GM752



TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2012

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

G.M. NO. 752, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, PETER HAMASAKI, for a Term to Expire 6-30-2016.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

DATE: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 **TIME:** 10:15 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): David M. Louie, Attorney General, or

Russell A. Suzuki, First Deputy Attorney General, or Maurice S. Kato, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

The Attorney General strongly supports the reappointment of Peter Hamasaki to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation of the Department of the Attorney General.

The Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation is advisory to both the Attorney General and the Legislature on matters pertaining to uniform legislation. Members of the Commission are Hawaii's representatives to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. The National Conference requires that each appointed commissioner be a lawyer licensed to practice law and that each commissioner personally attend and participate in its annual meeting.

Peter Hamasaki is a lawyer licensed to practice law and has regularly attended and participated in the annual meetings of the National Conference as well as the National Conference's committee meetings. Commissioner Hamasaki attended the annual meetings held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 2009 and in Chicago, Illinois, in 2010 at his own expense, because, due to the projected budget shortfalls, the expenditure of state funds for the costs to attend those annual meetings was not approved. The National Conference's committee appointments are selectively made by the President of the National Conference -- not all members of the National Conference have the privilege of serving on a committee. Since his initial appointment in 2005, Commissioner Hamasaki has served as a member of the National Conference's Drafting Committee on Registered Agents and Annual Filing Requirements Act and the Standby Committee on Model Registered Agents Act and Amendments to Entity Acts to Rationalize

Annual Filings. Since his reappointment in 2008, he has served as a member of the Drafting Committee to Revise the Uniform Law on Notarial Acts and, after the adoption of that uniform act in 2010, has served on the Standby Committee to Revise the Uniform Law on Notarial Acts.

In addition to attending the meetings of the National Conference, Commissioner Hamasaki has regularly attended and participated in the meetings and activities of the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation. In the promotion of uniform legislation, the members of the Commission provide information on uniform laws to interested organizations, officials of the Executive Branch, and interested legislators, including presenting testimony during hearings on bills to enact new or revised uniform laws. Commissioner Hamasaki provided information on the Model Registered Agents Act to the Commissioner of Securities of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs in 2008 and in 2009 provided testimony on a bill to enact a Hawaii Registered Agents Act that was based on the Model Registered Agents Act -- the Hawaii Registered Agents Act was enacted in 2009. He also provided information on the Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act to the Registrar of the Bureau of Conveyances of the Department of Land and Natural in 2008 and provided testimony on the bill to enact that uniform law in 2009. The Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act was enacted in Hawaii in 2009. In 2010, Commissioner Hamasaki provided testimony on bills to enact the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act and to enact the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act and did a presentation to the Probate Section of the Hawaii Bar Association on the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act. During the regular session of 2011, he provided testimony on a bill to enact the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act and, after the bill was passed by the Legislature, he submitted supporting comments to the Office of the Governor. The Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act was approved by the Governor as Act 173 of the Session Laws of Hawaii 2011.

In view of his demonstrated commitment to the promotion of uniform legislation and his continuing participation in the activities of the National Conference and of the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, the continued service of Peter Hamasaki as a member of the Commission and of the National Conference will be greatly beneficial to the State of Hawaii and the National Conference. Consequently, the Attorney General respectfully requests that this Committee recommend the confirmation of the reappointment of Peter Hamasaki to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

TESTIMONY of Ken Takayama

ON G.M. No. 752

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMISSION TO PROMOTE UNIFORM LEGISLATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, PETER HAMASAKI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2016.

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

DATE: Tuesday, March 20, 2012, at 10:15 a.m.

Conference Room 016, State Capitol

PERSON(S) TESTIFYING: KEN TAKAYAMA, Commissioner

Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation

To Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify in strong support of Senate confirmation of Peter Hamasaki to another term on the State Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

I have had the pleasure of working with Peter as a fellow commissioner for the past eight years and can attest that he is a conscientious, dedicated, and hard working commissioner.

During his most recent term, he has served on the Drafting Committee on the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts.

Beyond the development of proposed uniform laws Peter has assisted our commission by being the consummate "team player". He has volunteered to testify at legislative hearings on any number of measures to enact proposed uniform laws. Additionally, prior to the enactment of measures, he worked with the Probate Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association on the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act, and with the Bureau of Conveyances on the Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act.

For the foregoing reasons, I respectfully request that this Committee advise and consent to the appointment of Peter Hamasaki to a term on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation to expire on June 30, 2016.

TESTIMONY on G.M. NO. 752 Senate JDL on 3/20/2012

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.

TO: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair And Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

RE: Testimony in support of **GM 752**, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, PETER HAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2016

HEARING: Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 10:15 a.m., Conference Room 016

I strongly support the nomination of PETER HAMASAKI to serve another term on Hawaii's Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation ("CPUL").

All of the commissioners on the CPUL serve as commissioners to the Uniform Law Commission ("ULC"), which is a body of attorneys from all States who spend countless hours, without pay, to develop proposed laws to be enacted in all States. ULC's goal is to provide uniformity in the laws among the States without sacrificing control to the federal government. The best known products of ULC include the Uniform Commercial Code, the Uniform Probate Code, the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act and the Uniform Partnership Act, all of which have been adopted in Hawaii; these and other uniform laws affect the lives of residents of Hawaii and other States every single day.

A commissioner's duties are two-fold: First, the commissioner needs to participate in the drafting of uniform laws, including the careful review and consideration of their provisions on a line-by-line, and sometimes, word-by-word, basis. Secondly, the commissioner needs to work with the legislature of his or her State to get uniform laws enacted.

Peter Hamasaki has a very busy law practice, but he has never hesitated to devote the time and energy necessary to fulfill the duties of a commissioner. Working with Peter on the CPUL, I have observed first hand his active participation in all phases of the long and detailed process of preparing a uniform act for enactment -(1) working on drafting committees at meetings during the year to discuss and draft new acts for presentation to all the ULC commissioners at the annual summer meetings, (2) attending

the annual meetings (at times at his own expense) to consider and finalize the products of all drafting committees, and (3) preparing testimony and testifying in support of the uniform acts at the legislature. Peter also quickly responds to questions from legislative staff and any parties interested in the uniform acts that he has worked on to give them the information they need to understand the proposed legislation and its benefits.

I support the nomination of Peter Hamasaki for an additional term on the CPUL without reservation. Peter has been and will continue to be an outstanding commissioner on the CPUL and an outstanding representative of Hawaii to the ULC. I strongly urge you to recommend that the Senate confirm his nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Lani L. Ewart

Lani L. Ewart

Chair and Member,

Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation

March 16, 2012

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor The Senate State Capitol 415 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 752 submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee,

Peter Hamasaki, for a term to expire 06-30-2016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of GM 752, submitting the nomination of Peter Hamasaki to serve on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, which will be heard by your Committee on Judiciary and Labor on March 20, 2012.

Mr. Peter Hamasaki is a Board of Director of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce. He is the chair for our Governmental Affairs Committee and creates programs that are beneficial to our members in the governmental area. His committee also monitors legislation that may impact our members through our annual survey which his committee is responsible to administer. Mr. Hamasaki is a person of integrity and uses his leadership skills to build a strong team to assist him with the committee activities.

For these reasons, I would like to express my support for his nomination to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

Sincerely,

Wayne T. Ishihara

President

2454 South Berelania Street, Suite 201 Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

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MCCORRISTON MILLER MUKAI MACKINNON LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

March 16, 2012

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Senate
State Capitol
415 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 752 submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Peter Hamasaki, for a term to expire 06-30-2016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony <u>in support of GM</u> 752, submitting the nomination of <u>Peter J. Hamasaki</u> to serve on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, which will be heard by your Committee on Judiciary and Labor on March 20, 2012.

Mr. Hamasaki is one of my law partners, and I have known him for twelve years. During that time, I have had many opportunities to confer with him on a wide variety of legal issues, sometimes based on statutory interpretation, sometimes based on case law. He has always been thorough, exact, and knowledgeable when responding to me and our clients. I am glad that he has made himself available to serve on this important committee for another term. I humbly ask for your support for this nomination.

Very truly yours,

McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP

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Robert G. Klein

CARRIE K. S. OKINAGA, ESQ.

March 17, 2012

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor The Senate State Capitol 415 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 752 submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, Peter Hamasaki, for a term to expire 06-30-2016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of GM 752, submitting the nomination of Peter Hamasaki to serve on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, which will be heard by your Committee on Judiciary and Labor on March 20, 2012. I have known Mr. Hamasaki since 7th grade, following him through law school, and then working with him for over 10 years at the McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon law firm. I respectfully submit that you could not find a better candidate for this position.

Mr. Hamasaki is trustworthy, honest, and has integrity beyond reproach. He is dependable, and hard-working, and he is extremely intelligent and very quick to learn. The depth and quality of his resume are not worn on his shirt sleeves, and his humility is a testament to his character.

Perhaps most importantly for your Committee, Mr. Hamasaki's proven experience on this Commission will serve him, the Commission, and our community exceedingly well during his new term. As a part-time public servant, I know of the time commitment these appointments can require, and I feel very grateful to have someone of Mr. Hamasaki's caliber and experience willing to serve our community again in this capacity.

For these reasons, I would like to express my heartfelt support for his nomination to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

Very truly yours,

Carrie K. S. Okinaga

From: Reizo
To: JDLTestimony

Subject: Reappointment of Peter Hamasaki to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation

Date: Friday, March 16, 2012 11:36:59 AM

I respectfully submit testimony in support of the reappointment of Peter Hamasaki to the Commision to Promote Uniform Legislation. It is with deep respect that I unequivocally support Peter's reappointment.

I have known Peter since 1989 as a Stanford law student when he interned at my law firm. Even at that time, Peter showed a maturity and intelligence far beyond his young years. He is by far one of the most brilliant attorneys with whom I have had the privilege of practicing law.

Peter is not only has a brilliant legal and analytical mind, he is an excellent writer and his ability to draft clear and concise laws and narrative is exceptional. He is an asset to any organization in which he participates. Moreover, he is committed to public service and has dedicated his time and talent on the Commission for two terms.

I humbly request that you confirm his reappointment so that he may continue to serve the people of Hawaii.

Regards,

Darolyn H. Lendio

G.A. MORRIS, INC.

222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 531-4551 Fax (808) 533-4601

March 16, 2012

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor State Capitol, Room 016 Honolulu Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 752 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, PETER J. HAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to present some comments on the reappointment of Peter Hamasaki to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

Having worked with Peter Hamasaki for over 20 years in drafting legislation here in Hawaii, I can't think of anyone more qualified. His ability to make a complex issue understandable is a true gift. His worked with us in "real time" to meet legislative deadlines so we know his work ethic under fire. Without a doubt he is a credit to the State of Hawaii and deserves reappointment to the Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

G.A. "Red" Morris President

Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 524-4459 Fax (808) 599-4340

March 16, 2012

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 752 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee, PETER J. HAMASAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of the nomination of Peter Hamasaki for reappointment to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

He has done an outstanding job so far, and his experience ought to be an important consideration in his reappointment.

Further, Peter is one of Hawaii's premier legal practitioners in the art of crafting legislation. He understands the technical aspects of legislation, and has an encyclopedic knowledge of state laws throughout the United States.

Having worked in the legislative arena myself for over forty years, I can say without equivocation that I have worked with hundreds of experts in crafting quality legislation and that Peter Hamasaki has no peer. He is thorough, super-competent, and I can think of no better person to serve on this important Commission.

Sincerely,

John H. Radcliffe President

MCCORRISTON MILLER MUKAI MACKINNON LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

March 16, 2012

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor The Senate State Capitol 415 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re:

GM 752 submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, Gubernatorial Nominee,

Peter Hamasaki, for a term to expire 06-30-2016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of GM 752, submitting the nomination of Peter Hamasaki to serve on the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation, which will be heard by your Committee on Judiciary and Labor on March 20, 2012.

I am a law firm partner of Mr. Hamasaki and believe that his continued service as a Commissioner would greatly benefit the State. His demonstrated dedication and outstanding service to the Commission are invaluable assests. As a Commissioner, Mr. Hamasaki was a member of the drafting Committee on the Model Registered Agents Act, which was a basis for the Hawaii Registered Agents Act, enacted as Act 55 by the 2009 Legislature, with the support of the State of Hawaii Commissioner of Securities. As noted by the Commissioner of Securities, prior to the passage of the registered agents act, a change by a single registered agent required the DCCA to process 3,000 filings. The registered agents act would have reduced the number of filings required in that case to one filing.

Mr. Hamasaki also was actively involved in the legislative hearings for the Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act, also enacted in 2009, which provides the authorizing framework for electronic recording by the Bureau of Conveyances, and the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act, enacted in 2011, which authorizes transfer on death deeds as a simplified method of conveying property outside of probate upon the owner's death.

Mr. Hamasaki is an accomplished real estate and business attorney and his experience and expertise are recognized by his clients and colleagues. He is knowledgeable, thorough, diligent and detailed in his analysis of statutory matters. Despite a busy workload as a business law partner at my firm, he never hesitates to provide countless hours of public service and to assist and represent the Commission at meetings and hearings. His dedication to community service is also reflected in the other community organizations that he actively participates in.

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor The Senate State Capitol March 16, 2012 Page 2

For these reasons, I would like to express my strong support for his nomination to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation.

Very truly yours,

McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP

XMMMH ZHAML Lorraine H. Akiba