

# GM 599

Measure Title:	Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee MELVIN KAHELE, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.
Report Title:	Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Description:	
Companion:	
Package:	
Current Referral:	HOU



**STATE OF HAWAII**

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of  
**LEILANI PULMANO**  
Chair, Board of Directors of the  
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

April 5, 2018 at 2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of  
**G.M. 599**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MELVIN KAHELE, FOR A TERM TO  
EXPIRE 6-30-2022.**

The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) Board of Directors **strongly supports** the nomination of Melvin Kahele, as the Board's at-large member.

Mr. Kahele has served on the HHFDC Board of Directors since 2015. His extensive experience with the construction industry, and his affiliation with the Ironworkers Union Local 625 and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 996, provides HHFDC with a valuable housing development resource.

The HHFDC respectfully requests that the Committee support Mr. Kahele's nomination for another term on the HHFDC Board. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Statement of  
**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
Deputy Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

April 5, 2018 at 2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of

**G.M. 599**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAI'I HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MELVIN KAHELE, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2022.**

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee.

I ***support*** the nomination of Melvin Kahele, as the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) Board's at-large member.

Mr. Kahele has served on the HHFDC Board of Directors since 2015. His extensive experience with the construction industry with the Ironworkers Union Local 625 and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 996, provides HHFDC with a valuable housing development resource. He therefore fully merits another term on the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**GM-599**

Submitted on: 3/30/2018 8:54:52 PM

Testimony for HOU on 4/5/2018 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Grant Wolf	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Ok, so you have a guy like Melvin Kahele who was part of the union in the past and a commissioner. Do I trust a former Union head with Finance? Well, honestly I do not want to because for me when people run for these type of things it is always about catering to your own buddies in the "old boys network" Normally, I would support my fellow Hawaiian politicians who manage to succeed in making their way through politics. Is this just another job that many feel he is suited to or is it just the buddy system of pocketing money and pinching from the tree before the public gets any benefit from such things. I begin to have my doubts in the whole thing yet alone in appointing a new director. Not that the opinion of the public seems to count. I have known official in our state government to say they are behind causes and wanted to get people's votes as a facade. They would have numbers to call where people place their votes. These calls were directed to an extension where a phone sat all alone in an empty room with no voice messaging system. It just rang and rang. If they called main lines at the government office it would be directed to this false phone that nobdy operated. Well, it has been many years since those kind of antics were practiced, but it has only turned much worse. My belief in these things is zero to none. I am not voting for things which only make things better for political pals up in office and not the little guys like me and my family.

April 2, 2018

Fax: 586-6361

Senator Will Espero , Chairman, Committee on Housing

Room 226 –

State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 599 –

Melvin Y.C. Kahele- HHFDC April 5, 2018 -2:45 p.m. - CR 225

Dear Chair Will Espero and Committee Members,

As a lobbyist for the Ironworkers Union, Local 625, and the former President of the Teamster Union 996 and local 681, and a current board member of HHFDC, I gained a wealth of knowledge in the world of finance. In addition, I have served as a trustee for several trust funds for the Iron workers Union of Hawai'i for over a decade. In this capacity, I had the fiduciary duty of deciding and voting on investments for Ironworker union members.

Based on my experience, I believe I am qualified to serve as a board member of HHFDC and understand my role, including that of assisting developers in constructing more affordable homes for the residents of the state of Hawaii.

Due to a prior commitment that was scheduled many months ago, I apologize for not being able to attend the hearing. I respectfully ask for your support to confirm my nomination.

Thank you for your support.

Mel Kahele