

Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor
Testimony In Support of Marilyn Lee
Governor Message 790 – Commission on the Status of Women
April 12, 2017, 9:30 a.m.

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of the re-appointment of former State Representative Marilyn Lee to the Commission on the Status of Women. I have known Representative Lee for more than 20 years, when we both entered as freshmen in the State House of Representatives in 1996. Before, throughout her legislative career and even after, Representative Lee has never wavered in her commitment and support of women and their families to build stronger communities.

For many years, we served as the House co-chairs, along with Representative Cynthia Thielen, for the bi-partisan Women's Caucus. Each year it was Representative Lee's leadership and drive that helped to define the theme and focus of the Women's Caucus legislative package and priorities and she continues with the same enthusiasm as a member of the Commission on the Status of Women. Given her breadth of knowledge in the healthcare sector and her legislative background and her commitment to the welfare of women and girls as an integral part of building healthy and resilient communities, our State of Hawaii will be well served by her reappointment of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the nomination of Marilyn Lee.

Sincerely,

Hermína "Mina" Morita