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GOVERNOR

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Senate Committee on Ways and Means
March 15, 2013
9:00 a.m.
Room 211

Testimony in Support of Governor's Message (GM 667)

For Consideration and Confirmation of
CURTIS SAIKI to the Board of Taxation Review, 1st Taxation District (Oahu)
For a Term to Expire June 30, 2017

The Department of Taxation (Department) supports the nomination of Curtis Saiki to the Board of Taxation Review (Board) and encourages this committee to confirm his nomination for a second term.

Curtis Saiki is a qualified candidate to serve on the Board of Taxation Review for the 1st Taxation District, which is comprised of Oahu. Mr. Saiki is Vice-President of the Wealth Planning Department of First Hawaiian Bank, a position he has held since 2008. His vast work experience includes: Of Counsel with Cades Schutte, LLP, specializing in tax, trust, and estates from 2006-2007; Senior Associate Attorney with Kobayashi, Sugita, & Goda, 1998-2006, primarily in the areas of estate planning, taxation, succession planning and business law; and as a Tax Consultant with PriceWaterhouseCoopers in the area of corporate, partnership and individual income taxation from 1996-1998. Mr. Saiki has a B.S. in Accounting, a J.D., and a LL.M. in Taxation. His broad knowledge will be of great help to the Board as it fulfills its duty to Hawaii's taxpayers and the tax community. Currently, Mr. Saiki serves as the Chairperson of the Board of Taxation Review, 1st Taxation District.

Beyond his professional experience, Mr. Saiki has a commitment to the community and public service. He served in various positions on the Boards of the Hawaii State Bar Association, American Liver Foundation, Hawaii State Financial Services LLC, Hamura Foundation, Child Shelter International Inc, Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii, and the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Saiki has the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively and competently serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Taxation Review for the 1st Taxation District. The Department supports his nomination and respectfully requests the Senate's favorable confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.