Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
First Special Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

HAWAI'I COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

G.M. No. 53  JO-ANN LEONG,
for a term to expire 06-30-2021;

G.M. No. 54  DONNA CAMVEL,
for a term to expire 06-30-2018;

G.M. No. 55  MAEDA TIMSON,
for a term to expire 06-30-2021;

G.M. No. 56  PHILLIP HASHA,
for a term to expire 06-30-2021; and

G.M. No. 57  JASON OKUHAMA,
for a term to expire 06-30-2021,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee has reviewed the personal histories, resumes, and statements submitted by the nominees and finds Jo-Ann Leong, Donna Camvel, Maeda Timson, Phillip Hasha, and Jason Okuhama to possess the requisite qualifications to be nominated to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA).
JO-ANN LEONG

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Jo-Ann Leong from the Department of Transportation, Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, Ko'olau Foundation, The Nature Conservancy Hawaii, and two individuals.

Dr. Leong is the Emeritus Director and Professor of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, which is an independent research unit within the School of Ocean Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She is a Microbiologist with a focus on molecular virology of rhabdoviruses, retroviruses, and birnaviruses and has developed several anti-viral vaccines for aquacultured species. Dr. Leong has authored and her research has been referenced in various academic books and periodicals. She previously served as the Co-Chairperson of the Ecosystem Science and Management Working Group of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Scientific Advisory Board, President of the National Association of Marine Laboratories, Executive Secretariat of the National Advisory Committee on Development and Assessment of Climate, and President of the Board of Governors of the Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture.

Dr. Leong has been nominated to HCDA as a resident of the Heeia Community Development District or the Koolaupoko District. Testimony in support of her nomination indicates that she is an excellent candidate who has the ability to bridge the gap between government and communities. Most notably, she was instrumental in the designation of the Heeia National Estuarine Research Reserve. Her extensive experience in microbiology and marine resources, and dedication to the community she resides in, will be great assets to HCDA.

DONNA CAMVEL

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the reappointment of Donna Camvel from the Department of Transportation, Ko'olau Foundation, Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, and one individual.

Ms. Camvel is currently a doctoral candidate in the Political Science Department at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, specializing in Indigenous Politics. She also serves as a Lecturer at Windward Community College and Graduate Teaching
Assistant at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Ms. Camvel has experience in community organizing and event planning for He‘e‘ia Historical Society. She has also traveled for several years to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York as a student representative for the University of Hawaii to talk about Native Hawaiian and indigenous issues.

Ms. Camvel has been nominated for reappointment to HCDA as an owner of a small business or director of a nonprofit organization in the Heeia Community Development District or the Koolaupoko District. She indicated in her personal statement that she can continue to provide HCDA with valuable cultural expertise and community knowledge of the He‘e‘ia ahupua‘a. Her past experiences with indigenous issues, as well as her continuing commitment to natural resource management, will continue to be great assets to HCDA.

MAEDA TIMSON

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Maeda Timson from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Transportation; and five individuals.

Ms. Timson currently is a self-employed consultant who specializes in community relations. She previously served as a Public Information Officer for the Department of Design and Construction for the City and County of Honolulu where she was responsible for fielding inquiries and concerns regarding the city-wide road paving project. Before her tenure with the City and County of Honolulu, she served as a Vice President at First Hawaiian Bank where she gained experience in bank operations, supervision, management, and marketing, and federal, state, and county retirement regulations. Ms. Timson also has extensive community experience and has been a community advocate for the Makakilo and Kapolei areas for over forty-five years. She currently serves as Secretary for Seagull Schools, Vice President for Friends of Kapolei, and President of Ua Ao O Kapolei.

Ms. Timson has been nominated to HCDA as an owner of a small business or officer or director of a nonprofit organization in the Kalaeloa Community Development District. According to her personal statement, she has been engaged in the development of Kalaeloa and wants to be part of the vision and growth of that area. She shared with your Committee her vision of developing the...
airport further and extending the port to allow bigger vessels, such as cruise ships, to dock at Kalaeloa. Her extensive experience and community involvement in the Makakilo and Kapolei areas as well as her past experience in the banking industry and county projects will be great assets to HCDA.

PHILLIP HASHA

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Phillip Hasha from the Department of Transportation, Painters Labor Management Cooperation Fund, Tapers Market Recovery Fund, Glaziers Stabilization Fund, Carpet and Soft Tile Layers Market Recovery Fund, Pacific Resource Partnership, and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the nomination from four individuals. Your Committee received comments on the nomination from the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council.

Mr. Hasha currently serves as a Principal and the Chief Executive Officer of The Redmond Group, LLC; which is a commercial real estate firm located in Kakaako, where he directs all company operations that encompass business development, sales and marketing, transaction structuring and negotiations, client consulting, human resources, and financial management. He is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including receiving the 2017 Small Business Administration Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, being named a member of Pacific Business News' 2015 Class of Forty Under 40, and being named a 2015 Finalist for Pacific Edge Magazine's Best New Business. Mr. Hasha is also an active participant in the community by currently serving as the Chairperson of the Governing Board of Voyager Public Charter School, Chairperson of the Properties Committee of the University Avenue Baptist Church, Membership Chairperson for the Entrepreneur Organization of Hawaii, and Co-Vice Chairperson of the Echelon Board of the Salvation Army of Hawaii.

Mr. Hasha has been nominated to HCDA as an owner of a small business or officer or director of a nonprofit organization in the Kakaako Community Development District because of his understanding of small business concerns and his commitment to representing small business interests. Through his collaboration with KouWork, which provides office space in Kakaako for small businesses and start-ups, he is assisting in increasing the number of small businesses in Hawaii. His extensive experience in real estate and his commitment to encouraging and maintaining small
businesses, especially in the Kakaako District, will be valuable assets to HCDA.

JASON OKUHAMA

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the reappointment of Jason Okuhama from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Transportation; Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development; Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council; and seventeen individuals.

Mr. Okuhama is currently Managing Partner for Hawaii Lending Specialists, LLC; which provides services for loan origination, sales, marketing, and underwriting. He is also involved in many community organizations, serving as Board President for One Waterfront Towers, Board Treasurer for Century Square AOAO, and Board President for Hawaii Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development.

Mr. Okuhama’s nomination for reappointment to HCDA is to continue to represent residents of the Kakaako Community Development District. He indicated in his personal statement that he has always felt it was his civic duty to participate in and support his community, especially by utilizing his experience in the banking and lending industry. Mr. Okuhama’s past experiences with the banking and lending industry, as well as his continuing commitment to issues relating to the housing needs of middle, moderate, and lower income individuals, will continue to be great assets to HCDA.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that are attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominees, has found the nominees to be qualified for the positions to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations.
Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Housing,

WILL ESPERO, Chair
The Senate
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State of Hawai‘i

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Committee on Housing
HOU
Advise and Consent

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☐ The Committee is reconsidering its decision

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Recommendation: ☒ Adopted
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Chair’s or Designee’s Signature:

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