



# Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission



*Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community*

Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services,  
P.O. Box 339, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0339

Email: [hawaiistateltgtpluscommission@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiistateltgtpluscommission@gmail.com)  
Web: <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/lgbtq-commission/>

April 7, 2026

Senate's Committee on Health and Human Services  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Friday, April 10, 2026, at 1:00 PM

**RE: Strong Support for Governor's Message 732 – Crissi Doyle's Appointment to the  
Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission**

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and fellow committee members,

I am writing in strong support of Governor's Message 732 on behalf of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission, which was established by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature to

“improve the State's interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community; identify the short- and long-range needs of its members; and ensure that there is an effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the equity of this population in all aspects of state government.”

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission submits this testimony in **strong support** of Governor's Message 732, recommending the confirmation of **Crissi Doyle** to serve on the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2030.

Crissi Doyle brings a deep commitment to advancing equity, inclusion, and justice for māhū, LGBTQIA+, and QTPI+ people across Hawai'i. Her professional experience, lived experience, community engagement, and demonstrated leadership reflect a strong alignment with the mission and responsibilities of the Commission. She understands the diverse and intersectional challenges faced by māhū, LGBTQIA+, and QTPI+ individuals in our state, particularly those at the margins of multiple systems, and has consistently worked to uplift voices that are too often unheard.

Ms. Doyle's background equips her with the skills necessary to contribute meaningfully to the Commission's work, including policy development, community outreach, and collaboration with governmental and non-governmental partners. Her perspective will be especially valuable as the Commission continues its efforts to address disparities in health care access, housing stability, employment protections, and public safety for LGBTQ+ communities statewide.

At a time when LGBTQIA+ rights continue to face challenges across the nation, it is critical that Hawai'i remains a leader in equality and inclusion. Confirming dedicated and capable individuals

*Proudly established pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 369, as enacted through Act 41, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022*

## HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Support of GM 732 - Crissi Doyle

like Crissi Doyle ensures that the Commission remains strong, representative, and effective in advising policymakers and advocating for the needs of our communities.

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission respectfully urges the Committee to **vote to confirm Crissi Doyle** to the Commission. Her passion, lived experience, and commitment to service will strengthen the Commission's work and further its mission to create a safer, more equitable Hawai'i for all.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support.

If you or any member of your staff has any questions regarding my testimony you can reach me at [hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com).

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)  
Vice Chair  
[Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission](#)

---

### **[Inclusive LGBTQIA+ Glossary](#)**

The [Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission](#) has this webpage and that is dedicated to understanding and being able to use the correct terms when talking about the rainbow community from mähū to LGBTQIA+ to QTPI+ to MVPFAFF+ and beyond. The list found on this page is not an exhaustive list and will be updated as appropriate.

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 4:48:28 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the confirmation of Crissi Doyle to the LGBTQ+ Commission. She will be an asset to the Commission and its work. Please recommend confirmation.

Mike Golojuchj, Sr.

Board Member, Rainbow Family 808

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:09:17 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aurene Padilla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Aurene Padilla, and I am the Induction and Mentoring Program Coordinator for Leilehua, Mililani, and Waialua Complex Area of the Department of Education. I am testifying in support of the confirmation of Crissi Doyle to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission.

I have had the pleasure of working with Crissi in her capacity as the Institutional Analyst, Title IV-A Program Manager. In my work with beginning teachers, it is imperative that we are able to provide relevant and rigorous professional development opportunities. My complex area would not have been able to do so without her expertise, enthusiasm, creativity, passion, and commitment. Because of Crissi, we have been able to bring our teachers new to Hawaii on huaka'i to Lo'i, Loko 'ia, Iolani Palace, and even provide an ukulele lesson. These experiences have been paramount to engaging our beginning teachers in the Hawaiian culture, as well as helping them to strengthen their sense of belonging in the Department of Education.

I was also able to attend the Inaugural "Belonging" Conference that Crissi and her Department spearheaded in February 2026. Being in a room full of educators who were committed to making sure all students felt connected and supported in school was truly inspiring. So much so that I signed up to be a part of her Belonging Cadre.

Aside from knowing Crissi professionally, I have also gotten to know her as a parent. Seeing her interact with her daughter is truly special. She has raised an amazing young woman who is an athlete and a scholar.

Crissi is like no other; she holds so much Aloha for everyone, is passionate about her beliefs, is open-minded, and is a lifelong learner. She is strong but vulnerable, and a risk-taker. One example is learning to dance hula and performing in front of over 100 strangers. Crissi is definitely the type of person who needs to have her voice heard, and one who I feel will listen to my concerns and advocate for me. I trust her to ensure that everyone feels safe and secure. I proudly support her nomination to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission.

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:42:10 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Yamaguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

732 GM Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, **CRISSI DOYLE**, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.

Dear Representatives,

My name is Melissa Yamaguchi. I am writing in support of Ms. Crissi Doyle as a Gubernatorial Candidate for the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission. I am a wife, mother, and state worker on Oahu who has known Ms. Doyle for about a decade. We started a friendship many years ago when she was my son's youth baseball coach, co-coaching with my husband. My son is now a 17 year old and she remains a mentor in his life.

I feel that Ms. Doyle represents myself, my family, and my beliefs as a community member. She is a member of the LGBTQ community and has those interests foremost in her heart. The great thing however, is her ability to see things from more than one viewpoint. She is always considerate of what is not only right, also what is fair. She is always mindful of how change and beliefs will affect the entire community including allies and those outside the LGBTQ+ sphere.

Ms. Doyle's resume in education and leadership roles shows she has a great handle on state and city affairs and knowledge. Her own personal experiences reflects her perspective on a life as a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

I appreciate your time and implore you to move forth with a wise choice in this nominee.

Aloha,  
Melissa Yamaguchi

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 9:53:39 AM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Bunag	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable members of the committee -

I offer my full support of Crissi Doyle's nomination to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission.

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 3:15:33 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Yvonne Lau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and members of the Committee:

It is my distinct honor to support Crissi Doyle’s nomination for appointment to the Hawai‘i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission. Having worked with Ms. Doyle, I can attest to her exceptional professional rigor, her deep commitment to equity, and her proven ability to navigate the complexities of state-level governance.

Ms. Doyle has demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of how policy translates into practice.

Her career has been dedicated to public service and she continues her public service at the Hawai‘i Department of Education. She is dedicated to the well-being of our students and the broader community.

Her career trajectory is a testament to her expertise in identifying long-range needs and implementing systemic improvements—skills that align perfectly with the mandate of the LGBTQ+ Commission under Hawaii Revised Statutes 369.

The LGBTQ+ Commission requires members who can act as an effective "vehicle for collaboration." Ms. Doyle has a natural talent for connecting various stakeholders, from government officials to community members, ensuring all voices are heard. She advocates with integrity, and she approaches advocacy through the lens of data and research, making her a powerful voice for policy change. Additionally, her work in education has always been rooted in the belief that every individual deserves an equitable opportunity to thrive, mirroring the Commission’s edication to the Māhū and LGBTQIA+/MVPFAFF+ community.

In closing, Crissi Doyle possesses the unique combination of state government experience and a passionate heart for advocacy. She understands the "interface" of state government and is uniquely qualified to help the Commission research and plan for the future of equity in Hawai‘i. I wholeheartedly support this nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 3:56:14 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kara Imai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Members of the Senate:

My name is Kara Imai, and I submit this testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Crissi Keaumaluhia Doyle to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission.

Crissi and I have been close friends for more than 20 years. Before her transition, she was "Uncle Chris" — my daughter Hailey's first soccer coach, my husband's paddling partner and a constant in our family's life. Today she is Aunt Crissi, and the qualities that made her someone we trusted with our keiki have never changed: patience, encouragement, a steady presence, and a genuine investment in the people around her. What has only grown is the fullness with which she now lives and leads.

What has always set Crissi apart is her character. She leads with integrity, holds herself to a high standard, and brings that same expectation of honesty and accountability to everything she does — as a professional, a parent, and a friend. Those values were evident when she was coaching and her career in education, and they are evident today in how she raises her daughter, engages her community, and conducts herself in every role she holds. Crissi does not simply talk about doing the right thing. She lives it.

Navigating her transition with courage and openness, Crissi has made a point of being visible — not for her own sake, but so that others in a similar position know they are not alone. That instinct to turn personal experience into something that lifts others up is exactly the kind of leadership this commission calls for. As a parent, she is raising her daughter to be a thriving student athlete and community leader. That is not a coincidence. It is a direct reflection of the values Crissi models every single day.

The LGBTQ+ community in Hawai'i deserves representation from someone who understands both the weight of that responsibility and the joy of living in alignment with one's truth. Crissi Doyle brings both. Her professional record in education, federal program management, and systems leadership demonstrates the rigor and accountability this commission requires. Her personal story demonstrates the humanity and compassion it deserves.

The Senate is urged to confirm Crissi Keaumaluhia Doyle without reservation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Kara Imai

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 8:08:48 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danielle Himalaya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear President Kouchi and Members of the Senate,

I am writing to express my support for the confirmation of Crissi Doyle to the Hawai‘i State LGBTQ+ Commission (GM732).

Crissi is an exceptional candidate whose dedication to equity and community well-being makes her an ideal fit for this commission. Through my experience working with/knowing her, I have observed three key qualities that set her apart:

- **Deep Passion for Advocacy:** Crissi does not just participate; she leads with her heart. Her commitment to improving the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals in Hawai‘i is evident in everything she does. She possesses the internal drive necessary to tackle the systemic challenges facing our community.
- **Excellent Communication Skills:** Crissi has a rare ability to bridge gaps between diverse groups. Whether she is speaking to policymakers or community members, she communicates with clarity, empathy, and professionalism.
- **A Collaborative and Compassionate Spirit:** Beyond her technical skills, Crissi is a genuinely kind and approachable person. She excels at building consensus and ensuring that every voice—especially those most marginalized—is heard and respected.

Hawai‘i deserves leaders who are not only capable but also deeply rooted in the values of aloha and inclusion. Crissi Doyle embodies these traits and will undoubtedly be a transformative asset to the LGBTQ+ Commission.

I strongly support and urge her confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Danielle Himalaya

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/9/2026 10:26:13 AM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Liane Nakagawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support consideration and confirmation of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, CRISSI DOYLE, for a term to expire 06-30-2030

## Testimony in Support of GM 732

*Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, CRISSI DOYLE, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.*

before the

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Friday, April 10, 2026, 1:00PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in **strong support of GM 732**, appointing Gubernatorial Nominee, **Crisi Doyle**, to the State of Hawai'i LGBTQ+ Commission.

I have known Crissi Doyle for over twenty-five years—as my basketball coach, mentor, and my social studies and A.P. U.S. History teacher in high school. From a young age, I was deeply interested in civics, government, and public service. As my teacher, Crissi helped me recognize that my interests set me apart, and encouraged me to lean into those strengths, shaping my passion for local government and policy, social issues, and public service.

Crisi is the embodiment of what it means to be an educator. She did not simply teach curriculum, she shaped character. She instilled in her students the values of honesty, integrity, perseverance, commitment, and living pono. On the basketball court, she reinforced teamwork, discipline, and resilience. Her impact extends far beyond the classroom and continues to influence the lives we lead today.

Like many, I have friends and family within the LGBTQ+ community, including individuals who have transitioned. While I have always been supportive of my friends and 'ohana, I also recognize that I did not fully understand the depth of the mental, emotional, physical, and systemic challenges that accompany gender dysphoria and transition.

Crisi's journey changed that.

Through her openness and courage, Crissi shared her transition publicly on social media in a way that was deeply real, raw, and educational. She didn't just explain the process, she allowed others to truly see and understand the psychological, medical, and emotional realities of gender-affirming care as they unfolded. She brought visibility to the barriers many individuals face, including delays within the medical insurance system, the complexities of navigating identity within Catholic faith communities, and the critical importance of strong support systems from colleagues, friends, and family.

Crisi's boldness, authenticity, love, and bravery set her apart as the kind of leader our state needs. Her lived experience, combined with her lifelong dedication to education, uniquely positions her to serve as a credible and impactful voice on the LGBTQ+ Commission by advancing public understanding, shaping inclusive policy, and uplifting communities across Hawai'i.

Crissi represents a rising generation of transgender leadership in Hawai'i, grounded in lived experience, local values, and a commitment to service and bridge-building across communities. Her leadership will help shape a more inclusive and compassionate future for our state.

She is thoughtful, principled, and deeply committed to the people of Hawai'i. She approaches her work with integrity, fairness, and a strong sense of kuleana. I am confident she will serve with distinction and help guide our state forward with empathy and purpose.

For these reasons, I ask the Committee to **support GM 732** and Crissi Doyle's appointment to the State of Hawai'i LGBTQ+ Commission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Danielle Bass

**LATE**

**GM-732**

Submitted on: 4/9/2026 8:28:30 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/10/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Liane Auyong-Imamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear President Kouchi and Members of the Senate,

I am writing to you in support of Ms. Crissi Doyle's nomination to the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission,

Before my retirement, I had the privilege of working with Crissi. We each came from two different sectors within the HODOE however, we were able to work together for the benefit of the teachers we worked with. It was a breath of fresh air to be able to work with someone who could see beyond the walls but also within the parameters.

As a friend, I have the utmost respect and admiration for her. I was blessed to have been a part of the before Crissi and now the Crissi. She has evolved into a beautiful and strong person who continues to be true to herself. I look forward to many more years of friendship.

Crissi has much to offer and she is an inspiration to those that she meets and fearless in her convictions with a growth mindset.

Thank you for your time and consideration of Crissi's nomination.

Sincerely,

Liane Auyong-Imamura