

LATE

Testimony of
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

April 2, 2015
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 414

GM 502

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER, for a term to expire 12-3-2018.

Senate Committee on Agriculture

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser as the Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture (DOA).

Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser is a long time Hawaii agriculture advocate and has been an active member of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, World Poultry Science Association, and Gamma Sigma Delta Agricultural Honor Society. She is currently the President of Mikilua Poultry Farm and Vice President of the Associated Producers Corporation.

Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser has genuine background and experience in agriculture, which is going to tremendously benefit the DOA. She possesses not only the working understanding of agriculture and its intricacies, but also appreciates the reality that DOA continues to struggle to meet its mission every day with limited resources. The mission of the DOA is certainly difficult, but her enthusiasm to improve the department has not wavered, especially since she knows the constituents it serves are depending on the department to continue its progress.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



LATE
We Grow 93% of Hawaii Island Agriculture Crops
~ 625,000 acres of land in production ~ \$194 Million in Revenue ~

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

April 02, 2015 at 2:45PM in Conference Room 414

STRONG SUPPORTIVE TESTIMONY ON GM 502

**Founding Association
Members**

Hawaii Papaya Industry
Association (HPIA)

Hawaii Cattlemen's Council

Big Island Banana Growers

Hamakua, Hilo & Kohala Farm
Bureau Counties

Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery
Association

Aloha Chair Ruderman and Committee Members,

My Name is Lorie Farrell; I am the Project Director for Hawaii Farmers and Ranchers United, Mahalo for allowing us to testify on this matter.

We support Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser as the Deputy to the Chair for the Board of Agriculture.

Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser is a wonderful example of leadership in Hawaii Agriculture. A lifelong leader in agriculture and farming makes her a welcome addition to the Board of Ag, her understanding of the issues facing farmers will give her a unique perspective from all sides. Having been involved in her family's poultry farm she understand the difficult issues of farming in Hawaii and yet has successfully managed to navigate them despite the difficulties. Phyllis will help the BOA navigate the difficult issues ahead.

I have personally known Phyllis for years, she has always exhibited the utmost concern for Hawaii and farmers; she is a great choice for this position. We urge you to support the Governor's Nomination of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

LATE

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From: [Alika Napier](#)
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Subject: I Support GM 502 Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser
Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 9:19:44 PM

Chair Nishihara,

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 2:45PM in Conference Room 414 at the Hawaii State Capitol

Support of GM 502 ~ Relating to Gubernatorial Nominee for the Deputy at the Board of Agriculture

Senate Committee on Agriculture

Aloha Chair Ruderman and Committee Members,

Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser is a great example of leadership in Hawaii Agriculture. A lifelong leader in agriculture and farming makes her a welcome addition to the Board of Ag, her understanding of the issues facing farmers will give her a unique perspective from all sides. Having been involved in her family's poultry farm she understand the difficult issues of farming in Hawaii and yet has successfully managed to navigate them despite the difficulties. Phyllis will help the BOA navigate the difficult issues ahead. We urge you to support the Governor's Nomination of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.
Concerned resident and Friend of Farmers

Alika Napier

Mililani, HI 96789

LATE

From: [Ann Smith](#)
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Subject: I Support GM 502 Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser
Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 11:38:16 PM

Chair Nishihara,

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 2:45PM in Conference Room 414 at the Hawaii State Capitol

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Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.
Concerned resident and Friend of Farmers

Ann Smith

Honokaa, HI 96727

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

LATE

Thursday, April 02, 2015 2:45 PM

Re: GM502, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, for a term to expire 12-03-2018.

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture. My name is Charles Toguchi and I am providing written testimony today in **strong support** of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser's Gubernatorial nomination to serve as the Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture.

I have been privileged to be life long friends with Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser's family. Phyllis's immigrant grandfather started the family run commercial egg farm business in 1947. Although her grandfather wanted her to be a teacher, Phyllis followed in her immigrant grandfather's footsteps and is today the president of Mikiula Poultry Farm in Waianae and vice president of the Associated Producers Corp. in Honolulu. With her degree in agriculture from the University of California at Davis, and her agriculture background, Phyllis comes to us with the necessary skills, experience, and foundation to provide the needed support and guidance at the Department of Agriculture.

Phyllis has always impressed me with her energy and enthusiasm...her strong , inclusive leadership qualities... and her integrity and dedication. I have full confidence in Ms. Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser's ability to always be ready by thought, words, and action...to help fulfill the mission of the Department of Agriculture.

Without any reservations, I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of Phyllis Shimabukuo-Geiser's nomination as Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture. Mahalo for the opportunity to present this written testimony.

Aloha,

Charles T. Toguchi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: clyde@kahukubrand.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM502 on Apr 2, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 5:13:57 PM

LATE

GM502

Submitted on: 4/1/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 2, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clyde Fukuyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: kamiyak002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM502 on Apr 2, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 7:24:22 PM

LATE

GM502

Submitted on: 4/1/2015

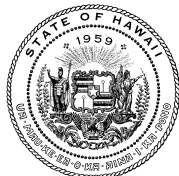
Testimony for AGL on Apr 2, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth Y. Kamiya	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a full time farmer I support the appointment of Ms. Phyllis Shimabukuro. She has the experience and and passion for agriculture in Hawaii.

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

March 27, 2015

The Honorable Russell Ruderman, Chair,
The Honorable Gil Riviere, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture

Nominee, Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (GM 502)
Deputy to the Chairperson, Department of Agriculture

April 2, 2015
2:45 p.m. Room 414, State Capitol

Leonard Hoshijo, Deputy, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Gil Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I am testifying in support of Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser's confirmation as Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture.

Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser is President of Mikilua Poultry Farm in Waianae, selling under brand names such as Ka Lei, one of the largest commercial poultry producers in the State of Hawaii. In today's economy, combining business savvy and education with agricultural experience is crucial for success. Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser, a third generation farmer, with an advanced degree in agriculture, and member of multiple agricultural organizations, offers a broad-based perspective that would effectively promote agriculture within a global marketplace.

Over the last few months, Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser has participated as an alternate for Chairperson Scott Enright on the Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board, established within DLIR under Act 099. During that time, Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser has been an active and vital member of the board. As an advocate for workforce training in agriculture, she has generously offered her expert advice and recommendations with a calm and fair objectivity. Her participation has played an integral part in the Board's ability to move thoughtfully yet quickly in supporting and funding agriculture education and training programs across the state.

For these reasons, I offer my full support of Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser's confirmation and look forward to continuing to work with her as a valued and respected Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture.

Thank you for your consideration.

From: [Mark Wood](#)
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Subject: I Support GM 502 Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser
Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 3:05:10 PM

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Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.
Concerned resident and Friend of Farmers

Mark Wood

Mililani, HI 96789

From: [Peter Wiederoder](#)
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Subject: I Support GM 502 Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser
Date: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 8:05:56 PM

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Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.
Concerned resident and Friend of Farmers

Peter Wiederoder

Kalaheo, HI 96741