

Ashley L. Kierkiewicz
County Council District IV

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HAWAI‘I COUNTY COUNCIL
25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720

March 11, 2026

Aloha kākou,

I write in strong support of Douglas Nam Le for the Executive Assistant position within the Hawai‘i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Le since 2019 in my capacity as a Council Member. I first came to know him when he served as Business Manager within the Hawai‘i County Planning Department, and later worked much more closely with him when he was appointed Disaster Recovery Officer, guiding the community I represent through the aftermath of the devastating 2018 Kīlauea eruption.

As his cover letter and resume reflect, Mr. Le possesses the skills and technical expertise to design and implement programs, manage complex initiatives, and lead teams through challenging circumstances. What those documents cannot fully capture, however, is the character and leadership he brings to the work. Over the years, I have worked alongside him across three mayoral administrations, navigating intergovernmental processes, and engaging community members in meaningful and lasting ways. We were in the arena together through very hard times, and we saw the work through to better days.

He is a man of integrity, humility, and deep responsibility to the people he serves. He shows up consistently, with creative approaches, humor, and grace, bringing to public service something that is not always easy to find: genuine humanity, compassion, and an authentic desire to make things better. He is a constant learner who empowers those around him and builds systems and capacity that will endure long after any one individual moves on.

It is bittersweet to write this letter. I had imagined Mr. Le and I to serve together through the end of my term in December 2026, and when I think about assembling a team committed to public service, he is among the very first people who comes to mind. His departure will be deeply felt, not only because of the programs and initiatives he helped build, but because of the steady and principled way he led. During one of the most challenging chapters in Hawai‘i County’s history, he was exactly the kind of leader our community needed.

For all of these reasons, I offer my wholehearted support for his candidacy. I am confident that the work of HHFDC will be strengthened by his presence and that the people of Hawai‘i will benefit from his dedication, thoughtfulness, and leadership.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony and for your kind consideration.

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Kierkiewicz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ashley Lehaulani Kierkiewicz