

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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No

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 619, NOMINATION OF CLAYTON HEE TO THE HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY.

by Nolan P. Espinda, Director Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Wednesday, May 13, 2020; 3:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** Governor's Message (GM) 619, nominating Clayton Hee to the Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA).

Mr. Hee's long experience as a trustee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, legislator, educator, and community leader make him ideally suited to serve on the HPA board.

The Department strongly endorses the nomination of Mr. Hee to the Hawaii Paroling Authority and respectfully urges the Committee to advise and consent to his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



GM 619 Hawaii Paroling Authority Nominee: Clayton Hee

Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

- Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair; Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
- April 13th, 2020 at 3:00 pm
- Conference Room 229

Hina Mauka Supports Hawaii Paroling Authority Nominee Clayton Hee:

Aloha Chair; Vice Chair; And Distinguished Committee Members. My name is Alan Johnson, CEO of Hina Mauka. We are one of the largest prevention and treatment agencies in the State, providing substance use disorder and mental health disorder treatment to almost 2,500 adults and adolescents per year as well as prevention to thousands more youth and parents.

We highly recommend Clayton Hee for a member of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority (HPA):

- As the Senator of District 23, where Hina Mauka resides, Senator Hee supported the funding and expansion of substance use disorder treatment services.
- Clayton Hee has worked with the prosecutor office and the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC) to promote finding consensus for diversion and reentry services for offenders
- Senator Hee is appreciated by non-profits in his advocacy for increasing the minimum wages. His well-known move to place a dime in front of each legislators seat to signify that the state could afford a small incremental increase in wages is legendary.
- Clayton Hee is a true advocate for systemic reform that would benefit Hawai'i's communities. He is known for a great deal of accomplishments as well as awards. While he is known to be vocal and, at times, passionate, no one doubts that his heart is in the right place for the betterment of all Hawai'i.
- As Chair of the Judiciary committee, Senator Hee worked diligently to balance the voices of prosecution, corrections, healthcare providers and the community. We believe that Clayton Hee will continue to find the balance for community safety as well as offender services for reentry that would reduce recidivism.

We fully support Clayton Hee's nomination and believe that he will be a valuable member of the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

My name is Amy Agbayani, Chair Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights (HFCR). HFCR is dedicated to justice, equality and civil rights for all. We are in strong support of Clayton Hee to the Hawai'i Paroling Authority (GM 619).

For over four decades, I have had countless opportunities to work with Clayton Hee on statewide and community issues and projects. I continue to be grateful to Mr. Hee for his knowledge of the history of Hawai'i and appreciation of our multiethnic community. I worked closely with Mr. Hee when he was chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee and Chair of the Judiciary Committee. I worked with Mr. Hee in my capacity as an administrator of student service diversity programs serving Native Hawaiians, Filipino and other underrepresented groups, women, LGBT students, child care and students with disabilities. I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Hee during my tenure as chair of the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission and member of the Judicial Selection Commission.

I am very impressed with his integrity, subject matter knowledge and ability to work with diverse individuals and groups. His extensive experience addressing a variety of contentious and complex policies (e.g. education, human services, public safety and the criminal justice system) gives him a broad understanding of community issues and laws that will benefit the Paroling Authority in its work. Mr. Hee has a proven excellent track record of fairness and understanding of individuals, communities, laws and regulations. He is intelligent, pays attention to detail, reads extensively, listens carefully and asks questions carefully before making any decision.

I would like to thank him for his consistent support for social justice and civil rights. I strongly endorse Clayton Hee and am confident he will continue to be a responsible, fair and hard working member of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority.

Amy Agbayani, chair Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights 3432 B-1 Kalihi St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 Amy_agbayani@yahoo.com



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Glenn Waka, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, May 13, 2020

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 229

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania St.

GM 619

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Paroling Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, CLAYTON HEE, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **Strongly Supports** GM 619.

Clayton Hee is an advocate for Hawaii Agriculture, as well as a supporter of the Hawaii Cattle Industry. During his years of public service, he has demonstrated his knowledge of the importance of agriculture.

Hawaii's ranchers and farmers support Clayton Hee and we appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Nicole Galase Managing Director









<u>GM-619</u> Submitted on: 5/8/2020 12:55:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

GM-619

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 10:39:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dexter D. Del Rosario	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

May 10, 2020

Re: GM 619 Confirmation to Hawaii Paroling Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee Clayton Hee

Dear Chairman Ihara and Committee Members,

I am submitting testimony in support of Senator Clayton Hee.

I am a retired Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit and am currently serving as a Per Diem Family and District Court Judge on the island of Lana'i. I have know Senator Hee for years.

I believe this is a special opportunity for the State of Hawaii to have Senator Hee. I'm not aware of anyone with his professional experience and personal background having served on the parole board. As a teacher on Moloka'i to a long career in elected office he has a demonstrated commitment to our community that spans decades.

He brings to the parole board a genuine desire to help inmates to better themselves. He knows the communities these individuals come from, and in some cases he's familiar with their family background. He wlll bring a no nonsense, practical and credible evaluation of each case. Of particular importance, he has the ability to have meaningful conversations with these inmates.

Senator Hee's Hawaiian ancestry and knowledge of Hawaiian culture is uniquely valuable in a prison with a large native Hawaiian population. As a sentencing judge, it has been my experience that restoring self-esteem and a sense of purpose is necessary to a successful goal oriented program of rehabilitation. Senator Hee has a way, that only he can, to convey to these inmates the importance of their Hawaiian ancestry and their obligations.

Thank you for this opportunity,

Dexter D. Del Rosario

On 5/11/20, 7:25 AM, "Sen. Clarence Nishihara" <c.nishihara@capitol.hawaii.gov> wrote:

----Original Message-----

From: Neil Abercrombie <governor.neil@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 11:02 AM

To: Sen. Clarence Nishihara <c.nishihara@capitol.hawaii.gov>

Subject: Clayton Hee

Dear Clarence, I am writing today to recommend most highly denomination of former Senator Clayton Hee to the Hawai'i patrolling sword. I will not dwell on his resume which as you know is extensive and deep particularly with respect to the judiciary committee and it's work. I wish to comment rather on his character and what he would bring through the Authority. He is fair minded and tough minded. He's not afraid to make difficult decisions. He Tempers his compassion with realism. He understands not only what is appropriate but what is possible. He has cultivated a clear sense of the economic and social context with respect to growing up Hawaiian in Hawaii. At the same time he has a sophisticated and perceptive knowledge regarding the broader community throughout the islands. He brings the advantage of having lived a Neighbor Island experience something not all Oahu centric appointees can claim. His forthrightness is tempered by understanding what is at stake whether it is about individuals or issues or both. No one has a better background and knowledge about the justice system in Hawaii. The authority and its mission will be the clear beneficiary of his appointment. Many thanks for your consideration. Aloha Neil

Governor Neil Abercrombie Pacific Strategies 76 N. King St., Suite 203 Honolulu, HI 96817

Sent from my iPhone

<u>GM-619</u>

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 1:35:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submit	tted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan G	ottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

I have know Senator Hee for a number of years and have found him to be a fair and open minded individual, always willing to listen to reason. He has been a good friend to the Farmers and Ranchers in the State of Hawaii. We give our strong support to his nomination for the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

Aloha Alan Gottlieb

<u>GM-619</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 1:59:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregory FRIEL	Individual	Support	No

<u>GM-619</u> Submitted on: 5/12/2020 11:03:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Bud & Katy Gibson	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

We support Clayton Hee's confirmation to the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

mahalo

Bud and Katy Gibson

GM-619

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 1:01:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle Caires	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Caires and I am an independent farmer and rancher that **strongly supports** GM 619. Clayton Hee has been a strong advocate for Agriculture in Hawai'i over the past two decades, and during that time, his efforts and knowledge were of great benefit to the Livestock Industry throughout our state. I have no hesitation in recommending Mr. Hee's confirmation to the Hawaii Paroling Authority board, and I am sure that many other ranchers and farmers in Hawai'i feel the same way.

Mahalo, and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Kyle Caires

JAMES E. DUFFY, JR.

MEDIATOR/ARBITRATOR/SPECIAL MASTER

A LIMITED LAW COMPANY

March 10, 2020

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara

Chairman

Senate Public Safety Committee

Dear Sevator Nishi hara,

I strongly support the nommation of Clayton Hee to the Hawaii Paroling Authority. I have known Clayton for over 35 years, and have worked closely with him on many matters over the years. I know him to be a person of great integrity, who has devoted his life to Rublic Service.

Of particular significance to his nomination to the Hamaii Paroling Authority, Clayton's legislative background and work with the Other of Hawaiian Affairs Stand out. In the legislative arena, Clauton authorized numerous Hawaii Peval Coole Revised laws. As a 17 year member of OHA's Broad (6 yours as Cherr), Clayton is vary familiar with societal isrues invulving Notive Hawaiians, including their over-representation in our PRISON system.

In summary, claytonic board round and experience makes him superbly qualified to serve the Paroling Authority

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Justie James E. Dutry, Jn. (Ret.)

<u>GM-619</u> Submitted on: 5/12/2020 8:58:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

<u>GM-619</u> Submitted on: 5/12/2020 6:52:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

<u>GM-619</u> Submitted on: 5/13/2020 12:58:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III	Testifying for Hawaii County Council	Support	No