August 29, 2017

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair and
   Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair and
   Members of the Committee on Labor

From: Allicyn Hikida Tasaka, Executive Director
       Workforce Development Council

RE: GM 24 Advise and Consent, Nominee Dwight Takamine as a Member of the Workforce Development Council
   Hearing: Tuesday, August 29, 2017, 2:45 p.m., Room 225

POSITION: Strong Support

Good afternoon Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and members of the Senate Committee on Labor. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in support of Dwight Takamine’s confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2020. Mr. Takamine would fill a slot reserved for a labor sector member on the Council.

The WDC is an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and is responsible for advising the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for employers and employees. The WDC is the State Workforce Development Board for purposes of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 and is the designated agency to administer and implement WIOA for Hawaii. The WDC assists the Governor in developing and updating comprehensive, strategic workforce development plans and oversees publicly funded workforce investment activities in the state.

Dwight Takamine is currently the Legislative Director of the ILWU Local 142. He has also been Director of Student Success and Community Relations for the University of Hawaii, West Oahu; Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR); and a member of both the Hawaii State House of Representatives and the Hawaii State Senate.

WDC is in the process of transitioning the State workforce system to the new requirements under WIOA. WDC received approval of Hawaii State Unified Plan which covers the six core formula grant programs authorized under WIOA and outlines the state’s vision and strategy for carrying out activities under each program. The WIOA plan is a requirement in order for Hawaii to receive the bulk of federal funding for the State’s primary job training and placement activities and WDC must now implement the state-wide plan.
Mr. Takamine’s experience in the different facets of workforce development while working as a legislator, as the Director of DLIR, with organized labor, and with the University of Hawaii make him a valuable resource to the WDC.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Dwight Takamine as a member of the Workforce Development Council where he would be a valued asset to the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.
Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Senate Labor Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I testify in support of Mr. Dwight Takamine’s confirmation to the Workforce Development Council (WDC) for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

The WDC is an administratively attached agency in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations that is responsible for advising the Governor and the Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities in Hawaii.

Mr. Takamine - an attorney, has been very active in the labor community and has served in various capacities with an affiliation to the labor field. He is currently the Legislative Director for the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), Local 142.

Mr. Takamine served as the Director for the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations from 2010 through 2014. And while in the State of Hawaii Legislature (1984 - 2010) he served as the Chair of the House Labor and Public Employment Committee (1986 – 1992) and the Chair of the Senate Labor Committee (2008 -2010).

Mr. Takamine will bring a wealth of experience and acumen to the Workforce Development Council. It is with this knowledge that I am pleased to tender my support for his confirmation. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.
August 29, 2017
Rm. 225, 2:45 p.m.

TO: The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Labor

FROM: William Hoshijo, Executive Director
Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

RE: Governor’s Message 24

Nomination of Dwight Takamine
to the Hawai‘i Workforce Development Council

I strongly support the Nomination of Dwight Takamine to the Hawai‘i Workforce Development Council.

I have served as the Executive Director of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) since 1997. The HCRC is the agency responsible for enforcing our state civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and state-funded services. The HCRC is administratively attached to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). At the HCRC, I had the opportunity to work under the administration of Dwight Takamine when he served as the Director of DLIR. I am confident that he has the qualities that will serve him and the people of the state well in this new endeavor.

I have known Dwight Takamine for over thirty years. He is a person of good character and wisdom. He is committed to the welfare of working men and women, and forthright in action and word – you know where he stands, and where you stand with him. His labor law, legislative, and administrative experience suit him well for this new challenge. He is familiar with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WOIA), and has strong experience in policy, funding, and planning. Mr. Takamine is a leader by example, hard working and generous with his time, open-minded and a good
listener. In his time at the DLIR, he fostered a spirit of openness and working for a common interest – the people’s interest.

I urge the Committee and the Senate to approve and confirm the nomination of Dwight Takamine to the Hawai‘i Workforce Development Council.

Thank you for your consideration.
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
August 29, 2017

GM 24 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dwight Takamine

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Dwight Takamine to serve on the Hawaii Workforce Development Council (WDC). As an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, the WDC is governed by a 41-member advisory commission that serves to ensure our state is aligned with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, as well as prepares and oversees the state plan for workforce development in Hawaii.

Through his vast experiences as an attorney, State House of Representatives and State Senate Labor Chair, Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and in his current role at the ILWU, Mr. Takamine has dedicated his career to understanding the complexities of both the public and private labor sectors. His knowledge of the dynamics between employees and employers will be an asset to the WDC as they advise the Governor on state policies and funding priorities to address workforce and economic development needs across the state.

On a personal note, I have been acquainted with Mr. Takamine and his family nearly all my life and consider him a close friend. Above all else, Mr. Takamine has proven to be a man of integrity and dignity. I have no doubt that Mr. Takamine will be a valuable asset to the WDC.

For these reasons we offer our unequivocal support for the confirmation of Dwight Takamine to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature – Interim 2017, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO
August 29, 2017

G.M. 24 – RELATING TO DWIGH
TAKAMINE – HAWAI WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Dwight Takamine to be a member of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Mr. Takamine served over twenty six years as a member of the State Legislature, including time as chair of the House Committee on Finance and chair of the Senate Committee on Labor. Furthermore, Mr. Takamine recently served as the director of the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for over four years. This legislative and executive experience and understanding of Hawaii labor laws will serve Mr. Takamine well as a member of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Mr. Takamine has the energy, drive, and knowledge of the issues to take on the difficult tasks that lie ahead and will provide a fair and balanced approach. We believe the Governor could not have selected a more qualified and dedicated individual who will work tirelessly for the betterment of our state.

We respectfully urge the committee to recommend confirmation of Dwight Takamine as a member of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
President
STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON G.M. 24
DWIGHT TAKAMINE
FOR HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The ILWU strongly supports the confirmation of Dwight Y. Takamine for the Hawaii Workforce Development Council.

Dwight is currently the Legislative Director for the ILWU and possesses a wealth of knowledge and understanding of workforce issues due to his varied experiences. An attorney by education and training, Dwight served more than 25 years in the State House of Representatives and the State Senate and was chair of the Labor Committees in both houses. In 2011, Dwight was appointed Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and served four years, becoming intimately acquainted with each of the Divisions, including the Workforce Development Division and the Workforce Development Council. Subsequently, Dwight worked on workforce issues for the University of Hawaii West Oahu before joining the ILWU.

Dwight has a particular interest in workforce issues from his experience with the closure of two sugar plantations in his home district along the Hamakua Coast of the Big Island during the mid-1990s. The plantations laid off hundreds of workers during an economic downturn when unemployment was high and jobs were scarce. Through his leadership and collaboration with Department of Labor and community partners, including the ILWU, many of the workers were enrolled in education and training programs that helped them into new careers.

The Hawaii Workforce Development Council is striving to address the workforce needs of employers and assist workers to prepare for those needs in order to contribute to a vibrant, growing economy in Hawaii. Dwight lives in Honolulu, but he understands the challenges faced by neighbor islands in their quest for economic development. Dwight works for a labor union and advocates for workers, but he knows that good employers are needed to sustain good jobs. Dwight is well aware that balance is required to make workforce development benefit Hawaii as a whole.

The ILWU respectfully urges the confirmation of Dwight Y. Takamine for the Hawaii Workforce Development Council. Thank you for considering our testimony.
Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and members of the Senate Labor Committee:

I am Alan Hayashi, Vice Chairman of the Workforce Development Council (WDC). I fully support the nomination of Dwight Takamine to serve as a Board member of the WDC.

I have known Mr. Takamine since the early 1990's, in my capacity as the executive director of the Convention Center Authority and later as the Director of Government Relations for BAE Systems. I have the highest regard for Mr. Takamine's capabilities and his integrity. With his diverse background Mr. Takamine will be an excellent addition to the WDC Board, as it acts to implement WIOA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Very Respectfully, Alan S. Hayashi

Sent from my iPhone
August 28, 2017

The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Kalani English, Vice Chair
Senate Labor Committee
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 24; Hearing on the nomination of Dwight Takamine to serve on the Workforce Development Council (WDC) Board

Position: Strong Support

My name is Leslie Wilkins, I am honored to serve as the chair of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) and pleased to offer a letter in strong support for confirmation of Dwight Takamine's appointment to the WDC. His breadth of experience and now his leadership position representing union employment make him a valued addition to the WDC.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Dwight for many years and have great respect for him personally and professionally. His years of government service and particularly his years as director of the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations make him uniquely qualified. The complex new federal regulatory environment under the Workforce Investment & Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires a fresh approach, updated procedures and service models, with a customer-centered focus on serving the needs of both job seekers and employers. I have every confidence that Dwight will be a dedicated member of our private-sector led board, contributing his time and talents generously to assure innovation, high performance, and compliance.

Thank you for your time and favorable consideration.

[Signature]

Leslie Wilkins

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