



**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

G.M. NO. 506, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMISSION TO PROMOTE UNIFORM LEGISLATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LANI EWART, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2026

TIME: 9:45 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY.**

(For more information, contact Jill T. Nagamine,
Deputy Attorney General, at 808-586-1276)

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Attorney General supports the reappointment of Lani Ewart to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation (CPUL) of the Department of the Attorney General.

The CPUL is advisory to the Attorney General and to the Legislature on matters pertaining to uniform legislation. Members of this state commission are Hawaii's representatives to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, which is also referred to as the "Uniform Law Commission" (ULC). The Uniform Law Commission requires that each appointed commissioner be a lawyer licensed to practice law and that members from each state attend and participate in its annual meeting.

Commissioner Ewart is a lawyer licensed to practice law in Hawai'i. She is a partner with the Honolulu law firm of Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel LLP, where her practice focuses on commercial finance and real estate transactions. She was appointed as a Hawaii commissioner to the ULC in 1977 and became a Life Member of the ULC in 1998. Commissioner Ewart was the first female Life Member of the ULC.

Based on her extensive legal experience, familiarity with complex legal issues, and distinguished service with the ULC, Commissioner Ewart is well qualified to serve

as a Commissioner of the CPUL. Since her initial appointment, Commissioner Ewart has attended and actively participated in meetings of the CPUL and has contributed to the Commission's review and discussion of proposed uniform acts that may be considered for adoption in Hawai'i. For many years, Commissioner Ewart has also served as the Chair of the CPUL and has helped guide the Commission's work in advising the Department of the Attorney General and the Legislature on matters related to uniform legislation.

Chair Ewart reviewed the bills submitted during the 2025 legislative session with provisions relating to the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, the Uniform Parentage Act, the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act, and the Uniform Custodial Trust Act, and the testimony of commissioners and life members in connection with those bills. In addition, she followed up with comments regarding various uniform laws and the questions raised during the legislative hearings by commissioners and other interested persons.

Chair Ewart also participated in the work of the ULC. By means of interactive conference technology, she attended informal meetings of drafting committees on uniform acts that were up for discussion and vote during the 2025 ULC annual meeting. She also represented the Hawaii commission at the 2025 ULC annual meeting held in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

In view of her continuing participation in the activities of the Uniform Law Commission and of the CPUL, Lani Ewart's continued service as a member of the CPUL and of the Uniform Law Commission will be beneficial to the State of Hawaii and the Uniform Law Commission. Consequently, the Attorney General respectfully requests that this Committee recommend the confirmation of the reappointment of Lani Ewart to the CPUL.

GM-506

Submitted on: 3/14/2026 1:24:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/17/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Kent	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

My name is Elizabeth Kent, and I am one of Hawaii's Uniform Law Commissioners. In that role, I have had the pleasure of working with Lani Ewart, who is the chair of Hawaii's Commission. This testimony is in strongest support of her confirmation.

Lani is widely respected by commissioners from Hawaii and other states for her intelligence, dedication, and hard work. Lani has been a dedicated commissioner for many years and brings credit to the Hawaii delegation. I urge you to confirm her nomination as soon as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strongest support of Lani's nomination.

PETER HAMASAKI
5333 Malu Place
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
phamasaki@gmail.com

March 14, 2026

Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary
The Senate
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **GM 506** – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LANI EWART, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard and Committee Members:

I would like to express my **STRONG SUPPORT** for the nomination of **LANI EWART** to continue to serve as a member of the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.

I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Ewart on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation since 2005, and can attest to the valuable and dedicated service she has provided as Chair of the commission. Chair Ewart has provided dedicated, inclusive and consistent leadership as the Chair, encouraging and supporting all of the commissioners. Chair Ewart also has participated in leadership positions with the Uniform Law Commission and as a member of multiple drafting committees, providing valuable contributions at the national level. I hope that the commission will continue to have the benefit of Chair Ewart's service.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Chair Ewart's nomination to continue to serve as a member of the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation and to respectfully request your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,



Peter Hamasaki

GM-506

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 1:16:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/17/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Tanoue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for your consideration of the confirmation of the Governor's nomination of Lani Ewart to another term on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation (CPUL).

Ms. Ewart is the current Chair of the CPUL and a life member of the Uniform Law Commission (ULC). She is widely respected by her national colleagues, has served on various committees on uniform acts, and has regularly attended the ULC annual meetings, most recently in Santa Fe, Mexico. She also is highly regarded by her colleagues in Hawaii. She annually reviews legislative bills seeking to implement uniform laws, as well as the written testimonies of Hawaii commissioners and life members regarding those bills. She leads the CPUL admirably and competently, and, personally, I have valued her mentorship and advice over the years.

I respectfully request that you confirm Ms. Ewart's nomination to the CPUL for another term. Thank you.

**TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU IN SUPPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF
LANI EWART TO THE COMMISSION TO PROMOTE UNIFORM LEGISLATION**

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

To: Chairman Karl Rhoads and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I have been a member of the Uniform Laws Commission since 1978 and currently serve as a Life Member on the Commission. I am testifying in strong support of the confirmation of Lani Ewart for a term to expire on June 30, 2029.

Lani has been a member of the Commission since 1977 and has been very involved in the work of the Commission both at the national and state levels. She has participated in many drafting committees throughout her many years on the Commission and has spent much of her time preparing for and drafting various uniform laws. Lani has also been a Division Chair of the Commission and is very dedicated to the work of the national conference. Lani also serves as the chairperson for the Hawaii delegation on the Commission. Lani is well regarded by the Hawaii commissioners as well as commissioners from other states as a valuable member of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

I strongly recommend her confirmation by this committee and the full Senate.

Thank you for this opportunity to present this testimony in support.