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LT. GOVERNOR



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To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: April 18, 2017

Time: 9:30AM

Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Maria E. Zielinski, Director  
Department of Taxation

Re: Testimony in **Support** of Governor's Message GM677, For Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Taxation Review, 1st Taxation District (Oahu), Gubernatorial Nominee, NEIL HIRASUNA, for a Term to Expire June 30, 2019

The Department of Taxation (Department) **supports** the nomination of Neil Hirasuna to the Board of Taxation Review and encourages this committee to confirm his nomination.

Neil Hirasuna is a highly qualified candidate to serve on the Board of Taxation Review for the 1<sup>st</sup> Taxation District, which is comprised of Oahu. Mr. Hirasuna has a Bachelor of Science (Accounting) and Masters of Accounting from University of Southern California.

Mr. Hirasuna is a Certified Public Accountant, and is employed by Deloitte & Touche LLP, Honolulu, as Audit Senior Manager/Manager. Prior to his employment in the Honolulu office of Deloitte & Touche LLP, he was employed by Deloitte & Touche LLP, Los Angeles, as Audit Associate from 2007 -2009. Mr. Hirasuna's audit and audit management knowledge will be of great help to the Board, as it fulfills its duty to Hawaii 's taxpayers and the tax community.

The Department believes Mr. Hirasuna has the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively and competently serve as a member of the Board of Taxation Review. The Department supports his nomination and respectfully requests the Senate's favorable confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.