RES26-155
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 330

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Aug 12, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 3

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Hawaii LECET	info@hawaiilecet.org	96817
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Hawaii LECET	Support	Aug 7, 2026 @ 03:57 PM
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Dylan Armstrong	dylan.p.armstrong@gmail.com	96822
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Aug 11, 2026 @ 12:11 PM
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Awapuhi Kalauli	awapuhikalauli@gmail.com	96720
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Aug 12, 2026 @ 12:04 AM

HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST
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August 7, 2026

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
City Council Chamber
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
DATE: Wednesday, August 12, 2026
TIME: 10:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTION 26-155; APPOINTMENT OF SHANNON ALIVADO TO SERVE ON THE GRANTS IN AID ADVISORY COMMISSION

To Council Chair Waters, Vice Chair Andria Tupola and members of the Honolulu City Council:

Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368, its' 5000+ members and its' 250+ unionized contractors. The Laborers' International Union of North America is the largest international construction trade union in the United States and Canada.

Hawaii LECET strongly supports Resolution 26-155, Appointment of Shannon Alivado to serve on the Grants in Aid Advisory Commission. Ms. Alivado is an exceptional choice for this commission due to her extensive background in community advocacy, leadership, and public service. Throughout her career, Ms. Alivado demonstrated a deep commitment to the people of Oahu and a thorough understanding of the unique challenges facing our local communities. Most recently, her proven dedication to public service was highlighted by her leadership as the former Chair of the Honolulu Police Commission. In this high-profile and demanding role, she navigated complex issues with objectivity, transparency and a steadfast commitment to public accountability, qualities that are essential for evaluating city grant allocations.

In addition to her public sector leadership, Ms. Alivado bring valuable corporate, community and legislative expertise through her current role as the Director of Government Relations at Hawaiian Electric company. Her public oversight experience and private sector leadership ensures she will approach the fiscal responsibilities of the Grants in Aid Advisory Commission with a fair-minded and impactful perspective.

Hawaii LECET strongly supports Ms. Shannon Alivado's appointment to the Grants in Aid Advisory Commission. Thank you for your consideration.

Hawaii Laborers-Employers Cooperation & Education Trust

Testimony for the Honolulu City Council
The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair, and Andria Tupola, Vice Chair

12 August 2026

Res 26-155

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Tupola, and Council Members,

Thank you for considering my SUPPORT for Shannon Alivado's nomination for the Grants-In-Aid Advisory Commission, the Mayor's nominee via Res 26-155. Having first met Ms. Alivado a decade ago, when she worked for the General Contractors Association of Hawaii, I recommend her as a well-qualified and needed candidate for these reasons:

- Ms. Alivado has extensive government work experience. The nominee offers potentially valuable insight into the wide breadth of societal needs which grants can fulfill, both for, and on behalf of, Honolulu's people:
  - She has worked at the federal, state, and municipal levels of government, including judiciary and legislative positions.
  - In her more recent government relations and research positions, Ms. Alivado has worked proactively and productively with government institutions..
- The nominee bears working knowledge of the law. As an attorney, Ms. Alivado has obtained a Juris Doctorate and clerked for two judges, in both civil and criminal law areas.
- Extensive civic involvement in a voluntary capacity, having served on multiple volunteer boards, readily demonstrates Ms. Alivado's commitment to public service and charity.

I have a decade of working experience in grants management, having successfully developed applications for and approved applications for various not-for-profit entities. As a co-founding board member and the first secretary to the Inspiration Hawaii Museum, I am familiar with the Grants-in-Aid process. Consequently, I feel confident supporting Ms. Alivado's nomination on the merits.

Finally, as your Council considers nominees for Honolulu's Boards and Commissions, it is important to support candidates made noteworthy for their humility, compassion, practicality, and prudence, candidates like Ms. Alivado. Please vote 'aye' in support.

Mahalo nui loa,
Dylan P. Armstrong
Individual Capacity

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SHANNON LIANA ALIVADO

Nominee to the City and County of Honolulu Grants in Aid Commission

To: Honolulu City Council

Re: Support for the Confirmation of Shannon Liana Alivado to the Grants in Aid Commission

I am writing to express my support for the confirmation of Shannon Liana Alivado to serve on the City and County of Honolulu Grants in Aid Commission. After reviewing her nomination materials, résumé, education, professional experience, and community service, I believe she possesses a strong and relevant background for the responsibilities of this commission.

Relevant Legal and Professional Experience

Ms. Alivado holds a Juris Doctor degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. Her professional background also includes service as a law clerk with the First and Second Circuit Courts, where she reviewed and analyzed case law, conducted legal research, prepared court-related documents, and assisted with matters involving civil and criminal proceedings. These experiences demonstrate skills in reviewing complex information, identifying relevant issues, and making careful, well-informed assessments.

Her extensive government and legislative experience is also directly relevant to the work of a public commission. She has served as Director and Manager of Government Relations with Hawaiian Electric, Director of Government Relations with the General Contractors Association of Hawaii, a Research and Legal Affairs Associate with organizations focused on land use and transportation, a Committee Clerk for the Hawaii House of Representatives, and an Assistant to the Chief of Staff for U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

These positions required her to analyze legislation, monitor and evaluate government policies, work with public officials and stakeholders, review laws and regulations, prepare reports and recommendations, and understand the implications of public policy and government decisions.

Prior City and County Experience

Ms. Alivado also has prior experience serving on City and County boards and commissions. Her résumé identifies service on the Honolulu Real Property Tax Advisory Commission and the Honolulu Police Commission. This prior municipal service is significant because it demonstrates familiarity with the responsibilities and expectations associated with serving on a public body.

Community Involvement

Her community involvement further strengthens her qualifications. Her résumé lists board and community service with organizations including Catholic Charities of Hawaii, Child and Family Services, Waimānalo Health Center, Waimānalo Neighborhood Board No. 32, Waimānalo Agricultural Association, East Oahu County Farm Bureau, and Seagull Schools.

This combination of governmental experience and community involvement is particularly appropriate for a Grants in Aid Commission, whose work involves reviewing proposals from Honolulu nonprofit organizations and making recommendations concerning the use of public funds for community needs.

Transparency Regarding Potential Conflicts

I also recognize that Ms. Alivado's nomination materials disclose that her current employer, Hawaiian Electric, does business with the City and County of Honolulu by providing electricity. I appreciate that this relationship was disclosed on the nomination form. Any specific matter that presents an actual conflict should, of course, be handled in accordance with applicable City ethics requirements, including recusal when required.

At the same time, the existence of a disclosed business relationship does not by itself demonstrate that a nominee lacks the qualifications to serve. The appropriate consideration is whether the nominee can perform the duties independently, ethically, and in the public interest. Based on the materials provided, I believe Ms. Alivado has the professional experience and understanding necessary to do so.

Conclusion

For these reasons, I support the confirmation of Shannon Liana Alivado to the Grants in Aid Commission. Her legal education, extensive government and legislative experience, prior City and County board service, and longstanding community involvement provide a strong foundation for reviewing grant proposals and making responsible recommendations regarding public funding.

I respectfully ask the Honolulu City Council to give favorable consideration to her nomination and support her confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Name:

Date: