

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1327

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 20 2011

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 722

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred Governor's Message No. 722, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD

G.M. No. 722 RUSS S. AWAKUNI,
for a term to expire 6-30-2015,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee has reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by the nominee and finds Russ S. Awakuni to possess the requisite qualifications to be nominated to the Commission on Fatherhood.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Russ S. Awakuni from the Department of Human Services.

Mr. Awakuni earned a Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, California and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He is currently the Managing Attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Leeward office. Prior to joining the Legal Aid Society, Mr. Awakuni worked as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, and later engaged in the private practice of law.

Mr. Awakuni is a member of the Access to Justice Subcommittee on Overcoming Barriers to Access to Justice and the Hawaii United



Okinawa Association. He is the past President of the Young Lawyers Division of the Hawaii State Bar Association and a past Vice-Chair for the Nuuanu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board.

Mr. Awakuni is the father of a nine-year-old son and therefore has first-hand experience in providing a stable, nurturing home and environment for a child. Mr. Awakuni indicated from his personal statement that he wishes to sit on the Commission on Fatherhood because he desires to help shape policy on issues related to fatherhood through education, advocacy, outreach, and public relations. He is confident that his background as an attorney with a local non-profit organization will be of great benefit to the Commission, especially in regards to issues surrounding children in the Family Court system.

Your Committee finds that Mr. Awakuni's extensive legal and community service experience will be a great asset to the Commission on Fatherhood.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services,

Suzanne Chun Oakland

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS
Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:* GIM 722	Committee Referral: HMS	Date: 4-7-11		
<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
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	1
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 Governor's Message per Record of Votes