

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2920

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 11 2008

RE: GOV. MSG. NOS. 405,
406, 407

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 405, 406, and 407, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

G.M. No. 405 EARNEST CHUNG,
for a term to expire 6-30-2012;

G.M. No. 406 DOMINIC K. INOCELDA,
for a term to expire 6-30-2012; and

G.M. No. 407 GERALD HISASHI OHTA,
for a term to expire 6-30-2012,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee received testimony in support of Earnest Chung from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Language Access, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, Congress of Visayan Organizations, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Oahu Filipino Community Council, Pacific Gateway Center, and United Filipino Council of Hawaii.

The nominee represents the covered entity appointment to the Language Access Advisory Council. Sister Earnest was initially appointed to the Council in 2007 for a term to expire in June, 2008. The nominee is currently the Executive Director of Catholic Charities Immigration Services and Social Policy Director of Catholic Charities Hawaii. She has also served as Executive Director of Catholic



Charities Elderly Services. Sister Earnest received a B.S. degree from Rogers College (New York) and a M.P.H. degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She is currently active with the St. Francis Health Care System as Board Chair of Community Health Services.

Your Committee notes from the testimony that as Executive Director of Catholic Charities Immigrant Services, Sister Earnest is aware of the much needed services for and issues faced by low-income families, isolated elderly immigrant refugees, and people and families who are homeless. More importantly, Sister Earnest has hands on experience in working with the immigrant communities in Hawaii, which are the communities that often face language access issues when seeking government services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of Dominic K. Inocelda from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Language Access, Congress of Visayan Organizations, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Oahu Filipino Community Council, Pacific Gateway Center, and United Filipino Council of Hawaii.

The nominee represents the advocacy organization appointment to the Language Access Advisory Council. Mr. Inocelda was initially appointed to the Council in 2007 for a term to expire in June 2008. Mr. Inocelda is currently a social worker with the Susannah Wesley Community Center, where he has served in various other capacities since 1982. Mr. Inocelda received a B.A. degree and a Master's in Social Work from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He is the President of the Inter-Agency Council on Immigrant Services.

Your Committee notes from the testimony that Mr. Inocelda has worked with limited and non-English speakers, the elderly, public housing residents, and persons with serious mental illnesses. He has been working with Hawaii's immigrant community for more than thirty years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of Gerald Hisashi Ohta from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Language Access, Congress of Visayan Organizations, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Oahu Filipino Community Council, Pacific Gateway Center, United Filipino Council of Hawaii, and one individual.

The nominee represents the state government appointment to the Language Access Advisory Council. He was initially appointed to the



Council in 2007 for a term to expire in June 2008. Mr. Ohta is currently employed by the State Department of Health as Affirmative Action Officer, a position he has held since 1981. The nominee received a B.Ed. degree from the University of Hawaii, where he also received a Public Administration Certificate. Mr. Ohta is currently with the Language Access Working Group, Inter-Agency Council on Immigration Services.

Your Committee notes the nominee's personal statement that he works daily with nondiscrimination issues involving language access. He has instructed departmental, state, and county personnel on issues relating to unlawful harassment concerning language access. According to testimony of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Mr. Ohta has been a very strong proponent of language access and has been a productive member of the Office of Language Access. He is knowledgeable of the issues faced by the limited English proficient population in Hawaii and recognizes the need to continue to work to improve and make accessible government programs and activities. As the Affirmative Action Officer for the Department of Health, Mr. Ohta has first hand knowledge of the challenges faced by state agencies in complying with Hawaii's language access laws.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that are attached to 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 Judiciary and
Labor,


BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL
Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:* GM 405	Committee Referral: JDL	Date: 3-7-08		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			✓
HEE, Clayton (VC)				
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes

The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL
Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:* <i>GM 407</i>	Committee Referral: <i>JDL</i>	Date: <i>3-7-08</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345			
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
HEE, Clayton (VC)				✓
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	<i>5</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1</i>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

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