

RES26-129

Testimony

MISC. COMM. 302

***INTERNATIONAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS (ILA)**

***INTERNATIONAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS (ILA) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Jul 15, 2026 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 3

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Dylan Armstrong	Email: dylan.p.armstrong@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jul 13, 2026 @ 06:46 AM
Name: Jennifer Sabas	Email: jennifer@kaimanahila.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jul 14, 2026 @ 10:51 AM
Name: Sommerset Yamamoto	Email: sommersetwong@yahoo.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jul 15, 2026 @ 12:13 PM

Testimony:

I am writing in strong support of the appointment of Mr. Krishna Jayaram as Managing Director for the City and County of Honolulu.

I had the opportunity to work closely with Mr. Jayaram during my time at the Honolulu City Council, when he served as Deputy Managing Director. In that role, I saw firsthand the type of leader he is. He is thoughtful, intelligent, and, most importantly, someone who leads with integrity.

Government is rarely as simple as choosing between right and wrong. More often, it requires balancing competing priorities, navigating difficult issues, and making decisions that serve the public interest. Mr. Jayaram never lost sight of that responsibility. He approached every issue with professionalism, fairness, and a genuine desire to do what was best for the City, even when the answers were not easy.

I also appreciated how collaborative he was. He treated everyone with respect, listened before speaking, and worked across departments and with the Council to solve problems instead of creating them. He was always prepared, understood the issues, and could be trusted to provide honest, thoughtful advice. But more than advice, he was a man of action. Whenever I worked with Mr. Jayaram, you could count on him to work through the tough issues and even when we didn't agree, it was always apparent that he had thoughtfully worked through the issues and had arrived at the position he thought was in the best interest of the City.

Perhaps what stood out most to me was that he never seemed motivated by personal recognition or politics. His focus was on good government and serving the people of Honolulu. That kind of steady, principled leadership is exactly what the City needs in a Managing Director.

Based on my experience working with him, I have every confidence that Mr. Jayaram will serve the City and County of Honolulu with distinction. I respectfully ask that you support his confirmation.

*TESTIMONY FOR THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS
THE HONORABLE SCOTT NISHIMOTO, CHAIR*

15 JULY 2026

RES 26-129

Aloha Chair Nishimoto, and Council Members,

Thank you for considering my SUPPORT for the nomination of KRISHNA FUMIHIRO JAYARAM, ESQ. for Managing Director of the City and County of Honolulu.

I first became acquainted with Mr. Jayaram during the CoViD-19 pandemic. Mr. Jayaram was then employed as a state Deputy Attorney General, and frequently participated on behalf of the Attorney General's Office in the CoViD-19 Statewide Video-Teleconference and Senior Leader Briefing (a phone conference), which I managed and supported, respectively, as the Deputy Chiefs for the CoViD-19 Planning and Operations Sections in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HiEMA), among other roles.

Though we never stood in the same room, on countless occasions we participated in the same meetings. Mr. Jayaram is memorable to me for his dedication, professionalism, and humility, traits always in need for Honolulu city government.

It need not be elaborated that the CoViD-19 emergency formed a difficult, transformative time for island governments. What is noteworthy is that many in equivalent or similar roles as Mr. Jayaram, of comparable rank and level of influence, did not compare in his respectfulness and courtesy.

I have an excellent memory for character, and feel compelled to support true public servants in what sometimes can be a tense nominating process. For thoroughness, however, my hundreds of pages of notes from that time serve as my reference point.

My best conclusion is that Mr. Jayaram is a sincere public servant. I wish him the best, and hope you will confidently vote 'aye,' in favor.

Mahalo nui loa,
DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG
individual capacity.



Kaimana Hila, Inc.

**Testimony in Support of the Confirmation
of Krishna F. Jayaram as Managing Director
City and County of Honolulu**

**Committee on International and Legal Affairs
Resolution 26-129**

July 15, 2026

Aloha Chair Nishimoto and members of the Committee on International and Legal Affairs:

My name is Jennifer Sabas, President of Kaimana Hila, Inc., and I am pleased to submit testimony relating to Resolution 26-129 in support of the confirmation of Krishna F. Jayaram to serve as the Managing Director of the City and County of Honolulu.

Krishna chose public service as his career path. He worked in the state Attorney General's office and the city Corporation Counsel office, learning and applying the laws that govern our city and state. Krishna got his leadership and management experience serving as the First Deputy Corporation Counsel before accepting the position of Deputy Managing Director in the Winter of 2022. He learned and assisted Managing Director Formby for nearly four years. I enjoyed working with both Mike and Krishna on a variety of initiatives from Honolulu Skyline and community-focused transit-oriented development, to military affairs and advanced manufacturing. Given the excellent working relationship, this should be a smooth, seamless transition.

I look forward to working with Krishna as the City's new Managing Director and continuing the good work for the benefit of the City and County of Honolulu. I recommend fully and without reservation.