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Honolulu, Hawaii

JUN 2 0 2022

RE: JUD. COM. NO. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-First State Legislature First Special Session of 2022 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Judiciary Communication No. 1, submitting for study and consideration the appointment of:

## DISTRICT FAMILY COURT OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Judge Jill M. Hasegawa for service on the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Judge Jill M. Hasegawa from the Domestic Violence Action Center and twenty-five individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Judge Jill M. Hasegawa from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors (HSBA Board) uses a rating system that considers several criteria to assist the HSBA Board in making a recommendation to your Committee on whether the appointee is "qualified" or "not qualified". Specifically, the criteria the HSBA Board employs is the same criteria found in the American Bar Association's Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Those guidelines include the following criteria, which are not exclusive: integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, temperament, financial responsibility,

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public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. Upon review of the established criteria, the HSBA Board found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit.

Judge Hasegawa attended the Elliot School of International Affairs at the George Washington University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in East Asian Studies, Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs, and a double minor in Political Science and History. She received her Juris Doctor from William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. During law school, Judge Hasegawa served as a law clerk for the Queen Emma Foundation and the Office of the Corporation Council, County of Hawaii. Judge Hasegawa has been licensed to practice law in the State of Hawaii since 2004.

Since October 2020, Judge Hasegawa has served as a Per Diem Judge for the District Court and District Family Court of the Third Circuit where she has presided over a number of cases, including criminal, civil, family court, and juvenile cases; and cases involving temporary restraining orders, divorce, paternity, child welfare, adoption, and involuntary commitment.

Judge Hasegawa also currently works as an attorney with Raymond K. Hasegawa Attorney at Law, a Law Corporation, where she advises clients and also serves as a court-appointed Commissioner on foreclosure cases. Previously, from 2004 to 2012, Judge Hasegawa worked as an associate attorney for Ashford & Wriston LLP where she counseled clients, researched and analyzed various legal issues, represented clients in court proceedings, served as an attorney-advocate and neutral mediator, and advised financial institutions on regulatory compliance and other related matters. In 2013, Judge Hasegawa became a partner at Ashford & Wriston LLP and chaired the firm's Marketing Committee and served as the partnership's Associate Liaison.

Judge Hasegawa has been an active participant and volunteer in the legal community throughout her career and has demonstrated her commitment to serving the public. She currently serves as a Court Annexed Arbitration Program Arbitrator in the First Circuit and Third Circuit Courts and as a Volunteer Settlement Master for the Family Court's Volunteer Settlement Master Program. also served as a volunteer attorney with Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii, Hilo Self Help Center, and Kapolei Access to Justice

2023-0003 JC SSCR SMA-1.doc  Room, and has been a volunteer with Kids First Hawaii, a mandatory education program of the Hawaii State Judiciary that educates families about the impact of divorce and separation on children. Judge Hasegawa is an active member of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association where she has served in numerous leadership roles with the Board of Directors, including prior service as its Treasurer, Vice President, and President.

Judge Hasegawa has received a number of awards and recognitions from the Hawaii State Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division and the Hawaii Domestic Violence Action Center. Additionally, in 2019, Judge Hasegawa received the Outstanding Alumna Award from the William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association.

Testimony submitted in support of Judge Hasegawa's appointment commends her legal expertise, dedication to the community, and commitment to fairness and justice. Testimony further indicates that during her tenure as a Per Diem Judge for the District Family Court of the Third Circuit, she has demonstrated a superb judicial temperament and work ethic. Numerous testifiers also praise her integrity, as well as her leadership skills.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on her behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about her and her qualifications, Judge Jill M. Hasegawa has the experience, dedication, and other competencies to be a District Family Court Judge of the Third Circuit, and she has the legal expertise, integrity, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

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

KARL RHOADS, Chair

## The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary JDC Consent

Gov. Msg./Jud. Com. No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:		
JC1	JDC			06-20-2022		
The Committee is reconsidering its decision						
The Recommendation is:						
Consent Not Consent 2349						
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)		Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)						
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)		/				
ACASIO, Laura		/				
GABBARD, Mike		/			. 14	
KIM, Donna Mercado						
LEE, Chris						
FEVELLA, Kurt						
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TOTAL		<u>ل</u>				
Recommendation:  Adopted Not Adopted						
Chair's or Designee's Signature:						
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy						

<sup>\*</sup>Only one Message/Communication per Record of Votes