March 10, 2020 Rm. 225, 2:45 p.m.

To: The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair

and Commissioners of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission

Re: S.C.R. No. 9/ S.R. No. 10

The Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai'i's laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services (on the basis of disability). The HCRC carries out the Hawai'i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

The HCRC supports S.C.R. No. 9 and S.R. No. 10.

These resolutions, if enacted, requests the various appointing authorities to dedicate themselves to achieving gender parity on state departments, boards, commissions and the Circuit Court judiciary.

The HCRC supports and encourages gender parity. The Commission also urges the Legislature to consider the public interest that is advanced by having departmental appointments, boards and commissions, and the judiciary reflect the diversity and demographics of our communities – providing access to participatory democracy and representation in governance.

The HCRC supports S.C.R. No. 9 and S.R. No. 10.