GM53

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai‘i Community Development Authority Heeia District, Gubernatorial Nominee, JO-ANN LEONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Report Title: Hawai‘i Community Development Authority Heeia District

Description: 

Companion: 

Package: 

Current Referral: HOU

Introducer(s): 

LATE TESTIMONY
The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly supports Jo-ann Leong, Ph.D. as a Heeia member to the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Ms. Leong is a retired professor of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology at the University of Hawaii.

We are eager to serve with Ms. Leong and believe her knowledge and water expertise are well-suited to restore 400 acres of Heeia wetlands into a working agricultural and cultural district that aims to meet the highest needs and aspirations of Hawaii's people.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.
LATE TESTIMONY

KOʻOLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

August 29, 2017

TO: SEN. WILLIAM ESPERO, Chair
And Members, Committee on Housing

FROM: ALICE P. HEWETT, President
Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

RE: GM53, APPOINTMENT OF JO-ANN LEONG TO HCDA-HEEIA SEAT

On behalf of Alice Hewett and the Members of the Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, Aloha!
Chair Espero, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Committee Members...

The Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club strongly supports the appointment of Dr. Jo-Ann Leong to a Heʻeia seat on the Hawaiʻi Community Development Authority.

Embedded in the mission statement of our civic club is this: “To malama our members, their families, and the communities in which we live.”

Jo-Ann Leong is a member of our Hawaiian civic club, and she has proven herself to be an outstanding example of someone who works to malama our community. Through her dedicated work as a research scientist and retired administrator for the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, and through her contributions and support for the civic club and for the restoration of the loʻi kalo on HCDA lands in Heʻeia, Jo-Ann continues to work hard to malama our community.

She is a brilliant scientist who can bridge the gap between government and communities, and her ability to do so makes her an excellent candidate to serve on HCDA’s board. Her ability to work with people is among her assets, and she can be found comfortable in gatherings of local people “talking story” or in high-level scientific convenings talking about solutions to global problems through the work of scientists like herself.

Our civic club has great aloha and respect for Jo-Ann Leong, and we ask your support for her confirmation as a member of the HCDA.

Mahalo.
August 29, 2017

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair
    Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
    Members, Committee on Housing

From: Aaron Mahi, President
    Koʻolau Foundation

Subject: G.M. 53, Confirmation of Jo-Ann Leong’s Appointment
To the Hawai'i Community Development Authority, Heʻeia Seat

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Harimoto, Honorable Members of this Committee:

On behalf of the Koʻolau Foundation, we offer our strong support for the confirmation of Dr. Jo-Ann Leong to serve as a Heʻeia member of the Hawaiʻi Community Development Authority.

The Koʻolau Foundation is a Native Hawaiian non-profit community organization that has been working to preserve cultural resources in the uplands of Heʻeia Ahupuaʻa through the establishment of a cultural preserve in Haiku Valley.

Dr. Leong has a long history of distinguished service to our community and in her career as a scientist and administrator of the Hawaiʻi Institute of Marine Biology. She is valued not just for her ‘ike, her knowledge about science and the challenges faced by marine resources of Kaneʻohe Bay; but she is also valued for her humility and talent in working with diverse groups of people where she has served as a bridge between “town and gown”, so to speak, during her years at Moku o Loʻe (Coconut Island).

She has retired from HIMB and offers her service to the State of Hawaiʻi as a member of the HCDA, representing the Heʻeia area, where HCDA has leased its lands to the community to restore hundreds of acres of farm land. We are pleased that she is willing to continue giving of her time to support the mutual interests of the State of Hawaiʻi and the people of Windward Oʻahu.

We ask your confirmation of her appointment.

Mahalo.
The Ko‘olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is one of the largest in the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs nationwide. Ko‘olaupoko HCC is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians and providing leadership and scholarships. Its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are “Hawaiian at heart.”

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LATE TESTIMONY