



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR
RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Friday, March 6, 2009
8:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 247 – SUBMITTING FOR
CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
HAWAII HURRICANE RELIEF FUND, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, HAROLD R.
DECOSTA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2013.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Lloyd Lim, Acting Executive Director of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund ("HHRF"), testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department supports the reappointment of Harold DeCosta to the Board of the HHRF. Mr. DeCosta has served previously with distinction on the HHRF Board. He has an extensive background in labor negotiations and contracts. There has traditionally been representation on the HHRF Board of someone with a labor background and we have found that it helps give the HHRF Board credibility with certain segments of the public.

We thank this Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter and ask for your favorable consideration.

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
State Capitol, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **GM 247**

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAI'I HURRICANE
RELIEF FUND, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, HAROLD R. DECOSTA

Hearing Date: Friday, March 6, 2009
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Baker and Vice Chair Ige:

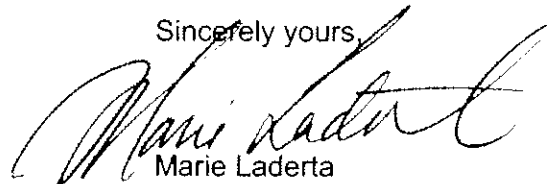
I am the Chief Negotiator and Director of the Department of Human Resources Development. I am writing in strong support of Harold R. DeCosta as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund.

I have known Harold for approximately three-and-a-half years. In that time, I have found him to be an even-keeled, reliable person.

Harold's background and experience makes him particularly well-suited to serve on the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund. He has extensive experience related to the administration of funds and trust monies, having served on many boards, such as the Disability and Communication Access Board and the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, as well as having served on the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund since 2005.

I, therefore, strongly recommend Harold DeCosta's confirmation for a term on the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund to expire on June 3, 2013.

Sincerely yours,



Marie Laderta



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

February 23, 2009

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
phone 808-586-6070; fax 808-586-6071
e-mail senbaker@Capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: Recommendation for Harold R. DeCosta, Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund Director

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Senate Committee of Commerce and Consumer Protection,

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Harold R. DeCosta who is being considered for renewal as a director with the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

In the years that I have worked with Mr. DeCosta, I have found him to be balanced and forthright when making a decision. He makes it a point to review the facts, the issues, the opinions, the political climate and makes a decision that is in the best interest for all.

He is well respected by all who know him and over the years he has built a reputation that is sound. His fairness in working with others is one of the outstanding characteristics of this man. He cares and is open to all who seek his advice.

However, he is also able to make the hard decisions and stick by his actions. He is quite a person.

Please consider confirming him for another term as a director for the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia Hamamoto".

Patricia Hamamoto
Superintendent of Education

PH:jyo

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

January 23, 2009

Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capital
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN SUPPORT OF HAROLD DE COSTA FOR BOARD OF DIRECTOR OF THE HURRICANE RELIEF FUND

Dear Chair Baker, and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

The Ironworkers Stabilization Fund Local 625 SUPPORTS the nomination of Mr. Harold De Costa for the Board of Directors of the Hurricane Relief Fund.

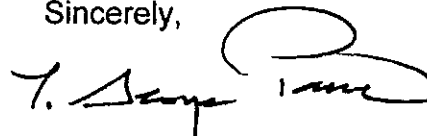
The Hurricane Relief Fund is similar to the federal stimulus package in the method it was created to assist those who are in the most need. The Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund was created to help the workingmen and women get the economic help they so desperately need in times of disaster.

As the former head of the Teamsters Union, Mr. DeCosta understands that the needs of the people are paramount during times of disaster. His reputation is of a person who was able to lead a big organization during times of crisis. He was able to use the funds he had available to ensure all the people he represented were able to protect their home and livelihood. This knowledge and leadership ability will assist this fund during these times of need

Mr. DeCosta is and will be a valuable asset to this Board. He will provide the understanding of what is needed for a Fund to survive during these tough economic times. His skill to bring people with differing interests to a common goal will serve well.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Mr. DeCosta.

Sincerely,



T. George Paris
Managing Director



Anthony R. Guerrero, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Retail Banking Group

February 18, 2009

Via Email: senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov


The Honorable Rosalyn Baker
Chair of the Commerce and Consumer
Protection Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker and the Members of the Commerce and
Consumer Protection Committee:

RE: Recommendation for Harold R. DeCosta for the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund

This letter is to seek your endorsement of Harold R. DeCosta for another appointed term as the Director of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund. I have known Harold for over 20 years as a friend, a union leader, and a fellow director of the St. Louis Education Foundation, and Harold is a man of integrity and character. He is the type of individual that is pono and will do the right thing. I would appreciate your kokua on this matter.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Guerrero, Jr.
Vice Chairman

cc: Senator David Ige
Senator Will Espero
Senator Josh Green
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.
Senator Norman Sakamoto
Senator Fred Hemmings
Harold DeCosta

Karen

FEB 20 2009

MICHAEL J. MCCARTNEY
1054 AULOA ROAD
KAILUA, HAWAII 96734

February 19, 2009

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker:

It is with a great sense of pleasure and confidence that I recommend Mr. Harold R. DeCosta to another term on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

I have known Harold for many years in my capacity as a state senator, a member of the governor's cabinet, the director of the Department of Human Resources Development, and now the executive director of the Hawaii State Teachers Association.

Although Harold and I have usually been on opposite sides of the table, I have a lot of respect for him. He is a man of integrity; and I highly recommend him without hesitation to another term as a director of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund where he will continue to serve in a constructive, focused, and objective manner.

Thank you for your consideration and confirmation of the nomination of Harold DeCosta to the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

Sincerely,



Mike McCartney

copy: Members of the Senate CPN Committee
(Will Espero, Josh Green, Les Ihara, Jr., Norman Sakamoto, Fred Hemmings)

FEB 25 2009

1292 Ala Mahamoe Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

February 23, 2009

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker:

It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Harold R. DeCosta to another term on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

I have worked with Harold for three collective bargaining agreements. Although Harold and I served on opposite sides of the bargaining table, I have tremendous respect for his objectivity and ability to understand complex issues. Harold is a man of integrity and I highly recommend him for another term as a director of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

Thank you for your consideration and confirmation of the nomination of Harold DeCosta to the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund.

Sincerely,



Roger Takabayashi

copy: Members of the Senate CPN Committee
(Will Espero, Josh Green, Les Ihara, Jr., Norman Sakamoto, Fred Hemmings)

Harold R. DeCosta



March 2, 2009

TESTIMONY OF HAROLD R. DeCOSTA
Gubernatorial Nominee, HAROLD R. DECOSTA
Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund
G. M. 247
8:30 A.M., Conference Room 229
Friday, March 6, 2009

Chair Baker and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

My name is Harold R. DeCosta. I am the Deputy Chief Negotiator for the Office of Collective Bargaining of the State of Hawaii. I also am currently serving as one of the board of directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund and desire to continue serving in this capacity for the next term to expire June 30, 2013.

As a board member, I serve in the capacity to facilitate financial aid for hurricane victims who have incurred property damage and loss. This is accomplished through the Board's work of investing monies in the most prudent and safest way possible, to build into a greater return.

I have extensive experience with respect to various funds and trust monies. As shown in my resume, there are twenty-eight years that I have served as director for the Teamsters health benefit, pension, training and general funds. In addition, have served in different capacities of unions, school, charitable organizations—and throughout have always been aware of fiduciary responsibilities in financial decisions that I am a part of. So as a member of this board, I understand the responsibilities entrusted to me.

Please find attached to this is my resume listing my qualifications and experiences to serve on this board.

Thank you for your consideration and confirmation to this nomination.

Harold R. DeCosta



OBJECTIVE: Board of Directors, Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund, Board of Directors, 2005 – current
Overseeing the investments of the hurricane fund, prudently and conscientiously
- Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, Board of Trustees, 2003-2005
- Extensive experience as a steward and fiduciary with respect to various funds and trust moneys.
All investment and fiduciary positions held required of me to be prudent in financial handling and be knowledgeable of my fiduciary responsibilities

RELEVANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2003-
present **OFFICE of COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, OFFICE of the GOVERNOR, STATE of HAWAII**, Honolulu, HI
Deputy Chief Negotiator

- *Aid in negotiations as assigned by the Chief Negotiator*

1972-1995 **TEAMSTERS**, Honolulu HI
Union President, Retired
Started as a business agent, progressed to Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, retired as the President

- *Board of Teamster Trust Funds, Secretary-Treasurer, President*
- *Pension Funds, Secretary-Treasurer, President*
- *Medical Benefits, Secretary-Treasurer, President*
- *Training Programs, Secretary-Treasurer, President*
- *General Funds, Secretary-Treasurer, President*
 - *Secretary-Treasurer, up to 1990*
 - *President, 1990 - 1995*

1969-1971 **CARPENTERS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**, Honolulu HI
Administrator

- *Building Trades, Interim Executive Secretary, 1970 (concurrent as Administrator)
Served for one year while Jack Reynolds was at the State who helped organize the public sector labor/management operations*

1954-1968 **HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE FIELD, Honolulu HI**
Aircraft Mechanic

- *American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Secretary Treasurer and union organizer*

BOARDS

2000-2003 **DISABILITY and COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD, Honolulu HI**
Board Member

1997-2000 **COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, Honolulu HI**
Board Member

1991-1994 **SAINT LOUIS SCHOOL EDUCATION FOUNDATION, Honolulu HI**
Board of Directors

1991-1993 **ALOHA UNITED WAY, Honolulu HI**
Board of Directors

1990-1994 **TEAMSTERS WESTERN CONFERENCE (13 Western States), Honolulu HI**
Board of Directors

1969-1972 **CARPENTERS UNION, Honolulu HI**
Administrator of the Carpenters Apprenticeship Program
Board of Directors for Training Funds

1958-1967 **AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, Honolulu HI**
Secretary Treasurer

EDUCATION

Honolulu Vocational School, Honolulu HI
1953

PERSONAL

Lifetime resident of Honolulu, Hawaii

REFERENCES

Provided upon request

Harold R. DeCosta

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REFERENCES Provided upon request

Stanley Hong

Trustee of the King William Charles Lunalilo
Trust Estate

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Michael McCartney

Executive Director
Hawaii State Teachers Association

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Patricia Hamamoto

Superintendent
State of Hawaii Department of Education
Office of The Superintendent

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Anthony R. Guerrero

Vice Chairman, Retail Banking Group
First Hawaiian Bank

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Marie C. Laderta

Director, Department of Human Resources
Development, State of Hawaii and
Chief Negotiator, Office of Collective

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]