

**Testimony of  
Mihoko E. Ito and Gary M. Slovin**

DATE: April 18, 2016

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda  
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
*Submitted Via [WAMtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WAMtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)*

RE: **GM 871 – Consideration and Confirmation to the Tax Review  
Commission, MICHELLE NALANI FUJIMORI KAINA  
Hearing Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room: 211**

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Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

We submit this testimony in **strong support** of the nomination of Nalani Fujimori Kaina to the Tax Review Commission.

We have worked very closely with Nalani over the years on a variety of projects involving access to justice and the legal service provider community. As the Executive Director of Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Nalani has dedicated her career to steering this organization, which provides critically needed civil legal services to the poor. She has also been a leader in spearheading projects that have moved the legal service provider community forward as a whole, particularly in her work with the Access to Justice Hui and the Access to Justice Commission. She has been a wonderful mentor and example to other young lawyers. She has been received many recognitions for all she has done for the community. What distinguishes Nalani as a person is that she is a truly natural leader, has deep compassion for others, and at the same time is guided by a great sense of balance and integrity.

These special qualities make Nalani a good fit for the Tax Review Commission, and we fully support her nomination to this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

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