

GM294

Dennis M. Dunn
547 Iliaina Street
Kailua, HI 96734

February 25, 2010

**TO: SENATOR BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**RE: GM 294 & GM 295, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII STATE COUNCIL FOR INTERSTATE
JUVENILE SUPERVISION**

HEARING: TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010, 9:30 A.M., Conference Room 016

Good morning Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Judiciary and Government Operations Committee. I am testifying today in support of my nomination to the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision.

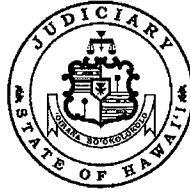
First of all let me thank the Governor and any others responsible for the honor of being nominated to this important body. I see this appointment as a unique opportunity to expand my career as a public servant and in particular to further my long held belief that the rights and interests of crime victims should be incorporated into every aspect of our criminal justices system.

Many of you are familiar with my role as the Director for the Victim Witness Kokua Services at the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office, a position I have privileged to hold since 1985. I previously served as a victim advocate in that same office since 1979 providing support services for victims of a wide variety of crimes. I also was a volunteer victim advocate for People Against Rape from 1977 to 1978. In each of these roles I have testified numerous times before the Legislature on behalf of crime victims' rights and services. What many of you may not be aware of is that I began my career in the criminal justice field as a probation officer in Michigan more than forty years ago. I was also one of the founding members of the Youth for Peace, Freedom, and Justice in Royal Oak, Michigan in 1968 and was active in People against Racism and a member of the American Civil Liberties Union. I have also had a long and somewhat colorful career journey as a steelworker, a landscaper, a sprinkler installer, and an organic farmer before coming to Hawaii to be with my family following the death of my mother 1976. I am also a proud graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where I majored in Human Development and Women's Studies. I was a founding Board member for the Hawaii State coalition Against Domestic Violence (since 1980) and have served on Boards for the Friends of Missing Child Center Hawaii, Hawaii Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the Hawaii Figure Skating Club. I have also been on advisory Boards for the Sex Abuse Treatment Center and Mothers Against Drunk Driving. I served several terms as Commissioner and Chair for the Hawaii Commission for National and Community

Services. I am currently a proud member of the Human Trafficking Task Force and the Hawaii Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

What I bring to the Council in human qualities are compassion, patience, a dedication to collaboration, and a willingness to listen to all points of view. I am a firm believer that offender accountability and victim restoration are core goals of our criminal justice system. I hope to actively pursue those goals if confirmed to the Council. I am equally concerned about offenders and the important role that sound policies can play in their successful transition into productive citizens. The policies that we establish must be fair, understandable, and practical. No matter how lofty its philosophy, a policy that will not work in the real world is not worth much. I have been associated with many of the current members of the council for many years and have the greatest respect for them and the experience and talents that they bring to the table. I am optimistic about the prospects of effectively serving on the Council and look forward this wonderful opportunity.

I thank you for this opportunity to testify before you regarding my nomination to the Council. I would greatly appreciate your support.



The Judiciary, State of Hawaii

**Testimony to the Twenty-Fifth State Legislature, Regular Session of 2010
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations**

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

by

Glennard H. B. Fong
Chief Court Administrator
First Circuit

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. And Title: Governor's Message No. 294, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Victims Advocate, Hawaii State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision, Gubernatorial Nominee, DENNIS M. DUNN, for a term to expire on June 30, 2010.

Purpose: The purpose of this message is to confirm Dennis M. Dunn as the Victims Advocate for the Hawaii State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports the confirmation of Mr. Dennis M. Dunn as the Victims Advocate for the Hawaii State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision. Mr. Dunn has the experience, knowledge, and skills to represent victims on the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision.

Mr. Dunn is currently the Director of the Victim Witness Assistance Division of the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and has held this position since 1985. Mr. Dunn has also served on the Domestic Violence Task Force on Oahu from 1993 to 2004, and has



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been an advisory board member for the Missing Child Center, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and the Sex Abuse Treatment Center. Mr. Dunn has also served on the Kailua Neighborhood Board and several other boards and commissions.

Under Act 93 (SLH 2009), Hawaii joined the new Interstate Compact for Juveniles. Act 93 (SLH 2009), also established a state-level council, known as the State Council for the Interstate Compact for Juveniles. Act 93 (SLH 2009), requires the gubernatorial appointment of a compact administrator and victim advocate for the State Council.

Act 93 (SLH 2009), places the State Council for the Interstate Compact for Juveniles administratively under the judiciary. The Judiciary supports the appointment of Mr. Dunn as the victim advocate for the State Council for the Interstate Compact for Juveniles and feels that Mr. Dunn's experience and knowledge will be a valuable asset.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 294.

THE HONORABLE BRIAN TANIGUCHI, CHAIR
SENATE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Twenty-fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2010
State of Hawai`i

March 9, 2010

RE: G.M. 294 and G.M. 295: APPOINTMENT OF DENNIS DUNN

Chair Taniguchi and members of the Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee, this testimony is being submitted by Lori Nishimura in her personal capacity in support of the appointment of Dennis Dunn to the Hawaii State Council of Interstate Juvenile Supervision.

I have been a deputy prosecuting attorney for almost twenty years and have worked with Dennis in his capacity as the Director of Victim Witness Kokua for the entire period. He has been an invaluable asset to me and others in my office because of his vast knowledge of various criminal law issues and his approachability. Even more significant is his conscientious advocacy for the needs and rights of crime victims and witnesses and his sensitivity to the impact of the criminal proceedings on individuals. I firmly believe that his skills and experience will allow him to make important and constructive contributions to the Council.

For this reason, I respectfully request your favorable consideration of the appointment of Dennis Dunn to the Hawaii State Council of Interstate Juvenile Supervision.