

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1909

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 16 2025

RE: GOV. MSG. NOS. 774,  
776

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 774 and 776, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

BOARD OF EDUCATION

G.M. No. 774 WESLEY LO,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2028; and

G.M. No. 776 SYLVIA LEE,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2028,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal histories, resumes, and statements submitted by Wesley Lo and Sylvia Lee for service on the Board of Education.

WESLEY LO

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the reappointment of Wesley Lo from the Department of Education; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Ohana Pacific Health; Bowers and Kubota, Inc.; and seven individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Lo's experience and knowledge qualify him for reappointment to the Board of Education as an at-large member. Mr. Lo has over twenty-five years of executive experience, dedicating his career

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to health care management. Presently, Mr. Lo serves as Chief Executive Officer of Ohana Pacific Health and Hale Makua Health Services. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Lo has served on the Board of Education since 2024, where he currently serves as Chairperson of the Human Resources Committee and as a member of the Finance and Infrastructure Committee. At your Committee's public hearing to consider his nomination, Mr. Lo described his strengths in human resources, organizational management, and financial management to ensure greater accountability for the Department of Education. In his tenure as a member of the Board of Education, Mr. Lo recognizes the pressing need for clarity regarding facilities management, including delineation of specific agency responsibilities and personnel recruitment. Additionally, Mr. Lo noted the importance of prioritizing student achievement, transportation, information technology advancements, and fulfillment of goals in the Department of Education's strategic plan. During his next term, Mr. Lo is committed to ensuring students, teachers, and staff can achieve their highest potential through programs such as career and technical education and professional development to ensure teacher retention. Your Committee therefore recommends that Wesley Lo be reappointed to the Board of Education based on his experience, knowledge, and commitment to public service.

SYLVIA LEE

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Sylvia Lee from the Department of Education and eighteen individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Ms. Lee's experience and knowledge qualify her for appointment to the Board of Education as a member representing the County of Hawaii. Ms. Lee is an experienced education professional and dedicated over forty years to the Department of Education in various teaching and school administration roles before retiring in 2013. Ms. Lee previously served as District Specialist in a Project Manager capacity for the United States Department of Education Race-to-the-Top Competitive Grant and as Principal for Mountain View Elementary School. At your Committee's public hearing to consider her nomination, Ms. Lee stated she is committed to cultivating partnerships with the Legislature, Department of Education, and the private sector to maximize student success. Your Committee further finds that Ms. Lee understands the roles and responsibilities of board members, and



her background as a former licensed teacher and educational administrator within the Department of Education will be assets to the Board of Education. Your Committee therefore recommends that Sylvia Lee be appointed to the Board of Education based on her experience, knowledge, and commitment to public service.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that are attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominees, has found the nominees to be qualified for the positions to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Education,



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair





The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Education**  
**EDU**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 774</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDU</b>	Date: <b>4/4/2025</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)	✓			✓
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)				✓
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original      Yellow      Pink      Goldenrod File with Committee Report      Clerk's Office      Drafting Agency      Committee File Copy				

\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes