

# GM 762

## Testimony –

**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Gubernatorial Nominee, DEAN SAKAMOTO, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

**Report Title:** State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

**Description:**

**Companion:**

**Package:**

**Current Referral:** HEA

**Introducer(s):**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS  
ON  
APRIL 16, 2015

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 762

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE  
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
DEAN SAKAMOTO

Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on G.M. 762. The Department of Accounting and General Services supports the confirmation of Mr. Dean Sakamoto to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA).

Mr. Sakamoto is a registered architect in the states of Connecticut and Hawaii and is the principal of Dean Sakamoto Architects LLC. He has earned numerous awards for his work and has given lectures, panel discussions, and presentations around the world. His professional and academic experience provides him with the necessary skills to be a valuable and contributing member of the SFCA.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.



**HAWAII**  
STATE FOUNDATION on  
CULTURE and the ARTS

No. 1 Capitol District Building  
250 South Hotel Street  
Second Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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David Y. Ige

Comptroller  
Douglas Murdock

Chairperson  
Barbara Saromines-Ganne

Commissioners  
Joel Guy  
Rai Saint Chu  
Michael Moore  
Dean Sakamoto  
Karen Tiller Polivka  
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TESTIMONY OF  
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS  
APRIL 16, 2015

GM 762

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE  
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
**DEAN SAKAMOTO**

Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee, I am Jonathan Johnson,  
executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and I am  
pleased to testify in support of the nomination of Dean Sakamoto to our  
Commission.

Mr. Sakamoto is a successful and award-winning architect with his own  
established firm in Hawai'i and Connecticut. He is active in the AIA, reputable as a  
college-level educator, and has a keen appreciation for the environment. Of  
particular importance is his understanding of the symbiotic relationship between  
public art and architecture and his ability to tackle tough policy issues.

Mr. Sakamoto is well-traveled and has credentials and affiliations with  
renowned institutions such as Yale University, Pratt Institute, and UH Manoa's  
Department of Urban and Regional Planning. He has researched and published  
books and studies on Vladimir Ossipoff, participated in panels, and studied the  
effects of natural disasters on urban living.

We are confident in Mr. Sakamoto's ability to make a positive contribution  
in support of the SFCA and its mission to promote, preserve and perpetuate culture  
and the arts for the people of Hawai'i. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in  
support of Mr. Sakamoto's nomination.



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TESTIMONY OF  
BARBARA SAROMINES-GANNE  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS  
APRIL 16, 2015

GM 762

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE  
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
**DEAN SAKAMOTO**

Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee, I am Barbara Saromines-Ganne, current chairperson of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), and I am testifying as an individual in support of the nomination of Dean Sakamoto to the SFCA Commission.

Mr. Sakamoto has been serving as our Commission member for several months. As a professor emeritus in art history, I have been duly impressed with Mr. Sakamoto's professionalism, commitment to and understanding of the visual arts, and his enthusiasm for supporting the agency's programs, Hawaii's artists, and the Commission's priorities. It is, moreover, a decided advantage to have an accomplished architect in our midst to inform our percent for art implementation.

Mr. Sakamoto is the owner of his own architectural firm, continues to teach college level courses in architecture and urban planning, and displays an avid and generous interest in environmental design as impacting urban living.

Thank you for this opportunity to welcome him and the fine contributions he'll make to Hawaii's state arts agency.