



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM,
AND TECHNOLOGY**

Friday, April 6, 2018
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
GM 690
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic
Development Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, ERNEST MATSUMURA, for a
term to expire 06-30-2022.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports GM 690, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Mr. Ernest Matsumura**, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.

The Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Program was created by the Legislature for the purpose of establishing a program of technical assistance and financial assistance for community-based organizations to assist in the establishment and development of community-based enterprises in the State. Among other duties, the CBED Advisory Council makes recommendations to the department regarding the appropriateness of proposed activity or enterprise, and the department then has the final authority to approve or disapprove loan and grant applications for assistance.

Mr. Matsumura has been a strong and respected member of Hawaii County's business and non-profit communities. Since 1971, he has been the CEO of American Trading Co., Ltd, and has since retired from his formerly owned company, Designer Meats, Inc. dba Miko Foods of Hawaii. His business experience has blessed him with over thirty (30) years of food industry experience in areas such as sales, distribution, manufacturing and marketing and forty (40) years of experience in the fields of management, leadership and administration.

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As well, Mr. Matsumura has demonstrated a life-time commitment to the service of his community and the non-profit agencies and organizations that serve Hawaii's people. He has served as President of the East Hawaii Community Development Corporation, a Charter Director of the Pacific Educational Foundation, Inc. (Hawaii Job Corps), Board of Director for ALU LIKE, Inc. (Statewide), and numerous other worth organizations, agencies and initiatives.

We firmly believe the nomination of Mr. Ernest Matsumura to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council would serve the State, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, and CBED Program well.

The experience, skills, and commitment Mr. Matsumura brings to the CBED Program and CBED Advisory Council will prove invaluable to our State, Department and our communities.

We humbly ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of **Mr. Ernest Matsumura** to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.