

LATE

Testimony in support of GM 35:

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, DOUGLAS SHINSATO, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

Senate Committee on Higher Education

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

August 30, 2017 at 8:30 am

Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 225

Testimony in support submitted by John Livingston

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

It is my great pleasure and privilege to provide this letter in support of the nomination of my long-time friend, Douglas Shinsato for the position of Regent for the University of Hawai'i system.

I have known Doug since our first days together at Stanford Law School, 45 years ago. Our lives and those of our families have remained intertwined over those years, and we have gotten to know one another as only old friends can. I know Doug well, and can say with certainty that Doug has the wisdom, compassion, intellect, humility and character to be entrusted with the responsibilities of a Regent of the University. And there are a number of specific attributes that I believe will make him effective and creative in that position.

Doug's successful business career has taken him all over the world, and frequently. He is no stranger to diverse cultures and customs, and has a broad understanding of the world as a tapestry of people, places, history and beliefs. This view of the world is, I think, of great value in a position of stewardship of the educational experience of the diverse students at the University.

As a skilled businessman, Doug will bring the seasoned perspective and experience that are essential for being an effective Regent, or for that matter, an effective senior executive in any institution or enterprise. His resume is substantial, and publicly available, but he will acknowledge it only with humility – and credit the many who have helped him along the way.

Doug is also very relational. He is a man who spends time engaging with friends, family, and colleagues, communicating and spending time to get to know the people who impact his life, and in whose lives he can make a difference. Whether a member of the Board of Directors, or a Board of Regents, I can assure you that Doug will be an effective leader, collaborator, or supporter, always pursuing the organizations goals and aspirations.

Doug's business interests are in socially responsible and often innovative enterprises in areas such as clean energy, healthcare delivery, food safety, and cybersecurity. He has an abiding interest in making and leaving the world better, evidenced by these choices.

In the end, of course, it is character that counts. I have known Doug for these many decades as a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend – one who can be trusted to make wise and responsible decisions. I offer you the strongest possible support for his nomination as a Regent of the University. The State, University, faculty, staff and students will all be exceptionally well served by his confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

John H Livingston

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