

temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been nominated. The Board's rating system includes the categories of "qualified" and "not qualified."

Ms. Kawamura received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology at Brown University, and her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Stanford Law School. She currently serves as an Associate Attorney with Kawashima Lorusso, LLP, focusing on the areas of personal injury; wrongful death; professional legal, accounting, broker, and medical malpractice; business, real estate, and contract disputes; and flood cases. She previously served as a Senior Felony Trial Deputy with the Office of the Public Defender. As a Deputy Public Defender, she researched, prepared, and argued appellate briefs and substantive motions; gained extensive bench and jury trial experience; and managed and directed hundreds of criminal cases to successful resolution in District, Family, and Circuit Courts of the State of Hawaii. Since August 2010, she has served as a Per Diem Judge for the District and Family Courts in the First Circuit.

Ms. Kawamura is licensed to practice law in Hawaii. She has previously served on the Legal Aid Board of Directors and as a member of the Defender Council. She also volunteers her time as a member of the Foster Parents Association and hopes to become a foster parent in the future.


Testimony in support of Ms. Kawamura's appointment commends her experience in the private and public sectors. Her strong litigation experience, including numerous criminal jury trials, serves her well in becoming an outstanding jurist. She has the sincerity, compassion, and people skills that distinguish her from many other candidates. She is hardworking, fair, and extremely knowledgeable about civil and criminal cases, and has been able to seamlessly transition from criminal law as a former Deputy Public Defender to an effective civil litigator. Lastly, as a Per Diem Judge, she has demonstrated that she is fully capable of meeting the high demands of a full-time District Court Judge.

As such, your Committee finds that, based on testimony submitted on her behalf, Shirley M. Kawamura has the experience, temperament, judiciousness, and other competencies to be a District Court Judge. She has a good sense of where the equities, rights, and responsibilities lie in a case, which is essential for a District Court Judge.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor 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 and
Labor,



CLAYTON HEE, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL
Consent

| | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Gov. Msg./Jud. Comm. No.:* JC6 | Committee Referral: JDL | Date: 4/12/12 | | |
| <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 |
| HEE, Clayton (C) | ✓ | | | |
| SHIMABUKURO, Maile (VC) | ✓ | | | |
| GABBARD, Mike | ✓ | | | |
| IHARA, Jr., Les | | | | ✓ |
| SLOM, Sam | ✓ | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL | 4 | | | 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 Message/Communication per Record of Votes