

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
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Testimony in SUPPORT of GM549
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Radiologic Technology Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, REIKO NAKAMOTO, for a term to expire 06-30-2029

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date, Time and Room Number: 3/2/2026, 1:00pm, CR225

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Position:** The Department supports this nomination.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Health Services Division, Indoor and Radiological
4 Health Branch (EHSD-IRHB) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department.

5 The Department supports GM0549, the nomination of Reiko Nakamoto to serve on the
6 Radiologic Technology Board.

7 Ms. Nakamoto has served as an interim member of the Board since July 11, 2025. She
8 earned an associate degree in radiologic technology from Kapiolani Community College in 2013
9 and holds multiple ARRT certifications, including radiography and mammography. Ms.
10 Nakamoto has more than a decade of clinical experience at the Straub Benioff Medical Center,
11 where she practices radiologic technology. Her work reflects consistent attention to patient
12 safety, image quality, and the technical precision required in breast imaging. She also remained
13 engaged in the profession through volunteer service with the American Registry of Radiologic
14 Technologists, demonstrating her commitment to professional standards and advancement of
15 the field.

1 Ms. Nakamoto's extensive training, specialized expertise, and sustained dedication to
2 professional excellence make her well prepared to serve effectively on the Board.

3 **Offered Amendments:** None.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Kryss Kojima, MD

Chief Radiologist for Straub Benioff Medical Center and Hawaii Pacific Health

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January 28, 2026

Hawaii State Legislature

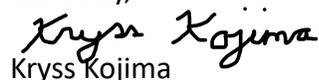
Dear President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I'm the Chief Radiologist for Straub Benioff Medical Center and HPH. I have had the privilege of working with Reiko Nakamoto since 2013. I'd like to highly recommend Reiko to serve on the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board. She is one of the most exemplary radiology technologists that I have ever met because she leads by example and has the highest standards in all aspects of imaging and patient care. She has exceptional skills in mammography, breast ultrasound, and x-ray. Reiko also enjoys studying radiology and is very knowledgeable. In ultrasound, she is very adept at scanning and optimizes everything to make the diagnosis. In mammography, x-ray, and image guided biopsies, she is excellent in her technical skills, including positioning and problem solving. She is also a wonderful teacher while training and mentoring new technologists. All of the other technologists, staff, and physicians love working with her and look up to her. In addition, all of her patients are comforted by her care and she was recognized in a morning huddle recently because a patient had a "positive and easy experience" when getting her mammogram because Reiko was "friendly, professional, and efficient!"

Reiko is very diligent and volunteers in many leadership roles every year like chairing our department's annual employee giving campaigns, planning events for our annual radiology technologist week, organizing our annual radiology department holiday parties, and even holding retirement parties for our whole department. Our annual holiday party is a very large event and at the last one, she shopped for all of the employees' gifts and made centerpieces for all of the tables. And she does the accounting of all the donations and expenses for the holiday parties. Furthermore, she has served on national American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) committees including the Breast Sonography Exam Committee and Breast Sonography Standard Setting Committee to ensure safe and high-quality patient care across the country.

Reiko would be ideal in this role on the Radiologic Technology Board because of all her all-around knowledge, leadership experience, skills, work ethic, and personality. She inspires me and everyone around her to be the best that we can be every day. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you very much for considering Reiko for this position.

Sincerely,


Kryss Kojima

GM-549

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 11:29:11 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/2/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Higa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Reiko Nakamoto’s candidacy for the Radiologic Technology Board – Hawaii Chapter.

I have known Reiko for over a decade, first meeting her in 2012 while we were students in the Radiologic Technology Program at Kapiolani Community College. We trained together in lab and during our clinical rotations, and today we continue to work closely in the Mammography Department at Straub Benioff Medical Center.

Reiko consistently demonstrates proficiency, professionalism, leadership, and dedication. As a Breast Ultrasound and Mammography Technologist, she provides compassionate, patient-centered care while maintaining efficiency and clinical excellence. She also strengthens our department through her involvement in initiatives such as the annual employee giving campaign and other engagement activities. Her leadership was evident early on when she served as Student Body President of her Radiologic Technology class.

Reiko is a wonderful colleague and trusted friend -- she is dedicated, organized, and deeply committed to our profession. I fully support her candidacy for this role.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Higa

GM-549

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 10:02:53 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/2/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaris Kuniyuki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend Reiko Nakamoto for appointment as a committee member on the Radiologic Technology Board for the State of Hawaii. As her friend and colleague at Straub Benioff Medical Center for the past 12 plus years, I have had the privilege of working closely with Reiko in our busy imaging department, where she has consistently demonstrated exceptional clinical expertise and professionalism while championing patient safety and care. Reiko possesses the integrity, knowledge, and vision needed to contribute meaningfully to the Radiologic Technology Board. She is up to date and current with the the technology and standards of breast ultrasound and mammography as she assists in annual regulatory standards for our hospital as well as the American College of Radiology accreditation process to showcase that the highest standards are adhered to. Please consider her for this position as she will be a tremendous asset to the state of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Jaris Kuniyuki RT (R)(CT)(VI)