



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2018

Wednesday, April 11, 2018  
9:30 A.M.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NOS. 677 AND 678, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR INDUSTRY BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KELVIN KOHATSU, FOR TERMS TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018 AND 6-30-2022.**

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

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message Nos. 677 and 678, nominating Mr. Kelvin Kohatsu for membership on the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board ("Board") for terms to expire June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2022, respectively.

Mr. Kohatsu has worked with heavy machinery for nearly 45 years. He is currently the director of fleet services for Hawaiian Electric, Maui Electric, and Hawaii Electric Light companies and has served as the fleet administrator for HELCO on Hawaii Island since 2002. Fleet operations include the maintenance, acquisition, and disposal of equipment. Mr. Kohatsu also served as transportation chair on the County of Hawaii Energy Advisory Commission. He also has board experience with the Hawaii Transportation Association and Oahu Fleet Safety Organization. Mr. Kohatsu

understands the responsibility of attending and preparing for the Board's bimonthly meetings.

Given Mr. Kohatsu's experience and leadership largely outside of Oahu, the Department believes that he is in a good position to positively contribute to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Kohatsu's nomination to the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board.



ALAN M. OSHIMA  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

April 2, 2018

Via Email: [baker3@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:baker3@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM No. 677 and GM No. 678 – Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Kelvin Kohatsu to the Motor Vehicle Industry Board. Mr. Kohatsu has experience in vehicle repair and maintenance from his background in the business sector as well as in his current position with our companies as Director of Fleet Services for all of the five islands we serve. In addition to the knowledge of internal combustion engine vehicles, as the world moves to the adoption of electric transportation, Kelvin's knowledge base has grown and will continue to grow. Keeping up with technology in connection with our State's energy policies is important. Mr. Kohatsu is ideal in filling that role within the board.

Thank you for hearing his nomination and we look forward to a favorable outcome.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Oshima  
President and Chief Executive Officer



SHARON M. SUZUKI  
President

April 3, 2018

Via Email: [baker3@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:baker3@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM No. 677 and GM No. 678 – Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing to support the appointment of Kelvin Kohatsu to the State Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board.

Mr. Kohatsu has extensive experience in vehicle repair and maintenance, and provides leadership and strategic direction for fleet operations at Hawaiian Electric, Maui Electric and Hawaii Electric Light. During his career with our Companies, he has proven to adjust to the changing transportation needs by adopting biofuel, hybrid, and electric vehicles to our fleets. I believe that will be an asset to the Board because of his progressive thinking and willingness to adapt to changing environments.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,