

A Message from  
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Dear Friends,

I am writing to you because I feel strongly about the upcoming election for governor. Although I now live in California, I've been engaged for many years in Hawaii with a variety of issues, including K-12 education, healthcare, Japanese-American cultural affairs, and business issues. What I have to offer now is the perspective of an "outsider" who was born and raised in Hawaii, has many relatives and friends in Hawaii, and who has the well-being of the state always close to my heart.

From my perspective, Hawaii needs above all else a change in its style of government. Hawaii does not need the strong-armed, bullying approach that began on the plantations one hundred years ago and that unfortunately still appeals to some government officials. The state needs a government that listens to the public, not one that tells them what is good for them. It needs above all a Governor who will set a tone of government as the servant of the people.

During the past year, I have worked closely with Neil Abercrombie in developing his education plans for the public schools of Hawaii, and in that process I've developed great respect for him. I've also discussed with Neil other important issues including healthcare, the environment, and the need to strengthen business and the economy. I've found Neil Abercrombie to be a practical man who has principles. He is a practical man who has a vision for dealing with the many difficult issues that face the state. He is not an enemy of business or of labor. He is not an ideologue, and he has the analytical capacity to see through the most complex problems.

Of equal importance, I believe that Neil Abercrombie is a man of true courage, a person who will be fearless in his attack on the things that need to be changed. His is not the loud noise of an empty drum but instead is the thoughtful determination of a true leader. His goal is not self-aggrandizement but service to the public.

I had dinner last night in Honolulu with a friend who, like many I have heard from over the years, remarked that "Hawaii is the worst place in America to do business". Others have told me of a new concern that religious intolerance may be on the rise in Hawaii. These are signs that Hawaii has gone far off the track and desperately needs new leadership.

What troubles me most is that over the past decade or more, I've heard repeatedly that the politics of Hawaii are vindictive. If anyone speaks out in favor of a candidate who loses the election, the winner will get even later on. That's not the Hawaii that I love.

Please speak out, vote, and give consideration to Neil Abercrombie, the candidate whom I believe represents Hawaii's chance for a much brighter future. Do it for your children and for your grandchildren, whose futures will be greatly affected by the votes that you cast now.

Mahalo,

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**BACKGROUND:** *William Ouchi* was born and raised in Honolulu, the son of a dentist father and a schoolteacher mother. He is a graduate of Punahou School, Williams College (B.A.), Stanford University (M.B.A.) and the University of Chicago (PhD). He was a member of Central Union Church and currently serves as Moderator at Westwood Hills Congregational Church in Los Angeles. He is currently a trustee of the Japanese American National Museum, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Los Angeles Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools (operates 19 charter schools in inner-city Los Angeles), and the California Heart Center Foundation. He served for eight years as pro bono consultant to the New York City Department of Education in its recent implementation of his ideas, and currently serves in a similar role for the Los Angeles Unified School District. He served as Chief of Staff to Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan and as education advisor to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in California. He serves also on the boards of directors of two Fortune 500 companies. Among his books are *Theory Z: How American Business Can Meet the Japanese Challenge* (1981) – a New York Times bestseller; *Making Schools Work* (2003), and *The Secret of TSL: The Revolutionary Discovery that Raises School Performance* (2009).

<p style="text-align: center;">Review of  <b>Making Schools Work: A Revolutionary Plan to Get Your Children the Education They Need</b></p> <p>“UCLA management professor William G. Ouchi has written an important book. Though dressed up as a ‘how to do it’ handbook, it's the result of a careful study of six big-city school districts (five U.S., one Canadian) to determine which ones work best and why ...”  —Chester E. Finn, Jr., Editor, <b>The Education Gadfly</b> and Former Assistant Secretary of Education</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Endorsements of  <b>William Ouchi</b></p> <p>“<b>Making Schools Work</b> is the most important book on education in a half century. Bill Ouchi is a meticulous researcher, a brilliant thinker and a superb writer. We simply must listen to and take his advice.”  —Tom Peters, Co-author, <b>In Search of Excellence</b></p> <p>“Our education system needs to be shaken apart. No one can lead this effort like Bill Ouchi. His ability to think 'outside the box' is phenomenal.”  — Richard Riordan, Mayor, City of Los Angeles,  1993- 2001</p>
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