol M. Ono".

Carol M. Ono

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

It is my pleasure to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Gina for the past 16 years, and I have consistently been impressed by her leadership, integrity, and commitment to our community. In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, she has demonstrated a deep understanding of workforce development, talent cultivation, and the importance of aligning industry needs with education and training opportunities.

Gina is a thoughtful and collaborative leader who brings both strategic insight and a strong sense of accountability. She approaches her work with professionalism, care, and a genuine commitment to strengthening opportunities for the people of Hawai'i.

I am confident that her experience, dedication to Hawai'i, and passion for expanding opportunities for our community will make her a valuable contributor to the Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,  
Layne F. Yoshida  
Manager, Cadence Consulting LLC

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT OF GINA ANONUEVO  
TO THE HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tricia Fujikawa Lee, and I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Gina since 2008. Beginning in 2012, she served as my supervisor and Chief Compliance Officer, and over the years I have seen firsthand her leadership, integrity, and deep commitment to supporting people and strengthening our community.

Gina is a thoughtful and people-centered leader who consistently prioritizes the growth and well-being of those around her. She fosters collaborative, high-performing teams by encouraging diverse perspectives, continuous learning, and open communication. Her ability to balance strategic thinking with genuine care for employees and stakeholders has earned her the respect and trust of colleagues across the organization.

In her current role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer, Gina oversees critical functions that support organizational effectiveness and workforce development. She brings extensive experience advising senior leaders, navigating complex challenges, and developing forward-looking strategies—skills that will serve the Council and the people of Hawai'i well.

Beyond her professional responsibilities, Gina is deeply committed to community service and has supported numerous initiatives that give back to our community. Her dedication reflects her genuine care for Hawai'i and its people.

Based on my many years of working with Gina, I am confident she will bring strong leadership, thoughtful perspective, and a collaborative spirit to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,



Tricia Fujikawa Lee  
SVP, Chief Compliance Officer

**LATE**

March 5, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Gina for over a decade and have consistently been impressed by her leadership, integrity, and commitment to the communities where she works and lives. In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, and every role she has occupied since I started working with her in 2015 when she was Chief Compliance Officer for the bank, she has demonstrated a deep understanding of workforce development, talent cultivation, and the importance of aligning industry needs with education and training opportunities. Gina is a passionate, kind and thoughtful leader that knows how to command respect from her colleagues and built a culture of collaboration and teamwork. She is extremely effective and both delegating to and developing individuals and teams while maintaining a strong grasp of work content and contributing to its development and refinement.

Gina's commitment to the Hawai'i community is unparalleled. Through her charity work and community involvement with the Hawai'i Humane Society, her extensive outreach and support of several aid organizations in the aftermath of the 2023 fires in Maui, and her representation of First Hawaiian Bank in the community at large, she has demonstrated her love and devotion to the O'hana philosophy which she wears on her sleeve as a symbol to everyone she meets to step up and do their part. This is true leadership.

I believe that Gina would be an amazing contributor to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council not only for her vast relevant experience in the field, but because she always excels at anything she puts her mind and energy into and beyond her own contributions she has the ability to motivate and coach her colleagues in a way that I have never seen in another leader.

Please feel free to reach out to me for further information or supporting statements, and I wish the Council and the Legislature the best in establishing this important slate of leaders for the benefit of all Hawai'ians.

Yours Truly,



John A. Henning  
Chief Client Officer/Executive Advisor to the CEO  
Granite Solutions Groupe, Inc.

**GM-627**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:52:40 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/6/2026 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ross Fujii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

It is with great confidence and without reservation that I recommend Gina Anonuevo for appointment to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Gina at First Hawaiian Bank since 2006 and reported directly to her for ten years. Throughout that time, she demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the personal and professional development of the people around her. Gina consistently emphasized that effective leadership carries an obligation to provide meaningful training, deliberate career pathing, and sustained support for one's team—and she led by example in fulfilling that obligation.

Gina exemplifies First Hawaiian Bank's core values of Caring, Character, and Collaboration. She brings a strategic perspective to every challenge while remaining genuinely approachable and relatable to colleagues at all levels. This combination of vision and interpersonal effectiveness enables her to drive meaningful, positive change—both within the Bank and more broadly across the State of Hawai'i. With a professional background spanning audit, compliance, data, technology, and human resources, Gina consistently applies data-driven strategies and an equity-centered lens to complex workforce challenges.

I am confident that Gina will serve with distinction and make a lasting, positive impact on the workforce development landscape of Hawai'i. I recommend her without reservation.

Sincerely,

Ross Fujii

Senior Vice President, Chief BSA Officer, and Division Manager

First Hawaiian Bank

March 3, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Gina for the past five years, and throughout that time I have consistently been impressed by her leadership, integrity, and deep commitment to Hawai'i and its people. Gina has also played a meaningful role in my own professional growth after I returned home to Hawai'i following 23 years away working in Macau and Las Vegas—she invested in my development with genuine care, honesty, and encouragement.

In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, Gina brings a strong understanding of Hawai'i's workforce realities—what local employers need, the barriers many residents face, and how education, training, and opportunity must align to produce real outcomes. She is intentional about strengthening Hawai'i's resident workforce by building education and skillsets, developing clear pathways for advancement, and promoting from within so local talent can grow into leadership.

Just as important, Gina leads with empathy. She has consistently demonstrated a community-first approach through outreach and support for individuals—including younger people—who are seeking a second chance. Gina sees the good in people and understands that with mentorship, access, and support, those who have faced setbacks can become productive, thriving members of our community. Her ability to connect with people across backgrounds, listen without judgment, and advocate for opportunity reflects the values we need represented on this Council.

Gina is also grounded in Hawai'i's culture and local way of life. She brings cultural awareness, humility, and respect to her leadership, and she approaches workforce development not as an abstract policy issue, but as her Kuleana to strengthen families, communities, and the future of Hawai'i.

I am confident Gina's experience, perspective, and dedication will make her an exceptional contributor to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Best Regards



Kaiuwailani Hanapi Pettigrew

Senior Vice President, Technology Risk Management/First Hawaiian Bank

**GM-627**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 8:44:04 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/6/2026 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Davidson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of working with Gina at First Hawaiian Bank since 2012. I reported directly to Gina from 2015 to 2023.

Gina is a natural leader. She is calm under pressure, thoughtful in decision-making, and unwavering in her ethical standards. Her leadership style is grounded in collaboration, transparency, and trust. She excels at bringing together stakeholders across departments, organizations, and cultural contexts, creating alignment even in complex environments.

One of Gina's greatest strengths is her dedication to developing people and supporting workforce growth. She invests time in mentoring emerging leaders, strengthening team capabilities, and building systems that help professionals thrive. Under her leadership, teams not only meet organizational expectations but also grow in capability, engagement, and cohesion. Gina believes in empowering others, and she approaches workforce development with both a strategic lens and genuine care for individual well-being.

Gina's commitment to Hawai'i is evident in every aspect of her work. She understands the unique needs and cultural values of our islands, and she consistently seeks opportunities to uplift the community. Whether she is strengthening organizational practices, advocating for fair and equitable systems, or supporting local workforce initiatives, Gina approaches each effort with humility.

For these reasons, I believe that Gina would be an exceptional contributor to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. Her strategic mindset, collaborative approach, and deep local commitment position her to add meaningful value to statewide workforce priorities. Gina brings not only expertise but also empathy, integrity, and a genuine desire to support Hawai'i's people and future.

I respectfully urge your support for Gina's confirmation. Please feel free to contact me if further information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Brandon Davidson

Vice President

First Hawaiian Bank

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of working with Gina for more than six years while supporting several enterprise initiatives at First Hawaiian Bank as a financial crime intelligence consultant. Throughout that time, I have consistently been impressed by her leadership, integrity, and commitment to developing people. Gina leads with a clear focus on developing people and strengthening the organizations she serves. She understands that sustainable success comes from investing in talent, creating clear career pathways, and empowering teams to apply their judgment and expertise.

Gina's leadership consistently reflects a long-term commitment to building capable, resilient workforces. She has also been a strong champion of structured career pathing and mentorship, encouraging professionals to grow into senior roles while fostering a culture of collaboration and accountability. She recognizes the importance of technology as a tool to elevate the workforce—embracing innovation not to displace people, but to remove routine work and enable employees to focus on the critical thinking and judgment that strengthen organizations and communities.

I am confident that her experience, dedication to Hawai'i, and commitment to building meaningful career pathways will make her a valuable contributor to the Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Carley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bryan Carley

Certified Financial Crime Specialist

**GM-627**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:51:35 AM

Testimony for LBT on 3/6/2026 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matt Kussman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I have worked directly with Gina Anonuevo as a Professional Services/Consulting organization supporting her teams at First Hawaiian Bank with individual subject matter experts and small teams to help in different areas across the Bank.

Gina is one of the most honest, direct (in a very good way), and compassionate people I work with. What stands out is her passion towards her employees and colleagues, her awareness of peoples' strengths and areas of opportunity to grow, and positioning them to succeed. She always provides real time feedback to help not only her team, but the consultants we have deployed. She always looks to help those around her both professionally and personally, looking for ways to help them grow in the role and as a person.

At Gina's level, in the executive suite, these characteristics are often rare; the caring, genuinely being interested in helping others versus pushing her own agenda. She wants the best for her teams, takes the time to listen, understand and evaluates her teams and organizations, and provides meaningful feedback and coaching sessions.

Bringing Gina aboard, in any capacity, is a non brainer in my opinion. If you need any additional information you can call me directly at 925-262-3100

**GM-627**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 10:41:35 AM

Testimony for LBT on 3/6/2026 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Miyaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of working with Gina from my first day at First Hawaiian Bank. I was hired to create and launch an enterprise-wide Career Pathing and Development Program with Gina as my Executive Sponsor. Without her guidance and support, the program would have failed before it started. She tirelessly fought for the program because she knew this is something the bank needs and is the right thing to do for our people. She intuitively understands that it is better both economically and reputationally to retain and develop our employees. She will tirelessly fight for the State of Hawaii and for the Council.

I believe the strongest teams come from varied backgrounds, so it would make sense to appoint Gina to the Council. Gina isn't a typical HR professional. When she joined First Hawaiian, she was the head of Audit. She is a servant leader and showed that by understanding her team's needs and helping them to develop their skills to move up in the bank. When she was asked to move to Compliance and be the head of Compliance, she did the same thing with that team. Then she was asked to be the head of HR. Same thing. She has a reputation for building her teams up to be better, both as individuals and as a cohesive unit. In fact, many of her former direct reports are now leaders in the bank. She didn't have any formal experience in HR when she became the CHRO, but she has a knack for learning and understanding things quickly and gained the respect of the HR team in a very short time.

Finally, the culture that Gina believes in is one that is centered around people. Everyone is included, no one is left out or overlooked. As the CHRO, if an employee had an issue, she would make it a point to personally talk to an employee if she thought she would be able to help. I mentioned to her that doing that for everyone isn't sustainable in her position. The thing about Gina is, if Gina can, Gina will. That dedication for doing what's right will shine through as a member of the Council.

I have no doubt that Gina will be a positive and contributing member of the Council. I have complete confidence in her ability to add value to the stability and growth of Hawaii's workforce by joining the Hawaii Workforce Council.

Sincerely,  
Scott Miyaki  
Vice President and Program Manager

First Hawaiian Bank

March 4, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Gina for over eleven years and have consistently been impressed by her leadership, integrity, and tremendous commitment to our community. In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administration Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, she has demonstrated a deep understanding of workforce development, talent cultivation, and the importance of aligning industry needs with education and training opportunities. Gina is a thoughtful and collaborative leader who brings both strategic insight and a strong sense of accountability.

I am confident that Gina's experience, dedication to Hawai'i, and passion for developing opportunities for the community will make her a valuable contributor to the Council. I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Hostelley

SVP, Business Services Division

First Hawaiian Bank

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am honored to submit testimony in strong support of Gina Anonuevo and her appointment to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

Gina hired me more than fifteen years ago, and from the very beginning, she demonstrated an exceptional ability to see potential in people that they often do not see in themselves. Over those years, I have watched her guide individuals including myself to grow, mature, and thrive professionally in ways that few leaders can inspire. Her leadership has been shaped by nearly two decades at First Hawaiian Bank, where she currently serves as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Human Resources Officer, overseeing critical areas such as Human Resources, Digital Banking and Services, Enterprise Technology Management, and Data and Analytics.

Beyond her executive leadership, Gina has long been anchored in community service. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Hawaiian Humane Society and has been an active contributor to the First Hawaiian Bank Foundation, which supports hundreds of nonprofits each year across Hawai'i, focusing on health, human services, education, and culture and the arts. Gina has personally emphasized that giving back is not a strategy but something that comes naturally to the bank and to her.

Her long history of service extends beyond philanthropy. Gina has held roles central to regulatory oversight and workforce integrity, including her previous leadership as Chief Compliance Officer responsible for bank wide compliance and BSA/AML programs, and before that, years as an FDIC Commissioned Bank Examiner. This blend of people centered leadership, systems and process improvement level thinking, and regulatory expertise gives her unique insight into how workforce development, education pathways, and economic opportunity intersect.

In every role, Gina leads with empathy, high standards, and a belief that developing people strengthens organizations and communities. Her ability to align employer needs with talent development and her consistent support of education, community uplift, and volunteerism make her exceptionally well suited to contribute to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. **For these reasons, I strongly support her confirmation to the Council.**

Sincerely,

James Odan  
Senior Vice President  
First Hawaiian Bank

**GM-627**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 4:38:19 PM

Testimony for LBT on 3/6/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Chen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,**

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of **Gina Anonuevo** to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of working directly with Gina for the past two years in her role as my manager at First Hawaiian Bank. During this time, I have been consistently impressed not only by her leadership, but by her unwavering commitment to doing the right things the right way. She is a champion for people—especially those who may not always have a strong voice—and approaches every decision with integrity and compassion.

Gina's career journey reflects her grounded and humble beginnings. Starting as a bank teller and rising to her current position as **Vice Chair & Chief Administrative Officer/Chief Human Resources Officer**, she brings a rare combination of operational insight, technological acumen, and deep understanding of workforce needs. Balancing the technology side of our business with the people side is no small task, yet she does so with clarity, empathy, and strategic focus.

Despite the significant demands of her role, Gina continues to devote meaningful time to the community. Her commitment to Hawai'i's workforce is genuine, long-standing, and deeply rooted in her values. She consistently seeks collaboration—whether across internal functions or with external partners—and always aims for solutions that serve the greater good.

Her practicality, problem-solving approach, and ability to bring people together make her exceptionally well-suited to contribute to the Workforce Development Council. I am confident she would be an asset to the Council and help drive meaningful progress for Hawai'i's workforce.

I respectfully urge your support for her confirmation.

**Sincerely,**

**Paul Chen**

Vice President & Talent Acquisition Manager

First Hawaiian Bank

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

It is my privilege to offer my strong and enthusiastic support for the appointment of Gina Anonuevo. Having worked closely with her for more than a decade—first as my manager and continually as a trusted mentor—I have benefited greatly from her guidance, which has profoundly shaped my professional growth. Over the course of her distinguished thirty-year career in compliance, audit, AML/BSA, and executive leadership, Gina has earned a reputation not only for exceptional governance and operational expertise, but for something even more meaningful: her genuine commitment to people. She leads with a rare combination of humility, integrity, and conviction that inspires trust, fosters collaboration, and strengthens relationships across organizations and within our community.

In Hawaii, where workforce challenges demand thoughtful leadership and authentic partnership, Gina stands out as a leader uniquely capable of bringing stakeholders together to develop solutions that uplift and empower our workforce. Her authenticity, collaborative leadership style, and unwavering dedication to creating opportunities for others make her an outstanding and highly qualified candidate to support and advance the important work of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Thank you for your consideration,

Joely Chung, JD, CAMS, CAFP  
SVP & Enterprise Operational Risk Division Manager  
First Hawaiian Bank

March 4th, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

It is with the strongest conviction and utmost enthusiasm that I submit this testimony in support of Gina Anonuevo's appointment to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. I urge you to consider not only her impressive credentials, but also the profound impact she will have on the Council's mission and the future of workforce development in the state.

Having worked closely with Gina for several years in my capacity as an Executive Partner at Gartner, I have witnessed her exceptional leadership and strategic acumen firsthand. My professional experience advising executives across diverse organizations - including Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and non-profits - gives me a unique perspective on what distinguishes truly outstanding leaders. Gina stands out for her rare blend of intellectual rigor, personal integrity, and unwavering commitment to community advancement.

In her role as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, Gina has spearheaded initiatives that align industry needs with education and training opportunities, directly addressing the challenges facing Hawai'i's workforce. Her ability to analyze complex issues, listen thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, and formulate effective solutions is unparalleled. For example, her leadership in developing talent pipelines has resulted in measurable improvements in workforce readiness and organizational performance.

Gina's dedication to Hawai'i is evident in her tireless efforts to create opportunities for others, particularly those from underserved communities. Her vision and collaborative spirit make her precisely the kind of leader the Workforce Development Council needs to drive meaningful, lasting change.

I am confident that Ms. Anonuevo's appointment will bring invaluable expertise, passion, and results to the Council. I respectfully and strongly urge your full support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,  
Steve Miranda  
Executive Partner, Gartner CHRO Practice

+1 571 455 4447

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to offer my testimony in strong support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

I have had the privilege of working with Gina for several years in my role as Executive Vice President and Branch Banking Division Manager at First Hawaiian Bank. During that time, I have come to know her as someone whose leadership and integrity set a high standard for our organization. Gina brings people together across departments and teams, and she does it with a steady, thoughtful approach that reflects genuine respect for everyone involved. Even in challenging situations, she leads with clarity, humility, and a strong sense of purpose.

In her position as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer, Gina has built a deep understanding of workforce development and the needs of both employers and employees in Hawaii. She invests in people and is exceptional at building strong, capable teams. She recognizes how important it is to support career growth at every stage, and she understands how workforce priorities connect to education, industry demands, and the long term strength of our economy. Gina consistently supports programs that strengthen our state's workforce pipeline and does so in a way that reflects both experience and compassion.

What I appreciate most is her commitment to Hawaii and the people who live here. Gina approaches her work with a long view and a sincere sense of responsibility to the community. Whether she is leading internal initiatives or working with external partners, her focus remains on creating opportunities that benefit the individuals and families who make up our local workforce.

Because of her leadership experience, her dedication to developing others, and her deep commitment to our state, I believe Gina would be an exceptional addition to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council. She brings insight, credibility, and a grounded perspective that I know will support the important work of the Council. I strongly support her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dean Duque', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dean Duque  
Executive Vice President, Branch Banking  
First Hawaiian Bank

March 5, 2026

Hawai'i Workforce Development Council  
Testimony & Support for Gina Anonuevo

Dear Chair & Members of the Committee:

I am Lisa Tomihama, Senior Vice President & Business Banking Manager at First Hawaiian Bank. I have had the honor and privilege of knowing and working with Gina Anonuevo for the past twenty years, and I am pleased to submit this testimony in staunch support of her appointment to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

Throughout our years of working together, I have watched Gina develop into a formidable and deeply committed leader who advocates for her team and the entire FHB 'ohana with genuine care and integrity. She exemplifies a growth mindset, taking on new challenges and mastering them, as demonstrated by her progression from Executive Vice President & General Auditor to Executive Vice President & Chief Compliance Officer, and now to Vice Chair & Chief Administrative Officer. Her ability to foster collaboration across divisions, develop and retain talent, and champion employees while holding them to high standards has made her an invaluable asset to the organization.

I am confident that Gina would make significant contributions to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. Her strategic vision, collaborative leadership style, and commitment to education and workforce development uniquely position her to help bridge the needs of employers with those of educational institutions, expand technology and digital workforce pathways, and support inclusive upskilling across our community. For these reasons, I respectfully request your support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Tomihama  
Senior Vice President & Business Banking Dept. Manager

**LATE**

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

It is my honor and privilege to write this testimony in support of the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

I have worked with Gina for nearly 14 years in various capacities and have personally witnessed her incredible dedication to our staff in her role as the Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank. Beyond this, her leadership and integrity are unquestionable, along with her understanding of how training and education align with industry needs and trends. Gina is an amazing person, and this is demonstrated in all aspects of her life. She is not only kind and thoughtful, but a passionate individual who brings knowledge, accountability and insight to the table.

I strongly believe that Gina would be an exceptional addition to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council. She is an ardent supporter of workforce development and talent cultivation because she genuinely cares about the successes of others. She has mentored and assisted employees in achieving their career aspirations for years as a manager and will be a great addition to the Council.

Sincerely,

Marcy Tsuchiyama  
Business Analyst, First Hawaiian Bank



**LATE**

March 5, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the appointment of Gina Anonuevo to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council.

Having known Gina for twelve years and having had the chance to work directly under her leadership for the past two, I have seen firsthand the qualities that make her an exceptional leader and a deeply committed member of our community. Gina is someone who brings a rare blend of compassion, clarity, and strategic thinking to every challenge she takes on. She consistently puts people first, ensuring that employees feel heard and supported, while also keeping her eye on long-term, sustainable solutions.

Over her years in Hawai'i, Gina has truly woven herself into the fabric of the local community. One example that stands out is her service with the Hawaiian Humane Society, where her leadership is integral to advancing the society's mission. Her willingness to roll up her sleeves, whether coordinating a donation drive or helping with community outreach, reflects the genuine care she brings to her work beyond the office. This commitment to service exemplifies how she shows up for Hawai'i in ways that are both heartfelt and impactful.

In her professional capacity as Vice Chair and Chief Administrative Officer at First Hawaiian Bank, Gina excels at translating broad organizational strategy into practical, real-world outcomes. She has a strong understanding of workforce needs, talent development pipelines, and the importance of aligning business objectives with community priorities. Gina approaches complex issues with thoughtful analysis and a collaborative spirit, making her a trusted voice in discussions around workforce challenges.

Several qualities make her particularly well-suited for the Workforce Development Council:

- A long-standing commitment to cultivating talent and supporting employees at every stage of their careers.
- An ability to connect strategy to implementation, ensuring that ideas lead to meaningful and measurable progress.
- Deep community engagement and cultural understanding, strengthened by her many years of service and connection to local organizations.
- Strong collaborative instincts, allowing her to work effectively across sectors and bring people together around shared goals.
- A genuine passion for expanding opportunity, especially for individuals and families striving to build stable, rewarding careers in Hawai'i.

For these reasons and many more, I believe Gina will be an invaluable contributor to the Council's mission. I respectfully urge your support for her appointment.

Sincerely,

Laura Morikuni