

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1

Honolulu, Hawaii

NOV 20 2023

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Second Special Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

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

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII SUPREME COURT

G.M. No. 1 LISA M. GINOZA,
for a term to expire in 10 years,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Judge Lisa M. Ginoza for appointment as an Associate Justice of the State of Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Judge Lisa M. Ginoza from the Governor, The People's Justice Center, Hawai'i Women Lawyers, and forty-five individuals. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Judge Ginoza from the Hawaii State Bar Association and Alliance for Justice.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors found the appointee to be qualified for the position of Associate Justice of the State of Hawai'i Supreme Court based on established criteria for determining the qualifications of judicial appointments generally using the American Bar Association Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Specifically, the Board uses the following criteria in its deliberations: integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, temperament, financial responsibility,

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public service, and ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties required of the position. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified".

Judge Ginoza received a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Oregon State University, where she graduated with the highest distinction. She then received her Juris Doctor from the William S. Richardson School of Law, where she served as Casenote Editor and Casenote Co-Author for the University of Hawai'i Law Review.

Judge Ginoza has served on the Intermediate Court of Appeals as Chief Judge since 2018 and as an associate Judge from 2010 to 2018. During her time on the Intermediate Court of Appeals, she participated in 1,757 merit decisions covering varying areas of substantive law. In six hundred forty-one of those cases, Judge Ginoza was the lead judge for the panel. Judge Ginoza also authored thirty-seven published opinions and fifty-two separate concurring or dissenting opinions and decided thousands of motions, including procedural, jurisdictional, injunctive relief, and disqualification motions.

Prior to her appointment to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Judge Ginoza served as the First Deputy Attorney General at the State of Hawaii Department of the Attorney General from 2005 to 2010. She assisted the Attorney General in leading a department with over seven hundred employees, including more than one hundred seventy attorneys. At the Department of the Attorney General, Judge Ginoza had detailed involvement in a wide variety of matters, including litigation involving the State or its officials; advice and counsel to public officers; review of proposed legislation; testimony before the Legislature; juvenile justice issues; asset forfeiture cases; investigation of administrative and criminal matters; administrative issues involving the Department; and coordination efforts between federal, state, and county governments. Judge Ginoza also played a significant role in negotiating settlement agreements with the United States Department of Justice regarding the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility and the Oahu Community Correctional Center, and forged resolutions to compliance issues related to the agreements.

Before working at the Department of the Attorney General, Judge Ginoza was an attorney for fourteen years at McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon, LLP, where she became a partner. During



her time at the firm, Judge Ginoza had a litigation practice that included insurance cases, personal injury litigation, commercial and contract disputes, employment and discrimination lawsuits, and products liability cases. She handled cases at all court levels, including the Hawai'i Supreme Court, United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and United States Supreme Court. Additionally, Judge Ginoza served as a judicial law clerk to Judge Samuel P. King of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii after graduating from law school.

Judge Ginoza has been an active participant in the community and has demonstrated her commitment to serving the public. She is Chair of the Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education, a commission created by the Hawai'i Supreme Court to promote and advance civic education for students and citizens throughout the State. Additionally, Judge Ginoza is a member of the Judiciary History Center's Board of Directors where she regularly speaks with students at the center or at their schools. She also serves as a member of the American Judicature Society's Board of Directors. Previously, Judge Ginoza served on the Commission on Professionalism, Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal, Judiciary's Incentive Awards Committee, Penal Code Review Committee, the William S. Richardson School of Law Alumni Association's Board of Directors, and several programs sponsored by the Hawaii State Bar Association.

Testimony submitted in support of Judge Ginoza's appointment commends her background, professional skills, and character. Testimony further indicates that during her time as a judge on the Intermediate Court of Appeals, she has been diligent, hardworking, intelligent, and determined. Numerous testifiers also praise her commitment to fairness, justice, and her active role in the community, particularly her focus on educating, preparing, and inspiring the youth in the State.

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 qualifications, Judge Lisa M. Ginoza has the experience, compassion, and other competencies required to be an Associate Justice of the State of Hawai'i Supreme Court, 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-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC
Consent

Gov. Msg./Jud. Com. No.:* GM 1	Committee Referral: JDC	Date: 11/20/2023		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent 2347 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Consent 2349				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> 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				

***Only one Message/Communication per Record of Votes**