

DEPT. COMM. NO. 73

2012 Office of Hawaiian Affairs Salary Commission

February 15, 2012

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor, State of Hawai'i
Executive Chambers – State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui
Senate President
Room 409, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Calvin Say
Speaker of the House
Room 431, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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Subject: Report and Recommendations of the 2012 OHA Salary Commission

Aloha Governor Abercrombie, President Tsutsui and Speaker Say:

The 2012 Salary Commission for the Board of Trustees for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) would like to extend its appreciation for the opportunity to participate on this commission. We have completed our statutory responsibility to study and propose recommendations regarding the salary for the OHA Trustees. On February 15, 2012, the Commission voted to approve the Final Report and Recommendations on the Salary for the trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (attached).

Commissioners were appointed January 18, 2012 and our recommendations were due to the Legislature by February 16, 2012. Commissioners sought a time extension; however, legal counsel advised us that an extension was not allowable under the law. We would like to see more time for public comment, and therefore we strongly urge appointment of the 2016 OHA Salary Commission in 2015 as is allowable by law.

The process and deliberations of the 2012 Salary Commission were open and prudent. The Commission carefully reviewed the duties and responsibilities of the OHA Trustees, their current compensation and benefit package, the recommendations of past OHA Salary Commissions, the compensation of comparable state and county elected officials, the 2011 Hawai'i Employers Council Salary Survey, as well as economic indicators, including the consumer price index, the forecast of the Council on Revenues and Social Security cost of living adjustments. On February 3, 2012, Commissioners solicited public comment through notice of opportunity to submit written and oral testimony at meetings held February 7, 10 and 15, 2012, and via email at ohasalarycommission2012@gmail.com. February 10, 2012 the Commission prepared a draft report and recommendations and solicited public comment. The Commission considered the input received and made appropriate revisions prior to finalizing its recommendations.

In sum, we believe that the salaries established by the 2012 Salary Commission for the OHA Board of Trustees are fair, equitable, and reflective of their important duties and fiduciary responsibilities to the OHA Trust and its beneficiaries; as well as prudent in consideration of the past, current and projected economic environment.

With the approval of the salary recommendations, the 2012 OHA Salary Commission sunset and dissolved by unanimous vote at the adjournment of its meeting on February 15, 2012.

Mahalo nui loa, 2012 Office of Hawaiian Affairs Salary Commission



Ray-nelle Cobb,
Commissioner



Dennis Fern,
Commissioner



Laurelle Lee,
Commissioner



Katrina-Ann Kapā Oliveira,
Commissioner

Diane Paloma,
Commissioner



Mele Spencer,
Commissioner



Edward Wendt,
Commissioner

Attachment – Report and Recommendations of the 2012 OHA Salary Commission

- c: The Honorable Colette Machado, Chairperson, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Peter Apo, Vice-Chairperson, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Rowena Akana, Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Haunani Apoliona, Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Donald Cataluna, Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Hulu Lindsey, Trustee Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Robert Lindsey, Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable Oswald Stender, Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Honorable John Waihe'e IV, Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Mr. Richard Pezzulo, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Dr. Kamana'opono Crabbe, Selected Chief Executive Officer, Office of Hawaiian Affairs