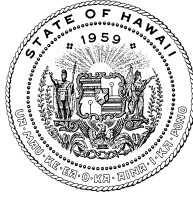


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of

DEAN MINAKAMI

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

April 16, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of

GM681

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, GARTH YAMANAKA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee.

HHFDC **strongly supports** the nomination of Mr. Garth Yamanaka to serve on the HHFDC Board of Directors.

Mr. Yamanaka brings extensive experience in real estate appraisal, property management, and small-business leadership across Hawaii Island. His professional background reflects more than two decades of on-the-ground engagement with Hawaii's residential real estate market and the economic conditions that shape housing availability and affordability.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Hawaii at Hilo and pursued postgraduate studies in residential appraisal, earning the SRA designation from the Appraisal Institute in 2007. He is also a Hawaii Certified Residential Appraiser and a licensed real estate broker.

Over his career, Mr. Yamanaka has served in appraisal and real-estate leadership roles, including serving as Owner and Appraiser at G & H Appraisals; Vice President, Property Manager, and Real Estate Broker for Yamanaka Enterprises Inc.; and an owner of multiple local business entities. This breadth of experience gives him a practical and well-rounded understanding of Hawaii's residential market conditions, valuation dynamics, and development constraints.

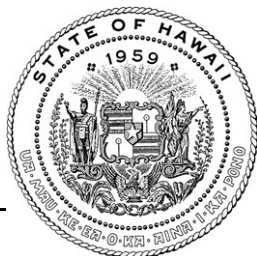
Mr. Yamanaka is also deeply engaged in community and business organizations. He is a longstanding SRA Designated Member of the Appraisal Institute, a member of the National Association of Realtors, and an active participant and leader within the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hawaii, the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Japanese Community Association of Hawaii.

Additionally, as a Hawaii Island resident, Mr. Yamanaka offers a critical neighbor island perspective that will help ensure HHFDC's programs, decisions, and development strategies reflect the unique needs and constraints of communities statewide, not only those on Oahu where the agency is based.

Mr. Yamanaka's combination of technical expertise, community leadership, and practical experience with real-estate markets will be especially valuable to the HHFDC Board as the State accelerates efforts to increase housing production and improve affordability.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support the nomination of Mr. Garth Yamanaka to the HHFDC Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

April 16, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of
GM681

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
GARTH YAMANAKA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030.**

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on GM681, regarding the nomination of Mr. Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

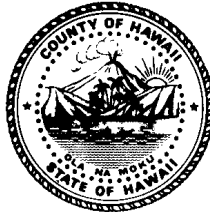
I **support** Mr. Yamanaka's nomination, as he brings longstanding experience in real estate-related work and business leadership on Hawai'i Island, including roles that have provided him with a practical understanding of local market conditions and the broader factors that influence housing availability and affordability across the state.

Mr. Yamanaka has been active in various community and professional organizations throughout his career, consistently contributing to efforts that support local businesses and strengthen island communities. His neighbor island perspective will help ensure that statewide housing initiatives continue to reflect the diverse needs of residents across all islands.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Mr. Yamanaka to the HHFDC Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor



William V. Brillhante, Jr.
Managing Director

Merrick Nishimoto
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i ~ Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • Phone (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
Phone (808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

April 15, 2026

Senator Stanley Chang, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 226
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: *Testimony in Support of GM 681 Nominating Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors
of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.*

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of GM 681, nominating Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Mr. Yamanaka demonstrates the professional dedication and steadfast commitment essential for active participation in the Board's initiatives. Furthermore, his strong communication skills and collaborative approach ensure he will be a significant asset to the Board's collective efforts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

William V. Brillhante, Jr.
Managing Director



Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii

April 3, 2026

Via Hawaii State Legislature Portal

Senate Committee on Housing
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

ATTN: Support for GM681 – Nomination of Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing:

I provide this testimony **IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM681 RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF GARTH YAMANAKA TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** on behalf of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i (JCCIH). JCCIH's mission is "[t]o promote the well-being of our community through business and personal relationship" and we have been representing the interests of our 300+ business and individual members through education and advocacy. As President of JCCIH, I advocate for the advancement of our Priorities as selected by our members. One of JCCIH's priorities is:

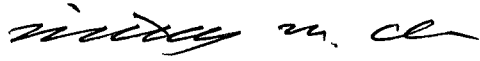
Housing & Homelessness:

We support development of affordable housing for both ownership and rentals, and initiatives to help address homelessness issues including mental health and substance abuse.

As a past president of JCCIH, current and past leader for several organizations that advocate on behalf of our community and State, and a respected professional in the field of real estate appraisal, Mr. Yamanaka is extremely well qualified to be a director for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation ("HHFDC"). Mr. Yamanaka has both the knowledge of the field of real estate and housing AND the wisdom and experience to guide the HHFDC as we as a state seek to address this critical issue that affects our economy, our businesses and our people.

**We STRONGLY SUPPORT GARTH YAMANAKA'S NOMINATION and urge the
Committee to vote in favor of GM681.**

Mahalo for considering our testimony,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitchell Dodo".

Mitchell Dodo

President of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i

4123935v1



Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

1321 Kino'ole Street - Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Phone (808) 935-7178 - Fax (808) 961-4435 - Email exec@hicc.biz - www.hicc.biz

Executive Officer

Carla Kuo

2025-2026

Board of Directors

President

David Kurohara

President-Elect

Dennis Lin

Vice President

Bonnie Irwin

Treasurer

Joshua Vierra

Immediate Past

President

Keith Marrack

Directors

Mary Begier

Vanessa Carlson

Rebecca Choi

Jeremy Chong

Chelsey Chow

Mark Chun

Dean Fuke

Larisa Hamamoto

Dayna Kawazoe

Daniel Kea

Randy Kurohara

Geoli Ng

Matthew Pickett

James Staub

Jase Takeya

Nimr Tamimi

Jennifer Tobey

Joni Waltjen

Irene Yamanaka

Tracie Yoshimoto

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Housing

Senator Stanley Chang, Chair

Senator Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 1:00 PM

RE: GM681 Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation **Gubernatorial Nominee GARTH YAMANAKA**

Aloha e Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the confirmation of Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation for a term to expire June 30, 2030, as set forth in Measure GM681.

Garth Yamanaka is a respected community leader who brings extensive, hands-on experience in real estate on Hawai'i Island and beyond. His practical knowledge of local market conditions, development challenges, and community needs provides valuable perspective as the Corporation advances its mission across the state.

In addition to his professional experience, Garth has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to public service. He has been actively involved in the Business Revitalization Task Force and has served as a board member of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board, where he contributed thoughtful leadership on issues affecting local businesses and regulatory processes. These roles reflect his collaborative approach and his dedication to strengthening Hawai'i's economic foundation.

Garth's balanced perspective, integrity, and deep roots in our community will serve the Corporation well. We are confident he will approach this appointment with diligence and a strong commitment to responsible, community-focused decision-making.

We respectfully urge the Board to confirm Garth Yamanaka's appointment for the term ending June 30, 2030.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carla Kuo
Executive Officer
Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce



April 15, 2026

RE: GM 681 - Gubernatorial Nominee Garth Yamanaka for the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and the Senate Committee on Housing,

Since 1968, the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce has advanced the quality of life for our community by supporting a strong, sustainable economy on Hawai'i Island. Representing more than 460 member businesses and organizations, we serve as the leading voice for the West Hawai'i business community, advocating for policies that promote long-term stability and economic resilience.

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce **supports** the confirmation of nominee **Garth Yamanaka** to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Mr. Yamanaka brings more than 20 years of experience in real estate appraisal and property management. He is a certified appraiser and licensed real estate professional, providing strong expertise in housing markets and property valuation.

Mr. Yamanaka has also demonstrated a strong commitment to community service through leadership roles with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i, including serving as President. He also served on the State's Business Revitalization Task Force and the Small Business Regulatory Review Board, contributing practical insight on issues affecting local businesses and economic development.

Please recommend the confirmation of Garth Yamanaka for the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wendy J. Laros", written in dark ink.

Wendy J. Laros, President and CEO
Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/14/2026 8:13:08 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Flynn	Testifying for Flynn Restaurants, LLC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Garth Yamanaka due to his honesty, true dedication to the community, and his fair, educated, and unbiased perspectives.

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:05:11 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donavan Enanoria	Testifying for Fukuanga Electrical Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Fukunaga Electrical Inc.

Industrial • Commercial • Fueling
Hawai‘i

April 07, 2026

Testimony in Support of GM 681

Aloha Chair and Members of the Senate Housing Committee,

As President of Fukunaga Electrical Inc., a Hawai‘i-based company serving our communities for decades, I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors for the Hawai‘i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

In my experience working with Garth Yamanaka, he has consistently demonstrated strong leadership, sound judgment, and a high level of integrity. He brings a practical, solutions-oriented mindset and a deep understanding of the challenges facing our local communities. These qualities are critical for effective governance, particularly in an area as complex and impactful as housing.

Hawai‘i’s housing challenges require thoughtful leadership that balances economic realities with long term community needs. Garth Yamanaka has the ability to evaluate issues from both a strategic and real-world perspective, and I am confident he will contribute meaningfully to the Board’s mission of expanding housing opportunities across our state.

As a local business owner, I strongly value leaders who are accountable, collaborative, and committed to the betterment of Hawai‘i. I believe Garth Yamanaka embodies these qualities and will serve with distinction.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support and confirm this nomination.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Donavan Enanoria

President

Fukunaga Electrical Inc.



HAWAII ISLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
100 PAUAAHI STREET, SUITE 201 • HILO, HAWAII, 96720

To: Senator Stanley Chang, Chair
Senator Troy Hasimoto, Vice Chair

From: Keith Kato, Executive Director

Re: GM681 – Nomination of Garth Yamakana
Hearing Thursday April, 16, 2026
1:00 pm
Conference Room 225
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF NOMINATION

We highly recommend Garth Yamanaka as a Director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Garth Yamanaka has worked with Hawaii Island Community Development Corporation as a real estate agent for several years. His knowledge of the market as related to affordability has been very insightful and useful to us in making our decisions.

We have had many conversations with him regarding factors that affect affordability such as choice of housing forms, development standards, and permit processing. In all cases his views are practical and to the point. I firmly believe that he will bring a positive development perspective to the decision making process and one that is sensitive to wider community concerns.

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/10/2026 11:00:30 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
eldon masaoka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Garth Yamanaka to serve on the Board of Directors for the Housing Finance and Development Corporation. I have known Mr. Yamanaka for over 35 yrs and have known him to be a man of character, integrity and being a straight forward individual. Throughout the years I have seen him take on roles in his personal life as well as business and community ventures. He has served as President of the Japanese Chamber, a cultural and resource management for the Kaupulehu/Kalaemano area, as well as multiple boards for the state. I have known him to make sound decisions and advice for the "bigger picture" that would benefit the majority involved. With his background in realestate, I believe he would be a great person to be on this board and would be able to share his subject knowledge to make the best decision possible. I know he has the best interest for the people and the state that he lives in. In closing, I believe Garth Yamanaka would be a great addition to serve on the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Thank you for your time.

Eldon Masaoka

Fire Captain

Hawaii Fire Dept.

GM 681

Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Garth Yamanaka
To the Board of Directors, Hawai'i Housing and Finance Development Corporation

Senate Committee on Housing
Chair Stanley Chang, Vice Chair Troy N. Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee

Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of GM 681, the nomination of Garth Yamanaka to serve on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing and Finance Development Corporation.

I have had the privilege of knowing Garth for many years, both personally and through his extensive involvement in the Hawai'i Island community. He has long been a positive and steady force—someone who leads with humility, integrity, and a genuine commitment to improving the lives of those around him.

Garth's service as President of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hawai'i Island is just one example of his dedication to community leadership. In that role, he consistently demonstrated the ability to bring people together, listen thoughtfully, and work collaboratively toward shared goals. His leadership strengthened the organization and helped advance initiatives that supported local businesses and families.

In addition, Garth's professional experience with Yamanaka Enterprises, working alongside his father, Vern, has given him a deep, practical understanding of housing, construction, and development in Hawai'i. Through years of hands-on work, he has gained insight into the challenges and opportunities that shape our housing landscape—from permitting and infrastructure to financing and community needs. This real-world knowledge is invaluable, especially at a time when Hawai'i faces significant housing shortages and affordability concerns.

Garth brings a balanced perspective grounded in experience, community values, and a sincere desire to contribute to solutions. I am confident that he will be an asset to the HHFDC Board of Directors and that his service will benefit the entire state.

For these reasons, I offer my full support for GM 681 and the nomination of Garth Yamanaka.

Mahalo for your consideration.
Respectfully submitted,
Mitch Roth
Former Mayor, County of Hawai'i

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/3/2026 6:24:21 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joy Dillon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and members of the Housing Committee.

I strongly recommend Garth Yamanaka as a Board Member of the HHFDC. Garth has been known to me for many years. He is a person of integrity and is knowledgeable regarding all aspects of housing. He is also very calm and patient and his presence on the Board will bring an aspect of reassurance. I urge you to confirm the appointment of Garth to the BOD of the HHFDC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joy Dillon

Hilo Resident

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/3/2026 2:25:01 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I write in support of Garth Yamanaka's nomination for a seat on the board

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 7:16:52 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donn Mende	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Mr. Garth Yamanaka for the Hawaii Housing Finance & Development Corporation board.

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:51:49 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nimr Tamimi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

I have known Garth for over 20 years here in Hilo and have come to know him as a thoughtful, practical, and community-minded professional. He comes from a long-time kama'āina family and has deep roots on Hawai'i Island.

Garth brings valuable, real-world experience in real estate, property valuation, and development. He understands how projects come together, what drives costs, and the challenges that often prevent housing from moving forward. Just as importantly, he has a clear understanding of how regulations and process impact feasibility, which is critical to addressing housing issues in Hawai'i.

He has also demonstrated a commitment to public service and understands the balance between supporting development and protecting the broader interests of the community.

From a Hawai'i Island perspective, it is important that HHFDC includes members who understand the unique conditions outside of O'ahu. Garth brings that perspective, along with practical experience and sound judgment.

I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Garth Yamanaka to the HHFDC Board of Directors.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Nimr Tamimi
Hilo, Hawai'i

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 1:21:30 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kona Moran	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I fully support confirmation for Garth Yamanaka. I've known Garth for many years; he is a contributor to the community in many ways, and always does so with high moral character, and class.

I believe his confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation will greatly benefit this entity, and our Big Island community as a whole.

With respect and Aloha,

Kona Moran

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 1:37:21 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J. Tyler Dickinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support the nomination of Garth Yamanaka. He is well qualified and respected in the Big Island community.

Zendo Kern
Hawai'i Island

April 8, 2026

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM 681 - Letter in Support of Garth Yamanaka for the Hawai'i Housing Finance &
Development Corporation Board

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in **strong support** of the confirmation of Garth Yamanaka to the Hawai'i Housing
Finance & Development Corporation Board (HHFDC).

I have known Garth for many years, and he has consistently been thoughtful, grounded, and great
to work with. He brings sound judgment, a practical approach, and deep knowledge in his field. I
believe he would be a valuable addition to the HHFDC Board.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Zendo Kern

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 9:14:02 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Senator Chang and the distinguished Committee on Housing,

I respectfully submit testimony in absolute support of the confirmation of Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing and Finance Development Corporation.

I have had the pleasure of serving along with Garth on the Small Business Regulatory Review Board for the state of Hawaii for about 10 years. Because our Board at that time was short a couple members, it was imperative for Board member attendance to meet quorum and Garth could always be counted on to participate in the meetings. Garth spent the time reviewing meeting materials and was always prepared with engaging questions to thoroughly discuss and challenge any rules impacting small business. His general business knowledge, experience and specific expertise in real estate and tax was a tremendous asset in reviewing any rule development. He could be depended on to ask relevant and challenging questions to obtain detailed insight to the purpose and impact of rules across all agencies. His passion for small business was always present and he was a champion for consistency and fairness. His participation elevated the effectiveness of the Board and was impactful towards our Board accomplishing the goals we established. I was blessed to serve with Garth on the SBRRB and his calm, confident demeanor and engaging personality made this time very enjoyable. I am proud of our accomplishments and privileged with an ongoing friendship.

Garth is a strong leader and excellent team member and I wholeheartedly support his confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing and Finance Development Corporation. He will bring tremendous value to the organization and will excel in this role.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha,

Robert Cundiff

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 12:08:51 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Toby Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Chang, Vice-Chair Hashimoto and Members of the Committee -

Please accept my offer of strong **support** for the nomination of Garth Yamanaka to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance & Development Corporation.

Garth brings a thoughtful combination of financial expertise, proven leadership and an understanding of Hawaii's unique housing challenges. Garth's collaborative nature, commitment to responsible stewardship make him well-suited to help advance HHFDC's mission.

I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely,

T. Taniguchi

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/10/2026 11:43:52 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Chair Chang and Vice Chair Hashimoto:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT Mr. Garth Yamanka's nomination to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

I have had the privilege of professionally and personally working with Mr. Yamanaka on our past business and personal matters and each time he was extremely knowledgeable of the matter(s) asked to either represent and/or research due diligence information for me and our organization to be able to understand the matter and assist us in our decision making.

I believe, in addition to his professional credits, his demeanor, caring and his dedication and attention to concerns of those he interacts with, he has a rare quality of being able to provide and communicate factual and important due diligence information in reports and/or data that is in a "common sense" format/approach.

I thank this committee for allowing me this opportunity to submit my STRONG SUPPORT in the nomination of Mr. Garth Yamanaka.

Mahalo!

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/11/2026 4:03:29 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Onan Masaoka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe Garth Yamanaka will serve responsibly and use his knowledge and experience to make good decisions as a member of this board.

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/12/2026 8:16:46 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca Most	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support the nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Garth Yamanaka.

Garth has the experience and qualifications to thoughtfully approach this role in a way puts the needs of the community first, while balancing the needs of the environment and broader issues facing Hawaii fairly.

I have been incredibly impressed by Garth Yamanaka's civic engagement approach, and his ability to articulately communicate questions and strive for equitable solutions calmly.

Mahalo,

Rebecca Most

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/13/2026 7:51:37 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leinaala Lightner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Carol Lightner, and I have been a resident of the North Kona District, Moku o Hawai'i, for the past 72 years.

I would like to respectfully nominate Mr. Garth Yamanaka to serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC).

I have known the Yamanaka family of Hilo, Hawai'i for over four decades. Through years of friendship with the family, I have seen firsthand how Garth has built upon the knowledge passed down from his father and grandfather, both of whom were deeply rooted in real estate. Continuing this legacy, Garth has made real estate his career and has developed a strong and practical understanding of project evaluation, financial feasibility, and the key elements required to successfully bring developments to completion.

As a member of the HHFDC Board of Directors, I believe Garth would bring valuable insight and a thoughtful approach to addressing Hawai'i's housing challenges. His experience would help ensure that limited public resources are used effectively to support housing projects that are both realistic and achievable for today's growing population in Hawai'i nei.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for Garth Yamanaka's nomination. I strongly believe he would serve with integrity and contribute meaningfully to the mission of the HHFDC.

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/14/2026 8:24:51 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vern Yamanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Garth Yamanaka has shown extraordinary commitment in all areas of his work in Real Estate and Resource Management. He would serve our community well in this position and provide professional insight to housing issues.

I strongly support his appointment to this position

Mahalo

Vern Yamanaka

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/14/2026 11:00:21 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stacey Carvalho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Yes

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/15/2026 9:22:24 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caleb Yamanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Garth Yamanaka will be an excellent addition to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation. I support.

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/15/2026 9:32:00 AM

Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
BRYAN ANDAYA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bryan Andaya. I own and operate a real estate school licensed by DCCA and serve on a number of boards of profit and non-profit corporations and government agencies. I have known Garth for almost 10 years.

I **strongly support** the appointment of Garth to the HHFDC. He cares deeply about the community and ensuring adequate and appropriate housing for our state. He has the knowledge and experience to contribute to the mission of HHFDC and has a temperament that enables him to work with anyone.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of the appointment of Mr. Yamanaka.

Bryan Andaya

LATE

GM-681

Submitted on: 4/16/2026 6:43:14 AM
Testimony for HOU on 4/16/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Kaliko Kabasawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am proud to support Garth Yamanaka's nomination for the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation. I have known Garth since high school, and we have remained close friends ever since. Over the years, I have seen his professional growth and the development of his strong expertise in real estate. Garth consistently demonstrates sound business judgment, a deep understanding of housing and development challenges, and a genuine commitment to serving the people of Hawai'i. His experience, combined with his dedication to community-focused outcomes, will contribute meaningfully to the Corporation's mission.

Equally important is the character of the individual the Board will be gaining in Garth. He is someone I trust completely; he leads with integrity, follows through on his commitments, and consistently demonstrates dependability in both his personal and professional life. As a friend, he has always been honest, accountable, and grounded in strong values. Qualities that are rare but come naturally extend into his work and decision-making. The Board can expect a member who is thoughtful, principled, and dedicated to doing what is right, even in the face of complex challenges. I firmly believe Garth will be an asset to the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation and will serve with distinction.

Mahalo,

Christian Kaliko Kabasawa