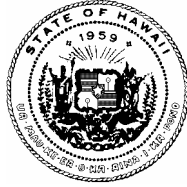


**GM644**



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 14, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director  
Department of Human Services

SUBJECT: **G.M. 644 – GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION OF AMY Y. MONK  
TO THE HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF  
WOMEN**

Hearing: Monday, April 14, 2014 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 325 State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Amy Y. Monk to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women (HSCSW).

Ms. Monk is seeking a re-appointment to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women. She has served as a Commissioner since 2011. Ms. Monk's extensive professional foreign service experience will bring an international perspective to the HSCSW. Her community service involvement and advocacy for issues concerning women will be a valuable asset to the HSCSW.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Monk's nomination.



## **Patsy T. Mink PAC**

*Raising money to elect Progressive Pro-Choice Democratic Women*

---

P.O. Box 25002 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

[www.patsyminkpac.org](http://www.patsyminkpac.org)

April 10, 2014

Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Honorable Members of the  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Patsy T. Mink Political Action Committee (PAC), I write to express our wholehearted support for Amy Y. Monk who has been nominated for re-appointment to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

Amy was born and raised in Hawaii and her experience and educational background are varied and impressive. She earned her BA at the University of Hawaii and received additional training at the Department of State, Management and Consular Training—including language training in Russian, Spanish and Japanese.

She served in the Foreign Service in the U.S. Department of State in Japan, Spain, Vietnam, Peru, Russia and Washington, D.C. Her diplomatic service afforded her the opportunity to learn, respect and appreciate the value and importance of diverse cultures. Needless to say, she served with distinction.

Without any doubt, Amy has made her mark as one of the—perhaps *the*--busiest and most committed volunteer and community activist in Hawaii. In her first term on the State Commission on the Status of Women, she highlighted the serious issue of sexual violence against female students at the University of Hawaii and is one of the key players working with UH officials on this matter. In addition, as a member of the Board of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii, she not only helped raise funds, but also awareness of the need for access to affordable reproductive medical services for women and men.

Amy's commitment to public service is as deep as it is broad. She serves on the Boards of AAUW and Malama Maunalua and on the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board, and is active with the American Foreign Service Association, League of Women Voters, Sierra Club, Friends of Koko Head, Japanese Cultural Center – and more. And, every year, she volunteers with AARP as a Tax Aide, assisting senior citizens filing their income tax returns.


Amy also volunteers in the political arena, including as the Treasurer of the Patsy T. Mink PAC where she plays a critical role in helping to elect women to the state legislature. In addition, she is active with the Hawaii Democratic Party and serves as co-chair of the Women's Caucus.

Amy is the epitome of the saying: "if you want something done, ask a busy person." In this case, ask a busy woman. In all her endeavors, Amy has proven that she can get the job done. Moreover, she has earned the trust, respect—and loyalty--of all of us who have had the opportunity to work with her.

We believe Amy will continue to make important contributions to the State Commission on the Status of Women, and we urge you to confirm her nomination.

If there is any way we can add to our recommendation, we hope you will not hesitate to let us know.

With appreciation and aloha,



Jadine Nielsen  
Chair

Patsy Kirio Saiki, Vice Chair

Amy Agbayani

Joy Keiko Kobayashi

Yvonne Lau

Rebecca Soon

Jennifer Taylor

*Hawaii campaign spending laws limit your donations to \$1000.00 per election (i.e. \$1000 primary, \$1000 general) and a total of \$2000 per election cycle. All cumulative donations of more than \$100.00 must and will be reported to the Campaign Spending Commission. Contributions are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes. The Patsy T. Mink Political Action Committee is a non-candidate committee established under Hawaii laws governing political activities of organizations and regulated by the State Campaign Spending Commission; it is not affiliated with the Patsy Takemoto Mink Foundation or the Mink Family.*

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [thirr33@gmail.com](mailto:thirr33@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM644 on Apr 14, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2014 4:51:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM 644 Amy Monk for Commission on the Status of Women.gif](#)

---

**GM644**

Submitted on: 4/10/2014

Testimony for JDL on Apr 14, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Arvid Tadao Youngquist	The Mestizo Association	Support	No

Comments: Chair, Sen. Clayton Hee, Senate JUD Committee V. Chair, Sen. Maile Shimabukuro Right Honorable Members of the Senate JUD Committee We support the confirmation and appointment to the Commission on the Status of Women for the nominee Mrs. Amy Monk. Mrs. Monk has been known to us for about a seven years. Some of us volunteered canvassing in Hawaii Kai for her and labeled mail outs for her from the Party Headquarters. Her background as a retired diplomat, a grassroots politician, and a loyal and compassionate friend to many, notably the late Michael Abe who mutually encouraged each other in their individual forays into the great frontier of the political unknown that same year was an inspiration to us all about how retail politics should be all about...people first, before politics. Recommend Mrs. Amy Monk to this position very highly and with respect. Aloha no, Arvid Tadao Youngquist Spokesman, Founder, & Administrator (est. 1982)

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

This testimony supports Amy Monk reappointment to the Commission on the Status of Women. Amy is one of the strongest, most qualified candidates in Hawaii to fill this important role. Born in Hawaii, she has worked on behalf of women, children and all Hawaii's citizens for her entire life.

Her service to the people of Hawaii includes: serving on the board of the American Association of University Women - Hawaii and Planned Parenthood of Hawaii; serving as a member of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board and as chair of the Hawaii Kai Democratic Party, and as treasurer of the Patsy T. Mink Political Action Committee whose mission is to support the election of Democratic women candidates. In addition, Amy's volunteer activity on behalf of women, the aged and the environment are numerous.

Amy's professional career includes work in the Foreign Service in the Pacific, South America and Europe.

Amy brings Hawaii values, a proven desire and ability to serve, understanding of government and governing and strong experience and competence to Commission on the Status of Women.

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair  
Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Hawaii State Legislature

April 9, 2014

**Support for the Re-Appointment of Amy Y. Monk to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, GM644**

Governor Neil Abercrombie has recommended Amy Y. Monk for reappointment to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women. Amy Monk is an exceptional representative in this position, and I urge you to support her re-appointment to the Commission. She has a long history of service to her country and the state of Hawaii. She served as a Foreign Service Officer for the Department of State from 1978-2005, representing the United States in foreign posts to the countries of Canada, Peru, Russia, Cyprus, Spain, Japan and Nigeria during her long career with the State department.

She has been actively serving Hawaii as a Democratic Party of Hawaii member, serving as Oahu County Vice-Chair since 2010, and Hawaii Kai District Chair since 2007. She has also been an elected member to the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board since 2008. I have worked with Amy for the last four years as a Democratic Party member during Hawaii election campaigns, and as a fellow member of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board. I know her to be a woman of integrity and strong character.

Amy Monk would continue to fairly represent the interests of women in Hawaii. Her experiences in foreign lands provide a depth of perception concerning the status of women, not only in Hawaii and the United States, but globally. Her current involvement as a board member and Vice-Chair with Planned Parenthood Hawaii adds another dimension to her understanding of the conditions affecting women in Hawaii.

I urge the Judiciary and Labor Committee to approve the Governor's recommendation to re-appoint Amy Y. Monk to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, and to support the approval of her re-appointment in the full Senate. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on her behalf.

Sincerely,

Roberta Mayor, Ed.D.

April 7, 2014

To: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Sen. Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Amy Yukiko Monk

Re: GM 644 Re-appointment of Amy Y. Monk to the Commission of the Status of Women  
Hearing on April 14, 2014 10:00AM, Conference room 325

I have spent most of my life in public service and welcome this opportunity to be of further service to my community and State. I am completing the 3-year remainder of a term on the State Commission on the Status of Women. It was a rewarding experience and I am honored to be re-appointed to a full term.

We work toward the goal that that one day, men, women and children of Hawaii and our country are allowed to achieve their full potential in the workplace, schools and communities of our nation. We recognize many historic injustices are still with us, but we are well aware of them and each year we make a little more progress toward a fairer, more just society. We know the day will come when all can participate fully and equally in shaping our collective future.

Many of the organizations in which I am most active, support and defend women's rights: Planned Parenthood of Hawaii, AAUW, political action committees supporting choice and pro-choice women. Many of these groups have overlapping missions with the Commission on the Status of Women, and fulfills a Commission priority to cooperate and collaborate with groups on the status of women.

There have been historic strides toward that goal of justice and empowerment in our country: emancipation, civil rights, the women's movement, Patsy T. Mink's Title IX, but we recognize that reaching parity and equality is a long road of many small steps. Last year, we used our good offices to encourage the University of Hawaii Manoa to expedite the implement VAWA's new campus provisions and further the goals of Title IX. We continue to talk to campus friends to keep the issue active, work with grassroots supporters, and cajole and prod policy makers to make progress. To that end, we have supported a resolution asking the University to report its progress to the legislature, met with university administrators to encourage their efforts, and continued to talk with concerned students.

This year, the Commission has made a bid to host the National convention of Commissions on Women in 2015. I would like to continue to work toward bringing commissions from many states to Hawaii, to allow our county commissions to benefit from the pool of talent and experience these women bring with them.

I hope to serve on the Commission on the Status of Women to continue that journey toward equality and enlist many to join us on that journey. I thank the Governor for this nomination, and the Judicial and Labor Committee for your consideration.