

Honolulu, Hawaii

OCT 31 2013

RE: GOV. MSG. NOS. 12, 13

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Second Special Session of 2013  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 12 and 13, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

BOARD OF EDUCATION

G.M. No. 12            AMY ASSELBAYE,  
for a term to expire 6-30-2016; and

G.M. No. 13            PATRICIA HALAGAO,  
for a term to expire 6-30-2016,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee has reviewed the personal histories, resumes, and statements submitted by the nominees and finds Amy Asselbaye and Patricia Halagao to possess the requisite qualifications to be nominated to the Board of Education.

AMY ASSELBAYE

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Amy Asselbaye from the Governor; United States Representative Tulsi Gabbard; Board of Education; Department of Health; United Association of Plumbers and Fitters of Hawaii, Local 675; Faith Action for Community Equity; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; Hawaii Association of Independent Schools; and twenty-three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition from one individual.



Your Committee finds that Ms. Asselbaye received a Bachelor's degree in Political and Public Affairs Communications from Florida State University.

Ms. Asselbaye is currently the Director of Strategic and Community Development at Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. Prior to that, Ms. Asselbaye served as the Chief of Staff for Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard and Governor Neil Abercrombie. She also served in the Office of Congressman Neil Abercrombie in various advisory, management, and policy roles.

Ms. Asselbaye has been serving on the Board of Education in an interim capacity and currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Board of Education's Human Resources Committee.

Ms. Asselbaye testified that she believes that the Board of Education must make the implementation and monitoring of the Department of Education and Board of Education's Strategic Plan a priority. She also noted that it is important that the Board of Education focus on system-wide improvement of the Department of Education in order to derive value for students, teachers, and the Department as a whole.

Your Committee finds that Ms. Asselbaye's many years of management, policy, legislative, and leadership experience in federal and state government will continue to serve her well as a member of the Board of Education.

Your Committee further finds that Ms. Asselbaye's background and focus on health and wellness initiatives will be an asset as the State develops better support services for students and families in this area.

#### PATRICIA HALAGAO

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Patricia Halagao from the Governor, Board of Education, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, Pacific American Foundation, and seventeen individuals.

Your Committee finds that Ms. Halagao received her Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Sociology from Occidental College. She went on to receive a Master's degree in Education and a Doctorate



of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Washington.

Ms. Halagao is currently a professor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa with the Department of Curriculum Studies and the Department of American Studies. Prior to this, Ms. Halagao taught at the University of Washington and Seattle Pacific University.

Ms. Halagao has been serving on the Board of Education in an interim capacity. She serves on the Board of Education's Student Achievement Committee, Human Resources Committee, and Policy Audit Work Group.

Ms. Halagao testified that she believes education is undergoing a crucial time of reform, including the need to meet federal mandates under the Race to the Top grant program, implementation of the Common Core standards, and implementation of the Educator Evaluation System. Ms. Halagao stated that she sees this as both a challenge and an opportunity for the State and believes the Board of Education must help the Department of Education meet these standards in a way that best serves Hawaii's needs and takes into account Hawaii's unique population and culture. Ms. Halagao further stated that she believes, with the right training and support, that implementation of the Common Core standards will provide for greater flexibility and enhanced creativity that can emerge to serve Hawaii's diverse student population.

Ms. Halagao's professional background gives her a truly P-20 perspective, one that she fully embraces as she focuses on preparing future teachers that will enter our classrooms. Your Committee believes that individuals like Ms. Halagao will play a key role serving as a bridge between public education and higher education.

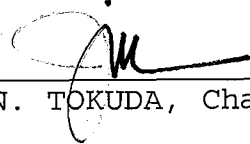
Ms. Halagao's professional background and her professional and community involvement provide her with the skills and insight necessary to continue to be an effective member of the Board of Education.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that are attached this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominees, has found the nominees to be



qualified for the positions to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Education,



---

JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair





