JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

AND REHABILITATION

Ka 'Oihana Ho'omalu Kalaima a

Ho'oponopono Ola

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Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 No. **TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 669** SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE CHRISTOPHER LUM LEE, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028. by Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

> Wednesday, March 27; 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference

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

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) strongly supports the nomination of Christopher Lum Lee to the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee, term expiration of June 30, 2028.

Mr. Lum Lee brings to the table a wealth of experience in budget analysis and procurement. His meticulous attention to detail and strategic approach to financial management to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness will be valuable to Hawaii Correctional Industries (HCI). His background in the public and private sector along with this knowledge and experience in financial operations management, contract and workforce development make him an ideal candidate for the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee.

His deep understanding of workforce development is particularly relevant to the mission of HCI. His commitment to empowering individuals through education and training aligns perfectly with our goal in providing inmates with vocational rehabilitation opportunities to acquire employment upon release.

Furthermore, Mr. Lum Lee possesses excellent communication skills and a collaborative approach that will make him an invaluable member on the committee. He is skilled at building consensus and working towards common goals, qualities that are essential for the effective functioning of any advisory committee.

For these reasons, the DCR respectfully urges the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs to Advise and Consent to the nomination of Christopher Lum Lee to the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of Mr. Lum Lee's nomination.

<u>GM-669</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2024 10:15:49 AM Testimony for PSM on 3/27/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Shimoda	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Re: GM669 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Correctional Industries Advisory

Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, Christopher Lum Lee, for a term to expire 06-30-2028

Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bruce Shimoda and I am submitting this testimony in support of Chris Lum Lee for confirmation to the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee. Chris worked with me at the Office of Youth Services (OYS) from 2012 to 2013.

During his time at OYS as a Program Specialist, he was responsible for overseeing the implementation of programs funded through the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention focusing that operated throughout the state with non-profit, county, and state agencies. The goal of the programs he worked with was to reduce juvenile recidivism or to completely divert at-risk youth from entry into the juvenile justice system. His work involved working with agencies through every step of the contract cycle from reviewing RFPs, developing the contract, negotiating performance targets, budgeting, program and fiscal monitoring, and evaluating the programs. He was also responsible for staffing the Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council (JJSAC) meetings.

He developed a reputation for the time and effort he put into working with the service providers and the JJSAC. Outside of his working hours during the weekends he would hold meetings with individual members of the JJSAC and conduct monitoring of programs that ran activities. He was also known for his quick turnaround of monitoring reports within days of observing program activities and reviewing the programs' financial documentatation.

Having been in his first role as a Program Specialist, Chris worked hard to make sure that he understood all of the requirements that he was expected to encounter. He attended almost every training held by the State Procurement Office, developed a thorough understanding of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, and state and federal cost principles. He also worked closely with the Deputy Attorney General assigned to OYS to learn how to best articulate language in the program contracts to close loopholes and ensure that the terms of the contract were accurate, brief, but complete.

Over the years since he's left OYS, we have kept in contact and he has always remained enthusiastic about the work that he has done. Given his enthusiasm and desire to do good work, he will be a good addition to the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee.

Respectfully,

Bruce Shimoda

Senator Glenn Wakai Chair, Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Hawaii State Capitol



Subject: Nomination of Christopher Lum Lee

Aloha Senator Wakai and Committee Members,

My name is Carla Kobashigawa and I am writing in support of Christopher Lum Lee's nomination for the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee.

I sit with Christopher on the Oahu Workforce Development Board where he's the board's Vice-Chair and Chair of the Finance Committee. Since joining the board, I've seen how active he is with the board between working with the board staff and the service provider on budgetary and expenditure matters.

While the other committees meet quarterly, Chris holds Finance Committee meetings almost every month where he holds discussions the current year's expenditures. He has been diligent in learning about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act's requirements and the City's operating practices. His diligence and experience as a budget analyst for the City & County is reflected in the discussions that takes place- as he runs his meetings with a thorough understanding of the background and circumstances around any issue that comes before his committee so as to not rely solely on the OWDB staff to provide the discussion or answers to questions from other board members attending the meetings.

Chris also engages in discussions with the staff and other board members about workforce development and issues around the local industries. While he relies on existing data, he has no problem with asking questions when an issue comes up that he doesn't have the answer to. His ability to solicit and take in information and data supports his decision-making.

I believe that Chris' enthusiasm and effort that he's demonstrated on the OWDB will help him in his endeavors with the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee.

Sincerely