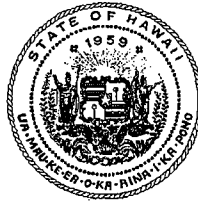


# GM 301

**Measure Title:**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council for Interstate  
Adult Offender Supervision, Gubernatorial Nominee, JANICE YAMADA,  
for a term to expire 6-30-2013

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY**  
1177 ALAKEA STREET, GROUND FLOOR  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

ALBERT TUFONO  
CHAIR

DANE K. ODA  
MEMBER

ROY W. REEBER  
MEMBER

MAX OTANI  
ADMINISTRATOR

No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON CONFIRMATION FOR  
NOMINEE JANICE YAMADA

HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY  
Max Otani, Parole Administrator

Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 25, 2010, 1:15 p.m.  
State Capital, Conference Room 229

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda and Committee Members,

This testimony is being provided in support of confirmation of Janice Yamada to the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision. Ms. Yamada currently serves as Hawaii's Commissioner to the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision. She has been instrumental in getting Hawaii in compliance with national standards set by the Commission. Ms. Yamada also serves as Hawaii's Interstate Compact Administrator which allows her to review the daily operations of Hawaii's interstate compact system. With the constant changing of rules and policies, it would be important for the Council to have a member like Ms. Yamada that has the experience in dealing with compact issues at the local and national level.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify and ask for your support in confirming Ms. Yamada to the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision.



**First Circuit Court- Adult Client Services Branch - THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII**  
777 PUNCHBOWL STREET • KA'AHUMANU HALE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5093 • [www.state.hi.us/jud](http://www.state.hi.us/jud)  
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**Janice Yamada**  
PROBATION ADMINISTRATOR

February 22, 2010

Senator Will Espero  
Chairman  
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature, 2010 Session  
State of Hawaii

Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee,

Re: GM 301 Gubernatorial Nomination of Janice Yamada, Compact Administrator, State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on my nomination for Compact Administrator, State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision. The following information is provided in addition to my written responses to your questions and my resume which are attached.

My name is Janice Yamada and I have been a resident of Hawaii since birth. I have been working in the field of corrections for over thirty years and have been the Probation Administrator for the Adult Client Services Branch, First Circuit Court for the past three years. In addition to this, I have served as the interim Compact Administrator, overseeing the movement of offenders between Hawaii and the mainland.

I would like to continue my work as the Compact Administrator and member of the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision to oversee the transfer of offenders between states to insure that it occurs without unnecessary risk and delay to offenders while protecting the rights of victims. The interstate compact provides for the effective tracking of offenders while assisting in their rehabilitation. For our community to remain safe, we need to monitor and work with our offenders to assist them in becoming law abiding citizens and help restore our victims. I want to continue to be involved in the process and contribute to making Hawaii a safer place for our citizens.

I believe that I can contribute as the Compact Administrator and fulfill my goal to make Hawaii an active and contributing member of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision. My experiences as the probation administrator have provided me with knowledge in local and national issues that can serve the needs of the State Council and the Interstate Commission. As a member of the National Institute of Corrections Urban Chiefs network, I am part of a group of probation administrators who meet twice a year to discuss new developments

in the field of community corrections. These experiences have helped me to develop a better understanding of systems, state political mandates and the tools needed to improve the system.

As a member of the State Council for Interstate Offender Supervision, it is our responsibility to be knowledgeable about the purpose of the compact and educate colleagues and constituents on the compact process. The interstate commission has statutory authority to enforce compliance and establishes a uniform system for collecting and exchanging data. We need to monitor the movement of all offenders and insure that they are being supervised and following the conditions of their probation. During this time, I have received training in the responsibilities of the compact administrator so I am aware of the importance of the compact and what is expected. In addition to this, I have had the opportunity to meet with the commissioners from the mainland and network with them to discuss cases and share information.

Although Hawaii is far away from the mainland, our needs for management of interstate movement of adult offenders have equal importance to the remaining 49 states and territories. The movement of tourists and military personnel, who are sentenced in criminal proceedings, carry unique time and resource considerations. I look forward to working with State Council members to develop resources to insure that we are carrying out the goals of the compact and insuring the safety of our citizens.

In summary, I am asking for your favorable consideration in my confirmation as the Compact Administrator to continue my efforts in building an Interstate Compact that provides for offenders' re-entry to the community, restores victims, and provides for the safety of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice Yamada".

Janice Yamada

Attachments

Governor's Message 301 – Gubernatorial Nomination of Janice Yamada, Compact Administrator, State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision

**Why do you wish to be a member of the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision?**

I have been the interim compact administrator for the past three years and would like to continue my work in overseeing the movement of offenders between states to insure that it occurs without unnecessary risk and delay to offenders while protecting the rights of victims. The interstate compact provides for the effective tracking of offenders to provide them supervision while assisting in their rehabilitation. For our community to remain safe, we need to monitor our offenders to assist them in becoming law abiding citizens and help restore our victims. I want to continue to be involved in the process and contribute to making Hawaii a safer place for our citizens.

**How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Council for Interstate Offender Supervision?**

The State Council for Interstate Offender Supervision represents Hawaii's interest involving the issues surrounding the movement of adult offenders between states. The Council is Hawaii's oversight body that provides for influencing the policies and procedures governing the movement of offenders, advocates on behalf of agencies involved in the compact, and represents the interests of the State in compact matters. The council has a vital role in assisting the compact administrator in forming the state's agenda for national commission meetings and in acquiring resources necessary for the safety of the community and victims.

The Council is also responsible for becoming familiar with the compact and its purpose, being educated on the compact process and helping to educate colleagues and constituents on the compact process.

**Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of the Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please provide a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision making ability as a member of the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision.**

I believe that my experiences and knowledge as Hawaii's interim compact administrator for the past three years have helped to prepare me for the assignment. I have attended the annual business meeting of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision where I have received extensive training on the responsibilities of the compact administrator, become knowledgeable of the rules and had an opportunity to network with compact administrators and staff across the nation. I participate regularly in Interstate Western Region meetings to discuss issues arising in the compact. In addition to this, I have worked in the field of corrections for the past 30 years and benefited from my exposure to local and national probation issues. Currently, I am a

member of the Urban Chiefs network which is a group of probation administrators who meet twice a year to discuss new developments in the field of community corrections. These experiences have helped me to develop a better understanding of systems, state political mandates and the tools needed to improve the system and gives me a better understanding of how Hawaii can benefit in compact matters.

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

Since becoming the interim compact administrator we have already expanded the Hawaii State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision. In 2008, with the assistance of Senator Espero, legislation was passed to add three additional members to the State Council. These included the Prosecuting Attorney or representative, the Attorney General or representative and the Public Defender or representative. This expanded the scope of knowledge of the compact to make more entities aware of the importance to adhere to the compact rules in tracking offender movement which will lead to a safer community. We also added a supervision transfer fee for offenders looking to move to the mainland to offset some of the expenses of processing the paperwork.

We hope to continue our training program for staff on the newly adopted compact rules. We are also planning Safety Training for staff to better prepare them for working with our Hawaii offenders as well as offenders from the mainland.

We established an interstate coordinator position to be responsible for the supervision and transfer of all offenders and are looking to fund the position during the current year. We will continue to assess the needs of the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision and look for ways to improve operations.

**Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision?**

The three qualities that best describe me are having integrity, perseverance and being able to communicate well with others. These would benefit the State Council because people would be able to trust that I would do what I say and I will carry out my responsibilities as part of the State Council. I will persevere and work hard to insure that the State Council is running as best as possible. Lastly, in communicating with others I will always try to engage everyone so that we can work together to achieve what is needed in overseeing the movement of offenders between states and to ensure public safety.

**Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision?**

In 2007, I was selected to participate in a two week leadership training program sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections. During this period of time they

covered the five qualities that make a good leader. These include: modeling the way, creating a shared vision, enabling others to act, challenging the process and encouraging the heart. This training has allowed me to put into practice what is needed in working with others and leading staff through everyday challenges. This training was invaluable in teaching me how to work with other State Council members to achieve goals that are set by the Council.

**Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?**

I don't believe there would be any possible conflicts of interests that could arise. If there were any issues that arise, I would exclude myself from voting in any of these areas.