

GM 669

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission On Fatherhood, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALEXANDER HARRIS, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

Report Title: Commission On Fatherhood

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: HMS

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 28, 2016

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: GM 669 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission on Fatherhood, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALEXANDER HARRIS, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

Hearing: Tuesday, March 29, 2016, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Mr. Alexander Harris to the Commission on Fatherhood. The Commission was established by Act 156 of the 2003 Hawai'i State Legislature. It serves in an advisory capacity to State agencies and makes recommendations on programs, services, contracts, policies, and laws related to children and families.

The Commission is comprised of public members from the four counties, a representative from the Hawaii Coalition for Dads, and leaders from the Departments of Education, Health, Human Services, Public Safety, and the Attorney General. The Commission on Fatherhood is administratively attached to the Department of Human Services (DHS), and its mission aligns with the 'Ohana Nui multigenerational approach embraced by both DHS and the Department of Health that invests early and concurrently in children and families to improve health, educational, and employment outcomes.

Mr. Harris is the Senior Program Officer for Education at the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, and he served as an Assistant Superintendent of public schools in Washington, DC, Program Director with the National Governors Association, and Policy Director with Good Beginning Alliance. He co-founded the U.S. Education Delivery Institute, Kanu Hawai'i, and

Envision Hawai'i. Mr. Harris earned degrees from Brown University and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and is deeply invested in improving the lives of children and families in Hawai'i. As a leader in our community and a father of two, Alex will bring his professional, academic, and personal experience—as well as his keen abilities to listen to others and facilitate consensus—to the Commission on Fatherhood and the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to this committee.

Brian Kealoha
5405 Oio Drive
Honolulu, HI 96821

March 1, 2015

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services
State Capitol, Room 016
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 669 Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Alexander Harris to the Commission on Fatherhood.

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Vice Chair Riviere:

I strongly **support** Governor David Ige's nomination of Mr. Alex Harris to the Commission on Fatherhood. I have had the pleasure of getting to know Mr. Harris through the Omidyar Fellows Leadership program in 2015. Mr. Harris is passionate about making a positive impact on fatherhood in Hawaii and will make an excellent member of the committee. His background and experience on the mainland and Hawaii in education, coupled with raising two of his own sons, will be a great addition to the Commission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong **support** for the confirmation of Mr. Harris to the Commission on Fatherhood.

Sincerely,

BRIAN KEALOHA

Christopher Pating
2711 Pu'uhonua Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
March 28, 2016

Hawaii State Legislator
State Commission on Fatherhood
State of Hawaii

Dear Hawaii State Legislator:

Please accept this letter as my wholehearted support for Alex Harris to be approved to serve on the State Commission on Fatherhood. Alex is an exceptional individual, exemplary father and an outstanding role model for young boys and men.

Sincerely,

Christopher Pating

Christopher Pating

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: joshua.stanbro@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM669 on Mar 29, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Thursday, March 24, 2016 8:42:43 PM

GM669

Submitted on: 3/24/2016

Testimony for HMS on Mar 29, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josh Stanbro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the nomination of Alex Harris to the Commission on Fatherhood. I have know Alex for over a decade. He has a deep background in education policy and public policy, as well as being an excellent role model and father for two confident and capable sons. Please vote to approve him to this Commission. Respectfully, Josh Stanbro

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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: kawikariley@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM669 on Mar 29, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, March 27, 2016 2:32:55 PM

GM669

Submitted on: 3/27/2016

Testimony for HMS on Mar 29, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawika Riley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha mai kakou members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Alex Harris's nomination to be a member of the Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood. In addition to being the devoted father of two wonderful boys, Mr. Harris is a highly qualified professional trained in public policy analysis at Harvard. His training, professional background and network, and his personal experiences as a devoted father trying to make the best life possible for his children make him an excellent match for this opportunity. Please confirm Alex Harris. Mahalo.

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March 25, 2016

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services
State Capitol, Room 016
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Honorable Oakland and Honorable Green,

Re: Alex Harris **Nomination to the State Commission on Fatherhood**

It is with privilege and honor that I submit this testimony for Alex Harris in support of the nomination to serve on the State Commission on Fatherhood.

I met Alex as a colleague in the Omidyar Fellows Program through the Hawai'i Leadership Forum in October, 2014.

Alex Harris is a committed and invaluable leader to our community. He is dedicated to the growth, development and education of our keiki. He has worked with the Castle Foundation, the Hawai'i Department of Education, and nationally to ensure quality education for K-12.

I know Alex to be an individual who is collaborative and empathetic. He understands the challenges of our families and strives to model support and care for his own family, as a father and partner. He is a team player that treats everyone with dignity and respect.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Alex Harris for this role.

Sincerely,

Sulma Gandhi, DBA, MS
Community Member, Hawai'i County



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Senate Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Tuesday, March 29, 2016, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016
GM669

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of the Human Services Committee,

I am Takashi Ohno, State Representative, and am testifying in strong support on GM669, nominating Alex Harris to the State Commission on Fatherhood.

I've known Mr. Harris through his tireless work for children. He is thoughtful and engaged in his work with the Castle Foundation and previously the Hawaii State Department of Education. It also goes without saying, Mr. Harris is a wonderful father.

I give Mr. Harris my highest recommendation on his nomination to the State Commission on Fatherhood.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Takashi Ohno
State Representative, District 27
Liliha, Puunui, Alewa Heights, Nuuanu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: veenays@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM669 on Mar 29, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Monday, March 28, 2016 12:16:01 PM

GM669

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for HMS on Mar 29, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vandana Veenay Singla	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am honored to write testimony for my friend and colleague, Alexander (Alex) Harris. I have known Alex since we were in graduate school at Harvard University in 2001. Since grad school, I've had the opportunity to see him contribute to the pre k education movement in Hawaii, help state education organizations become more efficient and serve more kids, and drive change in Hawaii's talent systems at the DOE. Alex has seen all aspects of the education system and is always fighting to make things better for all kids. I've also seen Alex get married and raise two amazing children. Alex is an amazing father, husband, son, friend, educator and colleague. As he does with everything else in his life, he will contribute fully and excel on this commission.

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.

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