

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

March 6, 2026

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

AHLANI K. QUIOGUE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HAWAII RETIREMENT
SAVINGS BOARD

Co-Chairs
Jade T. Butay
Seth Colby, Ph.D.

Members
William G. Kunstman
Derek Shigano
Jessie Keola Dean
Barbara Krieg
Andrew Nomura
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante
Representative Jackson D. Sayama

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

Date: Friday, March 6, 2026
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

From: Ahlani K. Quiogue, Executive Director
Hawaii Retirement Savings Board

Re: G.M. 690, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jessie Dean, for a Term to Expire on 06-30-2030.

My name is Ahlani K. Quiogue, and I am the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Program. I am submitting testimony in strong support of the reappointment of Jessie "Keola" Dean to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board.

Mr. Dean is being reappointed as a voting member representing the interests of small businesses in Hawai'i. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Dean has exhibited outstanding leadership, extensive expertise in retirement planning, and an unwavering commitment to enhancing financial security for Hawai'i's working families. Mr. Dean's contributions have been pivotal in advancing program implementation by guiding strategic decisions that ensure the timely and effective rollout of the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Program and ensuring fiduciary responsibility by maintaining the highest standards of transparency and accountability while protecting the interests of Hawai'i's residents.

Mr. Dean brings a wealth of professional experience to the Board. Currently serving as Chief Executive Officer of King Lunalilo Trust & Home—a leading organization dedicated to caring for Native Hawaiian elders—he combines advanced education, legal proficiency, and a deep commitment to serving indigenous communities. A graduate of Kamehameha Schools, Mr. Dean earned a B.A. from Harvard University, a J.D. from Stanford Law School, and holds master's degrees in accountancy and health policy. Recognized as a seasoned leader, Mr. Dean has extensive experience in nonprofit management, fiduciary oversight, and advocacy for small businesses in Hawai'i.

Testimony of the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board

G.M. 690

March 6, 2026

Page 2

The continuity of Mr. Dean's service is vital as we work towards implementing the program and improving retirement readiness statewide. His experience and vision are essential to sustaining momentum and stability during this critical phase.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm the reappointment of Mr. Dean to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board.

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Date: Friday, March 6, 2026
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From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: G.M. 690, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jessie Dean, for a Term to Expire on 06-30-2030.

I respectfully urge the committee to reappoint Mr. Jessie "Keola" Dean to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board. As an inaugural member, Mr. Dean has played a pivotal role in moving the program toward implementation and serves as a Governor-appointed representative for small businesses.

Mr. Dean's educational background, professional expertise, nonprofit management experience, and commitment to expanding retirement access for Hawai'i residents without employer-sponsored plans have guided the Board's work to strengthen financial security for working families. I deeply appreciate his contributions to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Program to date.

His continued service is critical to successful implementation because of his unique perspective, clear vision, and outstanding leadership. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Mr. Dean's reappointment to the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board.

Thank you for allowing me to express my support for this exceptional candidate.