

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

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**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the**  
**Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**Monday, March 30, 2026**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Conference Room 229, and Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:**  
**G.M. 746, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION**  
**TO THE CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,**  
**CODY SULA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030.**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Nadine Y. Ando, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the appointment of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board (Board).

Mr. Sula brings over a decade of experience in government, labor, and the private sector, with a strong record in advocacy, public service, and community engagement. He currently serves as a lobbyist for the Hawaii Ironworkers Stabilization Fund, where he monitors legislative issues, conducts policy research, develops support materials, and successfully engages government officials, legislators, and staff while building strategic coalitions among labor, business, and special interest organizations.

Previously, as a Government Affairs Liaison and Business Representative with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Union Local 996, he negotiated and interpreted labor contracts, resolved labor and personnel disputes, and represented the Union's

position before federal, state, and county policymakers, handling sensitive matters that required sound judgment and a working knowledge of labor and employment law.

Mr. Sula's leadership roles on the Palehua Hillside Homeowners Association board, the Labor Education Advisory Council for the University of Hawaii Center for Labor Education and Research, the Hawaii Film & Entertainment Board, and the Political Committee of the Hawaii Building and Construction Trades Council further demonstrate his commitment to public service and informed decision-making.

The Department believes that Mr. Sula's skills in rapport building, negotiation, coalition-building, and advocacy, together with his experience in government affairs and labor relations, make him well qualified to serve on the Board. For these reasons, the Department supports the confirmation of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board.

For these reasons, the Department supports confirmation of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Imanaka Asato  
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

March 20, 2026

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Commerce and  
Consumer Protection

**RE: Governor's Message No. 746**  
**Hearing date: March 30, 2026, at 9:30 AM**

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga and members of the committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 746 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Contractors License Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, CODY SULA, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.

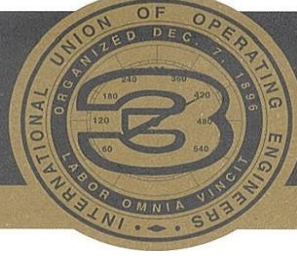
Cody brings meaningful construction industry experience, practical knowledge of contractor operations, and a demonstrated commitment to professional standards that will serve the Board and the public well. His background reflects a clear understanding of the regulatory framework governing licensed contractors and the importance of maintaining safety and quality workmanship across Hawai'i's construction sector.

In addition to his industry expertise, Cody has shown strong leadership and community engagement skills throughout his career. These qualities are particularly important for members of the Contractors License Board, which must balance consumer protection with the realities faced by licensed contractors working, especially in a challenging cost and regulatory environment. His perspective will help ensure thoughtful and informed decision-making at the board level to support the industry.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm the appointment of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michael Iosua



March 24, 2026

Honorable, Jarrett Keohokalole, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, Chair  
Honorable, Carol Fukunaga, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, Vice Chair  
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

**RE: GM 746- SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CODY SULA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030.**

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

My name is Ana Tuiasosopo, and I am a Trustee and District Representative for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 3, representing heavy equipment operators, mechanics, surveyors, and other skilled tradespeople in Hawai'i's construction industry. **We strongly support GM 746 and the consideration and confirmation to the Contractors Licensing Board.**

His current role as a lobbyist for the Hawai'i Ironworkers Stabilization Fund demonstrates his ability to navigate complex policy issues, build coalitions, and engage effectively with stakeholders across government, labor, and industry.

Importantly, Cody's background is not limited to policy—he has real-world experience working directly with the public and representing workers. As a Government Affairs Liaison and Business Representative for Teamsters Local 996, he negotiated labor agreements, resolved disputes, and advocated across multiple industries. This experience gives him a practical understanding of how decisions made by regulatory boards impact both workers and employers on the ground.

Cody also brings a strong record of public service and leadership. His service on boards such as the Labor Education Advisory Council (CLEAR), the Hawai'i Film and Entertainment Board, and the Hawai'i Building and Construction Trades Council Political Committee reflects his commitment to strengthening Hawai'i's workforce and economy.

The Contractors License Board plays a critical role in protecting the public, ensuring contractor accountability, and maintaining high standards in Hawai'i's construction industry. Cody's experience bridging labor, industry, and government positions him uniquely to contribute thoughtful, balanced, and informed decision-making.

His nomination by the Governor to serve through June 30, 2030 reflects confidence in his ability to serve the people of Hawai'i with integrity and professionalism.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support and confirm Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Ana Tuiasosopo  
District Representative, Trustee



**International Union of Painters and Allied Trades  
District Council 50**

March 18, 2026

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 746 (Nomination of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board)  
Hearing Date : March 30, 2026  
Time : 9:30 a.m.

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Chair Keohokalole and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of GM 746 submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Contractors License Board ("CLB"), Gubernatorial Nominee, Cody Sula.

The International Union of Painters and Allied trades, District Council 50, is an organization that consists of five (5) local unions: the Painters, Local 1971; the Glaziers Architectural and Glass Metal Workers, Local 1889; the Carpet Linoleum and Soft Tile, Local 1926; the Drywall, Tapers Finishers, Local 1944; and the Pearl Harbor Metal Trades Specialty Workers, Local 1941 – in all, approximately two thousand (2000) members statewide.

Mr. Sula has been in the construction industry for over seven (7) years, including the last year and a half working for the Ironworkers Stabilization Fund. His experience will bring useful knowledge and perspective as a board member. Mr. Sula has also served on Boards and Commissions in the past, again making him a great resource for the CLB.

We therefore respectfully urge you to recommend Mr. Sula's confirmation to serve on the Contractors License Board. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of GM 746.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Masatsugu  
Director of Government Affairs  
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades  
District Council 50

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# Iron Workers Stabilization Fund

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T. George Paris  
Managing Director

March 25, 2026

Members of the House Committee on Finance  
Thirty-Third Legislature, Regular Session of 2026

**Re: GM746 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Contractors License Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, CODY SULA, for a term to expire 06-30-2027**

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee,

I, Managing Director T. George Paris, is in strong support for the confirmation of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board.

I believe Mr. Sula is qualified to sit as a board member. His background working within labor unions has provided him with a deep familiarity with the construction industry and its related regulatory challenges.

Furthermore, Mr. Sula actively engages with industry-specific issues and possesses insight necessary to navigate work rules and compliance standards.

I am confident that his specialized knowledge and commitment to impartial decision-making will allow him to effectively maintain a marketplace that is fair, safe, and competent.

I urge this committee to recommend the confirmation of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board.

Respectfully,

T. George Paris  
Managing Director

**GM-746**

Submitted on: 3/25/2026 3:14:21 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mel Kahele	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for Cody Sula for confirmation to the Contractors License Board. I have worked with Mr. Sula in different capacities and, based on my professional relationship with him, I can confirm his integrity, dedication, and high level of professional competence. His background in regulatory and representational roles has provided him with essential insights into complex administrative and compliance requirements, which are crucial for effective service on this Board.

Mahalo,

Mel Kahele

To: Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the committee

From: Jason Bradshaw

Date: March 30, 2026

Re: Strong Support for GM746, Gubernatorial Nominee Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board

I am writing to express my strong support for the confirmation of Cody Sula to the Contractors License Board for a term to expire on June 30, 2030. I have had the pleasure of knowing Cody for nearly ten years, and I can confidently attest to his outstanding character and strong work ethic. He is a reliable and dedicated individual who always strives to make a positive impact. In his current role as a lobbyist for the Hawai'i Ironworkers Stabilization Fund, he has proven to be an effective and approachable professional who works well with everyone. His straightforward approach and genuine care for the local community make him a fantastic choice for this position.

Furthermore, his previous professional experience as a Government Affairs Liaison and Business Representative for the Hawai'i Teamsters and Allied Workers Union Local 996 equipped him with the ability to negotiate labor contracts and resolve personnel disputes. His background is also complemented by his current participation on the political committee for the Hawai'i Building and Construction Trades Council. I am confident that his strong interpersonal skills, capacity for leadership, and deep understanding of labor dynamics will serve the Contractors License Board and the people of Hawai'i incredibly well.

Mahalo.

**GM-746**

Submitted on: 3/27/2026 9:54:34 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mericia Palma Elmore	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Mericia Palma Elmore, and I submit this testimony in my personal capacity in strong support of the nomination of Cody Sula.

I have known Cody since 2017. Over nearly a decade, I have watched him bring genuine skill and professionalism to complex, high-stakes environments. He understands how policy is made and how institutions work. He is prepared, and effective; the kind of person who adds real value to any table he sits at.

Beyond his competence, Cody is a person of integrity. His word is reliable, and his commitment to doing the work well has never wavered in all the years I have known him.

Hawai'i deserves appointees of this caliber. I urge the Committee to confirm this nomination.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Mericia Palma Elmore