

JOURNAL
of the
SENATE OF THE
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
of the
STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Special Session of 2020

Convened Monday, October 5, 2020
Adjourned Tuesday, October 6, 2020

CERTIFICATE

We hereby certify that the minutes for each day's session as appears in this Senate Journal are true and correct and that a copy is on file in the Archives of the State of Hawai'i.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate

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THE
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
SPECIAL SESSION OF 2020
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

FIRST DAY

Monday, October 5, 2020

The Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Special Session of 2020, was called to order at 10:00 a.m., by Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, President of the Senate, in accordance with the following Proclamation, which was read by the Clerk and was placed on file:

“Proclamation

October 1, 2020

I, Ronald D. Kouchi, President of the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, pursuant to the power vested in me by Section 10, Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, and at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which the Senate is entitled, do hereby convene the Senate in Special Session as sought in the petition at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 5, 2020, in the State Capitol Senate Chambers, for the purpose of carrying out its responsibilities established by Section 3, Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i.

/s/ Ronald D. Kouchi
RONALD D. KOUCHI
President of the Senate”

The President then announced:

“Before we proceed any further, I would like to note for the record that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic qualifies as a ‘catastrophic disaster’ as defined in Senate Rule 38.5 and there is ‘good cause’ for authorizing Senate members to continue participating in any meeting of members via virtual attendance as set forth in Senate Rule 38.5 for the duration of this Special Session.”

The Roll was then called showing all Senators present, with Senators Baker, Chang, Dela Cruz, Gabbard, Kahele, Keith-Agaran, Keohokalole, Rhoads, Ruderman, Shimabukuro, and Thielen present and participating via videoconference.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following message from the Governor (Gov. Msg. No. 1) was read by the Clerk and was disposed of as follows:

Gov. Msg. No. 1, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of KAREN T. NAKASONE as Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, for a term of ten years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

JUDICIARY COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the Judiciary (Jud. Com. Nos. 1 to 7) were read by the Clerk and were disposed of as follows:

Jud. Com. No. 1, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of KARIN L. HOLMA to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Jud. Com. No. 2, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of TRACY S. FUKUI to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Jud. Com. No. 3, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of BRYANT G.F.Y. ZANE to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Jud. Com. No. 4, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of ANDREW T. PARK to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Jud. Com. No. 5, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of COURTNEY N. NASO to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Jud. Com. No. 6, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of ELIZABETH PAEK-HARRIS to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Jud. Com. No. 7, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of THOMAS A.K. HAIA to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

At this time, Senator Rhoads announced that the Committee on Judiciary would be holding a decision-making meeting on Gov. Msg. No. 1 and Jud. Com. Nos. 1 to 7 at 10:30 a.m.

The Chair then made the following announcement:

“The deadline to file standing committee reports on Gov. Msg. No. 1 and Jud. Com. Nos. 1 to 7 is 4:30 p.m. this afternoon.”

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

On motion by Senator Kahele, seconded by Senator Fevella and carried unanimously, the Clerk was authorized to receive standing committee reports on Gov. Msg. No. 1 and Jud. Com. Nos. 1 to 7. In consequence thereof, and subsequent to its recessing at 10:06 a.m., the Senate took the following actions:

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of KAREN T. NAKASONE as Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 1.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1 and Gov. Msg. No. 1 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of KARIN L. HOLMA to the

District Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 1.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2 and Jud. Com. No. 1 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of TRACY S. FUKUI to the District Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 2.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3 and Jud. Com. No. 2 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of BRYANT G.F.Y. ZANE to the District Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 3.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4 and Jud. Com. No. 3 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 5) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of ANDREW T. PARK to the District Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 4.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 5 and Jud. Com. No. 4 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 6) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of COURTNEY N. NASO to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 5.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 6 and Jud. Com. No. 5 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 7) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of ELIZABETH PAEK-HARRIS to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 6.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 7 and Jud. Com. No. 6 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 8) recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of THOMAS A.K. HAIA to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, in accordance with Jud. Com. No. 7.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 8 and Jud. Com. No. 7 was deferred until Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:30 p.m., the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

SECOND DAY

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

The Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Special Session of 2020, convened at 11:37 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present, with Senators Baker, Chang, Dela Cruz, Gabbard, Kahele, Keith-Agaran, Keohokalole, Rhoads, Ruderman, Shimabukuro, and Thielen present and participating via videoconference.

The President announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the First Day.

ORDER OF THE DAY

ADVISE AND CONSENT

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1 (Gov. Msg. No. 1):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of KAREN T. NAKASONE as Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, for a term of 10 years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Gov. Msg. No. 1 as follows:

"Karen T. Nakasone is a judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit of Hawai'i. Since becoming a judge in 2011, she has presided over both civil and criminal calendars, handling well over 2,000 cases. She has also been assigned as substitute associate justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court for 25 cases and substitute associate judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals for 4 cases.

"Judge Nakasone started her legal career as a law clerk to then-associate JCA judge Simeon Acoba, Jr. She next gained significant trial and appellate experience during her 15 years as a public defender in the State's Office of the Public Defender. Near the end of her term at the public defender's office, she was made a senior deputy in the Appeals Division.

"Judge Nakasone is a graduate of Bryn Mawr College, in Pennsylvania, and Boston University School of Law, where she was president of the university's Asian Pacific American Law Students Association and vice president of the National Asian Pacific American Law Students Association.

"All of the testimony submitted was in support of Judge Nakasone's appointment to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and commended her analytical ability and extensive experience. Testifiers included judges before whom she appeared when she was a deputy public defender and attorneys who have appeared before her in her current role as circuit court judge.

"After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Ms. Karen T. Nakasone is well-qualified to serve as an associate judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo."

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Karen T. Nakasone, who wished to acknowledge the support of her

parents, Hajime and Chieko Nakasone; and her daughters Abby and Ellie Nakasone-Amaguin.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2 (Jud. Com. No. 1):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of KARIN L. HOLMA to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 1 as follows:

"Karin L. Holma has been in private practice for almost 30 years, focusing on civil litigation, especially commercial litigation. She is a partner at Bays Lung Rose & Holma, where she also served as managing partner for six years. During her private practice tenure, she has been lead counsel for plaintiffs and defendants in hundreds of cases.

"Ms. Holma received her law degree from Willamette University College of Law, in Salem, Oregon, and her undergraduate degree from Lewis & Clark College, in Portland, Oregon. She is active in Hawai'i's legal community, including serving as treasurer, vice president, and president-elect of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

"All of the testimony submitted was in support of Ms. Holma's appointment to the district court. In particular, testifiers noted her insight and legal expertise.

"After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Ms. Karin L. Holma is well-qualified to serve as a district court judge of the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo."

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Karin L. Holma, who wished to acknowledge the support of her husband, Scotty Anderson; her mother, Liisa Holma; her sister, Marianne Holma; and her brother and sister-in-law, Paul and Sherri Holma.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3 (Jud. Com. No. 2):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of TRACY S. FUKUI to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 2 as follows:

"Tracy S. Fukui is currently the section head of the Employment and Civil Rights Litigation Division for the Department of the Corporation Counsel of Honolulu. She has a wide range of civil and criminal experience that also includes working as a deputy public defender and solo practitioner.

“Ms. Fukui received her law degree from Lewis & Clark Law School, in Portland, Oregon, and her undergraduate degree from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. She is active in the legal community, including serving as grand jury counsel for the First Circuit and presenting at the Hawaii State Bar Association’s junior judges program.

“All of the testimony submitted was in support of Ms. Fukui’s appointment to the district court, and testifiers noted her broad experience and dedication to public service.

“After reviewing the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Ms. Tracy S. Fukui is well-qualified to serve as a district court judge of the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo.”

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Tracy S. Fukui, who wished to acknowledge the support of her parents, Wilfred and Kimi Fukui, who had both passed on; and her daughter Baylee and Baylee’s father, Roger Thomas.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4 (Jud. Com. No. 3):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of BRYANT G.F.Y. ZANE to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 3 as follows:

“Bryant G.F.Y. Zane is a deputy public defender at the Office of the Public Defender for the State of Hawai‘i, where he has worked for the majority of his career and has tried more than 250 cases. Prior to the public defender’s office, he worked on the neighbor islands, first as a law clerk in the Third Circuit in Hilo and then for five years as a deputy prosecuting attorney in the Kaua‘i County prosecutor’s office.

“Mr. Zane received his law degree from Howard University School of Law, in Washington, D.C., and his undergraduate degree from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. He has been actively involved in the legal community, including serving as a volunteer attorney with the Courts in the Community program and as the Kaua‘i director for the bar association’s Young Lawyers Division.

“All of the testimony submitted was in support of Mr. Zane’s appointment to the district court. In particular, testifiers noted his integrity and commitment to clients and the public.

“After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Mr. Bryant G.F.Y. Zane is well-qualified to serve as a district court judge of the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo.”

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Bryant G.F.Y. Zane, who wished to acknowledge the support of his wife, Dr. Cindy Goodness Zane, and their son, William Zane; his

mother, Lillian Zane; and his father-in-law, Peruvia Joseph Goodness.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 5 (Jud. Com. No. 4):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 5 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of ANDREW T. PARK to the District Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 4 as follows:

“Andrew T. Park has been in private practice since 2011 with a focus on criminal law. For the past three years, he has also served as a per diem judge with the First Circuit’s District Family Court. Judge Park’s prior legal experience was as a deputy prosecuting attorney for the City and County of Honolulu.

“Judge Park received his law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law and his undergraduate degree from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. He is active in the community, including membership in the Hawaii State Trial Judges-Hawaii State Bar Association joint committee and as the secretary of the Hawai‘i chapter of the organization Mental Health America.

“All of the testimony submitted was in support of Judge Park’s appointment to the district court, and testifiers noted his diligence and legal experience.

“After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Mr. Andrew T. Park is well-qualified to serve as a district court judge for the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo.”

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Andrew T. Park, who wished to acknowledge the support of his wife, Katherine Park, and his father, John Park.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 6 (Jud. Com. No. 5):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 6 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of COURTNEY N. NASO to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 5 as follows:

“Courtney N. Naso has been in private practice since 2000, practicing in both Hawai‘i and California, with a specialization in family law. She currently is an attorney with the Law Office of Steven J. Kim, where she handles matters such as divorce, child custody, paternity, and adoption.

“Ms. Naso received her law degree from Regent University School of Law, in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and her undergraduate degree from Michigan State University. She is actively involved in the legal community, including as a volunteer mediator for the Mediation Center of the Pacific and a

court-appointed volunteer settlement master for the First Circuit Family Court.

“All of the testimony submitted was in support of Ms. Naso’s appointment to the district family court. In particular, testifiers noted her extensive legal knowledge and professional demeanor.

“After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Ms. Courtney N. Naso is well-qualified to serve as a district family court judge of the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo.”

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Courtney N. Naso, who wished to acknowledge the support of her family, especially her parents; her boss, colleague, and friend, attorney Steven J. Kim; and her former boss and friend, attorney Douglas A. Crosier.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 7 (Jud. Com. No. 6):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 7 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of ELIZABETH PAEK-HARRIS to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 6 as follows:

“Elizabeth Paek-Harris has been in private practice since 2004, focusing on family law. For a year and a half, she has been serving as a per diem judge with the First Circuit’s district family court and is currently managing the domestic division calendar of a full-time judge.

“Judge Paek-Harris received her law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law and her undergraduate degree from the Evergreen State College, in Olympia, Washington. She has been active in the legal community, including as a volunteer mediator for the Mediation Center of the Pacific.

“All of the testimony submitted was in support of Judge Paek-Harris’s appointment to the district family court. In particular, testifiers noted her diligence and ethical advocacy.

“After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Ms. Elizabeth Paek-Harris is well-qualified to serve as a district family court judge of the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo.”

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Elizabeth Paek-Harris, who wished to acknowledge the support of Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald, First Circuit Chief Judge Mark Browning, Senior Family Court Judge Christine Kuriyama, and her mother, Sue, whom she describes as the rock in her life.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 8 (Jud. Com. No. 7):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 8 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Keohokalole and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of THOMAS A.K. HAIA to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, for a term of six years, seconded by Senator Keohokalole.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of Jud. Com. No. 7 as follows:

“Thomas A.K. Haia has been in private practice for 24 years, specializing in family law. He is also contracted to provide full-time representation for indigent parents involved with the family court. Since 2014, he has served as a per diem judge with the First Circuit District Court.

“Judge Haia received his law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law and his undergraduate degree from University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. He has been active in the legal community, including as a pro bono attorney with the Legal Aid Society and Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii and as a volunteer guardian ad litem.

“The testimony overwhelmingly supported Judge Haia’s appointment to the district family court. In particular, testifiers noted his experience and integrity.

“After having reviewed the testimony and other materials submitted on this appointment and having examined the appointee in a hearing, your Judiciary committee finds that Mr. Thomas A.K. Haia is well-qualified to serve as a district family court judge of the First Circuit, and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment. Mahalo.”

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

At this time, Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Thomas A.K. Haia, who wished to acknowledge the support of his wife, Tammy, all of their children and grandchildren, and his siblings.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

SENATE RESOLUTION

The following resolution (S.R. No. 1) was read by the Clerk and was disposed of as follows:

S.R. No. 1 “SENATE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE ON THIS FINAL DAY OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF 2020.”

Offered by: Senators English, Fevella.

On motion by Senator Kahele, seconded by Senator Fevella and carried, S.R. No. 1 was adopted.

At this time, the Chair stated:

“Before asking for announcements today as it’s the last meeting, probably, for two of our members, I just wanted to begin by acknowledging Chair Rhoads. Last Thursday was the first meeting that we were able to hold remotely with taking testimony. I want to acknowledge Senator Keohokalole, who has been on me for the last two years, now, since he’s come to the Senate, to work on having better livestream and technological capability. And through those efforts, we were prepared, at least by now, to deal with some of the distance issues, and so I’m appreciative of the leadership shown by the two of you and the other members who have been so supportive, and, clearly, well, we look really good in doing this. We could not have done this without Carol Taniguchi, Ben

Villaflor, Chris Lam, our support staff, and all of the rest of the members on their team, who made sure that we met with the internet providers and had the improvements that were necessary to make everything look so effortless and seamless. So, members, join me in giving a big hand to all of those who helped make this possible.”

The Chair then called upon Senator Ruderman to share remarks with the members of the Senate as follows:

“Thank you, Mr. President. Aloha, everybody. I wanted to say a farewell of sorts. I’ve been here for eight years and my full-time staff, Maigee Chang and Michael Greenough, have been with me for seven and eight of those years. I want to thank them above all else. I’m so proud of the work that we did; I’m proud of who they are, and I feel honored that they stayed with me for so long.

“To echo what the senator from Waimānalo said a couple of months ago, I feel that the Sergeant-at-Arms and his entire office and Senate Clerk and her entire office are unsung heroes around here. Their professionalism and excellence has always impressed me, and I hope they are appreciated.

“I realize I’m a bit of a different creature from a strange, distant land, so I very much thank each of my colleagues, who treated me with aloha. To my friends here, thank you so very much; I couldn’t have survived without you. I’m sure many of you are worried about missing me too much, so I want to give you some good news: Once things are back to normal, I plan to work for a job as a lobbyist. I think that’d be a good way for me to use my tremendous influence, and I think there might be some openings in the geothermal or GMO field. (For the sake of the Journal and those lucky enough to not know me, those last few sentences were in jest.)

“Many times I’ve tried to sound an alarm here, always without success so far, but I’ll try once more. This time it’s not about the environment and it’s not about ethics. I’ve often described the climate crisis as an iceberg that we are heading for on a *Titanic*-like ship. I still see it that way, but I no longer look to the Hawai’i State Legislature to help steer that ship. Evidently, it is not our kuleana. But there is another iceberg that’s ahead of us that’s even closer and there’s no one else who can steer this course, and that is: a societal crisis of fast-growing poverty and inequality in our state, the state with the highest cost of living.

“This approaching financial crisis was already in process before COVID and of course will be worsened by it. However, I have confidence in this body to guide us through COVID the best we can. In that regard, I thank those who have been working so hard on this. But the larger overarching crisis has not been recognized and will continue after our recovery. This is the bigger, closer iceberg, and there is no other entity to steer that ship to avoid catastrophe. Hawai’i cannot be a world-class destination and a society in distress. I know that it remains unrecognized because, at the beginning of this year, the struggling working people of our state were offered a package including the gradual increase of our minimum wage to \$13 an hour over four years. That was an insult to struggling people in our state and a failure of our commitment to our people. Thirteen dollars an hour satisfied the Chamber of Commerce and no one else, certainly not any people working to improve poverty. Even this was dropped during our COVID crisis. We rightfully took care of government union worker raises, but we wrongfully abandoned regular, ordinary working people, those without benefits and without protections. We failed once again to help working people in such an easy, profound way, which other high-cost-of-living areas have done. I’ve heard our reasons for inaction, which oddly were the same in bad times as they were in good times, but to those needing help, they only heard, ‘We failed you again—surprise, surprise—and we didn’t

even feel the need to comment on it.’ They see us as complacent and uncaring.

“I’m a bit of a businessperson myself. I know better than anyone here the challenges of increased payroll, but the employee who cannot pay rent is in a much more desperate situation than the business owner who has to downsize or even close. And it affects a thousand times more people, and they are closer to homelessness and hunger. But paying a livable wage comes with benefits as well: It’s not in our business interest to have a failed society with rampant poverty and desperation on the streets. Our gated communities and luxury resorts will not insulate us from those effects. If we want a peaceful, healthy, affluent society, we have to bring our working people along with us. We’re failing badly. (Forgive me—I’m almost done.) I know many don’t agree with me about minimum wage being the solution, or don’t see it as possible. With 200 employees and as the person who would pay the highest price for it, it’s the only solution I see. For those who don’t, I hope you find a better solution and quickly because business as usual leaves us on a collision course. We have the highest cost of living, the fastest-growing poverty. This is the most supposedly Democratic body in the most Democratic state (sorry, Kurt). Even with all the other influences around here, we ought to be fighting for working people at least as much as taking orders from the Chamber of Commerce. We must return to taking care of vulnerable working people, which benefits all of us, will keep us safe, and allow true prosperity. Okay, thank you; that’s the last lecture from me. Thank you, and aloha, everybody.”

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Kahele moved that the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai’i, Special Session of 2020, adjourn Sine Die, seconded by Senator Fevella and carried.

At 12:06 p.m., the President rapped his gavel and declared the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai’i, Special Session of 2020, adjourned Sine Die.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

SCRep. 1 Judiciary on Gov. Msg. No. 1

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS

G.M. No. 1 KAREN T. NAKASONE, for a term to expire in 10 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Karen T. Nakasone for appointment to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as an Associate Judge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Judge Karen T. Nakasone from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Japanese American Citizens League; Hawai'i Women Lawyers; Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights; the Honorable Simeon R. Acoba, Jr.-retired; the Honorable Steven H. Levinson-retired; the Honorable Marie N. Milks-retired; and fifty individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Judge Karen T. Nakasone from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Judge Nakasone received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College and her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Boston University School of Law, where she was Vice President of the National Asian Pacific American Law Students Association and President of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. She has been serving as a Judge in the Circuit Court of the First Circuit since 2011. During her time on the bench, she has also served as a Substitute Associate Judge in the Intermediate Court of Appeals and a Substitute Associate Justice in the Hawai'i Supreme Court. At the outset of her legal career, she was a law clerk to then-Intermediate Court of Appeals Associate Judge Simeon Acoba, Jr.

Prior to her appointment to the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, Judge Nakasone served as a Deputy Public Defender in the Hawaii State Office of the Public Defender. In that capacity, she represented clients in many criminal matters covering the full range of the Hawaii Penal Code. Additionally, she has extensive experience in appellate practice, having handled sixty-five appeals and serving as counsel in over five hundred post-conviction administrative hearings before the Hawai'i Paroling Authority.

Judge Nakasone has been active in the legal community throughout her career. In addition to the Hawaii State Bar Association, she is a member of the National Asian Pacific Bar Association Hawai'i Chapter and Hawaii Women Lawyers. She has previously served as a member of the Judiciary Penal Rules Committee, Director of the Mediation Center of the Pacific, and a participant in various capacities in the Hawaii State Bar Association Judicial Administration Committee. Additionally, the appointee emphasized the importance of her personal background, especially the values she learned from her first and second generation parents, in shaping her professional qualifications to serve on the bench.

Testimony submitted in support of Judge Nakasone's appointment commends her analytical ability and extensive experience in criminal and civil as well as trial and appellate cases. The testimony of judges before whom Judge Nakasone appeared as a Deputy Public Defender unanimously praised her legal skill, attention to detail, and professional demeanor. In addition, the testimony of attorneys who have appeared before her in her capacity as judge highlights her expertise, precision, integrity, and judicial temperament.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted in support of her appointment, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about her and her qualifications, Judge Karen T. Nakasone has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be an Associate Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and she possesses the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 1

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 1 KARIN L. HOLMA, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Karin L. Holma for appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Karin L. Holma from Hawai'i Women Lawyers, Building Industry Association of Hawaii, and eighteen individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Karin L. Holma from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Ms. Holma received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business and Administrative Studies from Lewis and Clark College. She later received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Willamette University College of Law, where she was Associate Editor of the Willamette Law Review and a member of the Moot Court Board.

Ms. Holma is a partner at Bays Lung Rose & Holma, where she joined as an associate in 1992. At that firm, she represents clients in a full time civil litigation practice concentrating in commercial litigation, including construction, real estate, and business and partnership disputes. In that capacity, she has been lead counsel in hundreds of cases, as both plaintiff's counsel and defense counsel.

Ms. Holma has been actively involved in the legal community throughout her career. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association, she served as Treasurer, Vice President, and now President-Elect. She has participated as an arbitrator in the Hawaii Court-Annexed Arbitration Program since 1998 and served as a Commissioner on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu from 2005 to 2011, including a term as the Chair of the Commission from 2007 to 2009.

Testimony submitted in support of Ms. Holma's appointment consistently notes her wide range of experience, insight, and legal expertise. She has repeatedly demonstrated an extremely high standard of integrity and professional conduct, as well as outstanding mental flexibility. Several testifiers also praised her as an effective and highly skilled communicator.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on her behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about her and her qualifications, Karin L. Holma has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Court Judge of the First Circuit, and she has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 3 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 2

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 2 TRACY S. FUKUI, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Tracy S. Fukui for appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Tracy S. Fukui from Hawai'i Women Lawyers and twenty-one individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Tracy S. Fukui from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Tracy S. Fukui received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. She received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Lewis and Clark Law School, where she participated in the Pro Bono Bankruptcy Clinic and was a Student Intern at the Office of the Public Defender for the District of Oregon as well as the Metropolitan Public Defender, a non-profit law firm that contracts with the State of Oregon for indigent legal defense services.

Ms. Fukui has been the Section Head of the Employment and Civil Rights Litigation Division at the Department of the Corporation Counsel of Honolulu since 2017, where she defends the City and its employees against civil lawsuits before state and federal courts and trains deputies in a variety of trial and litigation skills. She previously worked at the Department of the Corporation Counsel for four years in the Litigation Division. In between her work at the Corporation Counsel, she was a solo practitioner representing a number of business and individual clients in a range of civil litigation, as well as criminal defense. Her primary areas of focus have included employment discrimination and retaliation, personal injury, premises liability, civil rights, and tort cases. Additionally, Ms. Fukui served as a Deputy Public Defender in the Honolulu Office of the Public Defender from 2000 to 2006.

Ms. Fukui has been actively involved in the community throughout her career, including serving as Grand Jury Counsel for the Circuit Court of the First Circuit. She also participated in the Hawaii State Bar Association Junior Judges Program Anti-Bullying Campaign as a guest speaker and presenter.

Testimony submitted in support of Ms. Fukui's appointment commends her broad experience and dedication to public service and notes that her legal expertise and commitment to treating others with an upfront, fair, and honest demeanor will be valuable assets in her role as a District Court Judge. Numerous testifiers praised not only her keen knowledge of the law and her steadfast professionalism, but also her ability to remain calm and level-headed in stressful situations.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on her behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about her and her qualifications, Tracy S. Fukui has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Court Judge of the First Circuit, and she has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 4 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 3

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 3 BRYANT G.F.Y. ZANE, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Bryant G.F.Y. Zane for appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane from forty-seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Bryant G.F.Y. Zane from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Mr. Zane received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He subsequently received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Howard University School of Law, where he was the President of the Howard Public Interest Law Society.

Mr. Zane served as a Deputy Public Defender in the Hawaii State Office of the Public Defender for the majority of his career, from 2002 to 2007 and again from 2008 to present. Previous to his time in the Public Defender's office, he was a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney in Līhu'e, Hawaii. During his time at those offices, he handled numerous cases involving complex legal and procedural issues and has been recognized by his coworkers for his outstanding professional demeanor.

Mr. Zane has been actively involved in the community throughout his career. He served as the Director of the Kaua'i Young Lawyer's Division of the Hawaii State Bar Association and as a Mock Trial Judge for the William S. Richardson School of Law Prosecution and Defense Clinics. In addition, he has volunteered on numerous occasions for the Legal Access Point Clinic, Access to Justice Room, and Courts in the Community Program.

Testimony submitted in support of Mr. Zane's appointment commends his exemplary integrity and character, as well as his compassion and commitment to fairness. His extensive legal knowledge, diligence, and respectful and professional demeanor are consistently noted by attorneys who have worked alongside him, as well as those who have interacted with him as opposing counsel. Numerous testifiers also praised his deep commitment to his clients and to the public.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on his behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about him and his qualifications, Bryant G.F.Y. Zane has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Court Judge of the First Circuit, and he has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 5 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 4

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 4 ANDREW T. PARK, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Andrew T. Park for appointment to the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Andrew T. Park from twenty-one individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Andrew T. Park from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Mr. Park received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Political Science from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He later received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the William S. Richardson School of Law, where he served as the Comments Editor of the Asian-Pacific Law and Policy Journal and Vice President of the Pacific Asian Legal Studies Organization.

Mr. Park has been in private legal practice since 2011, and has practiced primarily in criminal defense and advocacy on behalf of criminal defendants on the mental health calendar who have been placed on conditional release or release with conditions. Since 2017, he has served as a *Per Diem* Judge in the District Family Court of the First Circuit while continuing his private practice. As a *Per Diem* Judge, Mr. Park has presided over trials and hearings of all types in the Family Court, including those matters involving involuntary hospitalization, juvenile criminal justice proceedings, child custody proceedings, and child welfare services proceedings. Prior to entering private practice, he served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu.

Mr. Park has been actively involved in the legal community throughout his career. He has been a member of the Joint Committee of the Hawaii State Trial Judges Association and the Hawaii State Bar Association since 2016 and a member of the Hawaii Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers since 2012. He also serves as Director and Secretary of Mental Health America of Hawaii and a participant member of the Mental Health Task Force.

Testimony submitted in support of Mr. Park's appointment emphasizes his broad legal expertise, diligence, and objectivity. In his time serving as a *Per Diem* Judge, he has earned a reputation for fairness and judicial integrity. Additionally, numerous testifiers commended his calm and professional demeanor, as well as his outstanding character and eagerness to help others.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on his behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about him and his qualifications, Andrew T. Park has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Court Judge of the First Circuit, and he has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 6 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 5

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 5 COURTNEY N. NASO, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Courtney N. Naso for appointment to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Courtney N. Naso from Hawai'i Women Lawyers and thirteen individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Courtney N. Naso from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Ms. Naso received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Science from Michigan State University. She later received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Regent University School of Law, where she was a delegate to the 1996 American Bar Association Fall Roundtable and co-originator of the American Bar Association Mentorship Program.

Ms. Naso has been in private practice since 2000, working in both Hawaii and California, and has practiced primarily in the area of family law, including divorce, child custody, child support, paternity, adoption, guardianship, restraining orders, and orders for

protection. She has extensive experience in litigating challenging and complex issues, including relocation motions in child custody cases, and has demonstrated great skill in crafting creative solutions in the resolution of such cases.

Ms. Naso has been actively involved in the legal community throughout her career. She has been a volunteer mediator for the Mediation Center of the Pacific since 2015 and for the District Court since 2019. Additionally, she has been a Court-Appointed Volunteer Settlement Master of the Family Court of the First Circuit since 2013. She has also volunteered multiple times with Kapolei Access to Justice Room and the Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii Family Law Clinic.

Testimony submitted in support of Ms. Naso's appointment commends her for her great depth of legal knowledge and expertise, as well as her professional demeanor. She has earned a reputation among her peers for her integrity, honesty, and compassion. In addition, several testifiers praised her skill and efficiency regarding alternative dispute resolution.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on her behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about her and her qualifications, Courtney N. Naso has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit, and she has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 7 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 6

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 6 ELIZABETH PAEK-HARRIS, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Elizabeth Paek-Harris for appointment to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Elizabeth Paek-Harris from Hawai'i Women Lawyers and thirty-two individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Elizabeth Paek-Harris from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Ms. Paek-Harris received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts from The Evergreen State College, where she was the Co-Founder and Coordinator of Evergreen's Pre-Law Circle. She later received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the William S. Richardson School of Law, where she was a Board Member, Editor, and Writer for the University of Hawai'i Law Review and received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Writing. Ms. Paek-Harris has served as a *Per Diem* Family Court Judge in the District Family Court of the First Circuit since 2019.

Ms. Paek-Harris was an attorney in private practice from 2004 to 2019, and practiced primarily in the area of family law. She handled cases at the trial court and appellate levels, in addition to mediation. Her practice regularly required her to navigate a wide range of complex legal and factual issues, especially when handling divorce and child custody cases. As a *Per Diem* Family Court Judge, Ms. Paek-Harris presides primarily over divorce, paternity, domestic violence, adoption, guardianship, involuntary hospitalization, and termination of parental rights cases.

Ms. Paek-Harris has been active in the legal community throughout her career. She has served as a volunteer attorney for the Kapolei Access to Justice Room and Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii. She has also been a volunteer mediator for the Mediation Center of the Pacific. In addition, she has served in numerous leadership roles in the Family Law and Child Law Sections of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

Testimony submitted in support of Ms. Paek-Harris's appointment commend her diligence and commitment to ethical advocacy. Throughout her career, she has earned a reputation for compassion, integrity, and open-mindedness. Numerous testifiers praised her depth of legal expertise and her consistent professionalism. Throughout her career, she has repeatedly demonstrated a deep commitment toward the provision of legal services to the people of the State.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on her behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about her and her qualifications, Elizabeth Paek-Harris has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit, and she has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 8 Judiciary on Jud. Com. No. 7

Recommending that the Senate consent to the appointment of the following:

DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 7 THOMAS A.K. HAIA, for a term to expire in 6 years

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Thomas A.K. Haia for appointment to the District Family Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Thomas A.K. Haia from Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice and sixteen individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the appointment of Thomas A.K. Haia from one individual. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Thomas A.K. Haia from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity and diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Mr. Haia received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He later received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the William S. Richardson School of Law. Since 2014, he has served as a *Per Diem* District Court Judge in the District Court of the First Circuit while continuing his private practice.

Except for a period of time in 2005 in which he worked with the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i, Mr. Haia has been a solo practitioner since 1997. His practice has an emphasis in family law. He primarily handles probate, trusts and estate, divorce, custody, guardianship, adoption, labor, and unemployment law cases. As part of his practice, he is contracted to provide full-time representation for indigent parents involved with the Family Court in child abuse and neglect cases. As *Per Diem* District Court Judge, Mr. Haia has heard cases on a variety of subject matters in both civil and criminal law.

Mr. Haia has been deeply involved in the legal community throughout his career. He has volunteered with Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii since 2003 and was a Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem for fifteen years. He is a member of the Court Improvement Program Working Committee for the Family Court, Hawaii Child Welfare Education Collaborative, and Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice, among other organizations. In addition to his involvement in the legal community, he has a long history of volunteering in the service of his neighborhood and community at large.

Testimony submitted in support of Mr. Haia's appointment consistently commends him for his compassion, experience, and integrity. During his time as a *Per Diem* District Court Judge, he has earned a reputation for having a thorough understanding of law and legal procedure, as well as an outstanding judicial temperament. Numerous testifiers also noted his strong work ethic, patience, and respectful demeanor.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on his behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about him and his qualifications, Thomas A.K. Haia has the experience, temperament, and other competencies to be a District Family Court Judge of the First Circuit, and he has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

NUMBER AND TITLE	Offered	Referred	Report of Committee	Adoption
S.R. No. 1 AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE ON THIS FINAL DAY OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF 2020.	5			5