Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Education and Housing:

This testimony supports the confirmation of Voletta Noe Noe Tom to the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board.

Ms. Tom has had more than 25 years of experience in the State of Hawai‘i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). Her professional accomplishments include the improvement of services to licensees and the efficiency of department operations, as evidenced by her recognition as DCCA’s Employee of the Year in 1992, Manager of the Year in 2000, and the Lieutenant Governor’s Slice Waste and Tape Award (SWAT) in 2000. She served longest and most recently as Licensing Administrator for DCCA’s Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, directing examinations and licensing activities in 47 different licensing areas. She worked with policies, laws, and administrative rules to strengthen consistency in regulatory processes, and also initiated improvements in licensing and renewal through online and electronic systems.

Ms. Tom’s insight and knowledge of licensing would bring a valuable dimension to HTSB, and would add to the expertise of the teachers and educators on the board. We strongly support and recommend your confirmation of Voletta Noe Noe Tom to the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.