



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of
David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m., Room 211

In consideration of
Governor's Message 536

Submitted for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial nominee, Laurel Johnston

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Laurel Johnston as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. On February 6, 2018, Johnston was appointed to serve as the director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Johnston has been serving as the acting director of the Department of Budget and Finance since the end of last year. Prior to that, Johnston was the deputy director of the department. During her 30-year career in Hawai'i, Johnston has worked as a public administrator, researcher and writer in the policy areas of education and health, criminal and social justice, economic development and public finance.

Johnston earned a Master of Science degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology, both from Florida State University.

This administration is committed to transforming the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Laurel Johnston will support our employees in the Department of Budget and Finance in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

February 12, 2018

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

SUBJECT: Governor's Message Number 536
Gubernatorial Nominee Laurel A. Johnston as the Director of the Department of
Budget and Finance

DATE: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street


Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of gubernatorial nominee Laurel A. Johnston to serve as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I have had the honor to know and work with Ms. Johnston since her appointment as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance in December, 2016.

Ms. Johnston's broad experience in State government and the Legislature has provided her with the necessary experience and skill set to implement and effectively oversee the Department's mission. Ms. Johnston's extensive experience and educational background make her an ideal candidate to lead the Department in overseeing the State's budget and financial management.

For the reasons cited above, I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Ms. Johnston's confirmation as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Respectfully,



Scott Kami
Administrator, Financial Administration Division
Department of Budget and Finance

Statement of
Mary Alice Evans
Deputy Director
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
GM 536
**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of the
Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee,
LAUREL A. JOHNSTON, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee.

I respectfully urge your **strong support** for the confirmation of **Laurel Johnston** to serve as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Laurel has an extensive background in analyzing Hawaii's state budget from about as many different perspectives as it is possible to have in one lifetime. She has participated in the challenge of balancing the competing priorities within both the Legislative and Executive Branches. Laurel has the empathetic leadership skills to bring teams together to work on solutions.

I respectfully urge you to recommend advice and consent to the nomination of Laurel Johnston for the Director of Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNORS MESSAGE 536
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LAUREL JOHNSTON

PRESENTATION TO
THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
12 February 2018

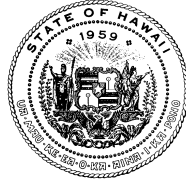
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee.

I am Major General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Governors Message 536, Gubernatorial Nominee LAUREL JOHNSTON as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known Laurel Johnson for the past three years as a member of the Governor's Cabinet and the Director of State Department of Defense. During this time I have found Ms. Johnson to be a very qualified and capable person who understands State Government and the fiscal responsibilities therein. As the Deputy Chief of Staff and as the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance, she consistently demonstrated critical thinking and fairness in understanding other department's budget priorities.

I wholeheartedly support Laurel Johnson and request your support for her to fill the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governors Message 536 and Laurel Johnston.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM536
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of the Department of
Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAUREL A. JOHNSTON, for a Term to
Expire at Noon on 12-03-2018**

SENATOR DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: February 13, 2018

Room Number: 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None for Department of Health.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of Laurel
3 Johnston as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Most recently, Ms. Johnston
4 served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Ige for which she ably demonstrated her
5 administrative and policy qualifications. She has demonstrated personal and professional
6 integrity, good judgement, a conscience grounded in social justice and fairness. The Department
7 of Health respectfully urges unanimous confirmation of Ms. Johnston.

8

9 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LEONARD HOSHIGO
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

February 13, 2018

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Leonard Hoshijo, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

GM 506 Laurel A. Johnston to Serve as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance

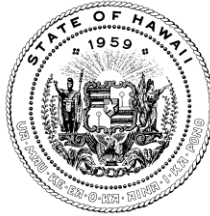
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Leonard Hoshijo and I am the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). I support the confirmation of Laurel A. Johnston as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F). Ms. Johnston's education and extensive public sector experience, including most recently as the Deputy Director and then Acting Director for B&F, have well-prepared her to serve as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I urge you to confirm Ms. Johnston to serve as the Director for Budget and Finance where I am confident, if confirmed, she will serve effectively and admirably.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Johnston.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

Before the Senate Committee on

**WAYS AND MEANS
Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 536
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DIRECTOR
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-03-2018**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 536 nominating Laurel A. Johnston to serve as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) to expire on December 3, 2018.

Ms Johnston is a graduate of Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology and a Master's of Science in Public Administration. She is recognized by the Hawaii State Judiciary as a meeting facilitator and has a Certificate in non-profit management.

Ms. Johnston brings a high level of policy and management skills, knowledge and experience to the position of Director of B&F. She has served in many positions that required diplomacy, tact and the use of her facilitation skills, including as the current Acting Director and former Deputy Director of B &F, and the Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Ige. In all positions Ms. Johnston is efficient and tactful, but most importantly she always retains her sense of humor.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Ms. Johnston serving as the Director of the Department of B&F.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

GM 536 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of Budget and Finance,
Gubernatorial Nominee, LAUREL A. JOHNSON, for the term to expire on 12-03-2018

Committee on Ways and Means

February 13, 2018

Room 211 @ 10:00 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the appointment of Laurel A. Johnston as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Ms. Johnston's long and storied career in public administration, most recently as the Deputy Director of the Department, proves that she possesses both an unwavering commitment to public service and a firm grasp of policy.

Confirming Ms. Johnston as the Director of the department responsible to manage our State's fiscal resources will ensure that the State remains on the right financial path. Her wealth of experience in the areas of education, health, economic development, and public finance will enable her to intelligently question the departments' varied budget requests and ensure that the supplemental budget is set with the long term financial stability of the State in mind.

For these reasons I humbly request that the Senate Committee on Ways and Means advise and consent to Ms. Johnston's appointment as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

SUBMITTED BY: ED SNIFFEN



Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii tourismauthority.org

David Y. Ige
Governor

George D. Szigeti
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
George D. Szigeti
Chief Executive Officer
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
on
GM536
Director of the Department of Budget and Finance
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following **testimony in support of GM536**, which submits for consideration and confirmation, as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F), Gubernatorial Nominee Laurel A. Johnston for a term to expire on December 3, 2018.

Ms. Johnston has been serving as Deputy Director of B&F since 2016, and HTA supports her confirmation as Director of B&F for a term to expire on December 3, 2018. At HTA, we recognize the importance of having strong and stable leadership in B&F because of their work managing the State's fiscal resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

**Testimony of John M. Tonaki, Public Defender,
State of Hawaii to the Senate Committee on
Ways and Means**

February 13, 2018

GM 536: Nomination of Laurel A. Johnston as Director of the
Department of Budget and Finance

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Laurel A. Johnston as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. The Office of the Public Defender is administratively attached to the Department of Budget and Finance. Due to this administrative association, I have had an opportunity to work with Ms. Johnston in her tenures as the Deputy Director of the department and as Acting Director.

Ms. Johnston's wealth of experience in state government has prepared her well for this critical position as Director of Finance. She has worked in both the legislative and executive branches as well as with the Department of Education. Thus, I think she is well-versed in the issues which face the state and can provide tremendous leadership with respect to budgetary matters.

She has taken great interest in the operations of the Office of the Public Defender and has devoted the time to learn about the issues which face our office. I am confident that Ms. Johnston will continue to serve the department with distinction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TODD NACAPUY
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of
TODD NACAPUY
Chief Information Officer, State of Hawai'i

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 536
RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
FOR DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

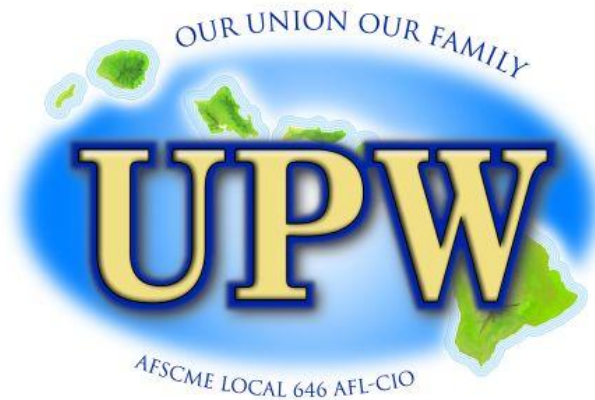
Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

I am Todd Nacapuy, Chief Information Officer of the State of Hawai'i and head of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), testifying in **strong support** of Governor's Message 536, Relating to Gubernatorial Nominee Laurel A. Johnston for Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Johnston brings extensive experience and leadership to the Department of Budget and Finance director's position. Her career spans three decades as a public servant, working for the Department of Education, University of Hawaii, Legislature, and Governor's Office. Through these experiences, Ms. Johnston has demonstrated her commitment to improving the State and serving the people of Hawaii.

I first worked closely with Ms. Johnston when she was Deputy Chief of Staff for the Governor, and subsequently when she became Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. She has generously shared with me her insights and her breadth and depth of knowledge of the formulation and evaluation of budgets. With her goal to improve efficiencies within the department, we can entrust her in keeping a watchful eye in managing our State's finances.

Thank you for your consideration of ETS's strong support of Ms. Johnston, serving as the Director of Budget and Finance.



THE HAWAII STATE SENATE

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Keith S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
TIME OF HEARING: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol, Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY ON GM 536 LAUREL A. JOHNSTON

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers (UPW),
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The UPW strongly supports GM536, Laurel A. Johnston as Director of the Hawaii State Department of Budget and Finance. Ms. Johnston is professionally qualified to lead the B&F Department. She is currently the Interim Director of B&F, led the University of Hawaii Budget department as its Director, and led the Department of Education Office for Planning, Budget and Resource Development. As an integral part of the administrative team of the Office of Governor, Ms. Johnston provided advice and counsel to the Executive and Cabinet officials. The UPW humbly request the Committee to submit Ms. Johnston's nomination to the full Senate for her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: February 12, 2018

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Submitted Via Capitol Website

RE: **GM 536 – Confirmation as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, Laurel Johnston**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room: 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Gary Slovin, Mihoko Ito, and Rick Tsujimura submit this testimony in **strong support** of the nomination of Laurel Johnston as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

We have known Laurel for many years, and can vouch for her integrity and common sense. The latter may be the single most qualifying trait upon which your Committee should approve and recommend her appointment to the full Senate. We have worked with Laurel in various capacities and over many years. She isn't your typical bureaucrat. Laurel understands progress begins with one step and if you don't take that one step, the journey never begins.

We have together trod down various roads, and we can unequivocally say to this Committee, she was, and continues to be, a valued public servant committed to serving the people of Hawaii.

We urge your support and approval.



To; Chair Dela Cruz
Vice Chair Keith-Agaran
Members of the Committee

Fr: Nanci Kreidman, M.A.
Chief Executive Officer

RE: Support for Laurel Johnston, Director Budget and Finance

Aloha! What an excellent choice Laurel is to provide leadership, oversight, collaboration and accountability in her role as Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known Laurel since she served as Chief of Staff for Senator Matt Matsunaga. She has a gentle, firm way with people, seeking facts, setting limits, and reliably carrying out responsibilities. As you know, Laurel has held some important positions over the last 30 years and has not faltered in any of them.

I personally worked closely with her when she served on the Board of Directors for the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, the name formerly held by the Domestic Violence Action Center. My experiences and perspective of her, therefore, has been formed through exposure at close range.

Laurel is professional, keeps confidences, is accessible, offers guidance and brings her extensive experience to every new role she agrees to take on.

It is not necessary to belabor the point. Laurel is a fantastic selection. I am just so happy she decided to accept the appointment.

Thank you.

GM-536

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 3:49:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marie Laderta		Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of the confirmation of Laurel A. Johnston for the position of Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Marie Laderta

Member, Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Pankaj Bhanot (in my personal capacity)

Re: GM 536

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Place: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, my name is Pankaj Bhanot and I am the current Director of the Department of Human Services. However, I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen in **strong support** of GM 536 submitted by the Governor for consideration and confirmation of Ms. Laurel Johnston as the Director of Budget and Finance, for a term to expire at noon on December 03, 2018.

Ms. Johnston has served our great Aloha State with distinction and exemplary excellence for over three decades in various capacities within the Executive and Legislative branches of our government. She has the professional experience, education, knowledge, skills, abilities, and the lived experience to honorably and competently serve as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Ms. Johnston has a long history and experience of providing advice and counsel to Governor, Cabinet officials, and legislative leadership on current and evolving fiscal conditions that inform state executive budget development, legislative appropriations, and executive budget execution. She also has the experience of managing Governor's Office administrative operations and provided executive support for Cabinet officials on policy issues, budget development, and legislative proposals.

Ms. Johnston has a strong background in development of executive budget, monitoring of budget; administration of systemwide budget allocations; and budget policy and procedures. She gained this experience while working for the Governor, University of Hawaii, Department of Education, and the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have the privilege and honor of working collaboratively with Laurel on various policy and budget issues impacting the Department of Human Services. Throughout my interactions with Laurel, I found her to be knowledgeable, professional, fair, and deeply rooted in a strong belief that we must keep "Aloha Spirit" and well-being of residents of Hawaii in our minds when we make policy and operational decisions.

I request the Ways and Means and the Senate to unanimously confirm my dear friend Ms. Laurel Johnston as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Thank you for the opportunity to support GM 536.

Audrey Hidano
1620 Hau Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

TESTIMONY OF
AUDREY HIDANO
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 221

G.M. 536

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LAUREL JOHNSTON, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON 12-03-2018.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 536. I support the nomination of Ms. Laurel Johnston to the position of Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I am testifying as an individual and I am in support of Laurel Johnston's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

I have known Ms. Johnston for about 20 years in her various roles in State government and have recently (about 3 years) worked closely with her as Governor Ige's Deputy Chief of Staff, and as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. She is truly a "go-to" person, who is diligent and is a dedicated public servant. Mrs. Johnston continually demonstrates professionalism and has a strong commitment to serve the people and the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Ms. Johnston for the nomination of Director of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

GM-536

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 9:18:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Kawaoka	DOH	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY BY DEREK MIZUNO
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
GM 536
RELATING TO CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
LAUREL A. JOHNSTON

February 13, 2018

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Laurel A. Johnston to be the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. I have worked closely with Laurel in my position as EUTF Administrator during Laurel's service as the Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance and EUTF Board member since December 2016. Laurel is very experienced with fiscal matters for the State and is always looking out for the best interests of the State. She is a strong leader and has the ability to see the big picture and remain calm and level headed when under stress. I believe that her experience in State government and deep passion for serving the citizens of the State will bring significant value to the Department of Budget and Finance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-536

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 3:34:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darrell T. Young		Support	No

Comments:

GM 506 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAUREL JOHNSTON, for a term to expire at noon on 12-03-2018.

Committee on Ways and Means

February 13, 2018

Room 211 @ 10:00 am

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Agaran-Keith, and members of the committee:

It is an honor to offer this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Laurel Johnston as the Director of the Department of Budget and Finance. Ms. Johnston years of experience and expertise in public service as the former Deputy Director of the State Department of Budget and Finance positions her to be well suited to be Director. Other public service positions Ms. Johnston has held have included time as Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Ige, and Director of the University Budget for the University of Hawaii.

In all my interactions with her and her staff, she has proven to be results oriented and very accomodating in assisting other State Departments. Her collective experience from the public and private sector makes her the best person for overseeing the transitional and modernization efforts for the department.

We respectfully request your support of Laurel's nomination, and we thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF LAUREL JOHNSTON
FOR DIRECTOR BUDGET AND FINANCE

G.M. 536

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 a.m.
Room 211

I take this moment to support the nomination and confirmation of Laurel Johnston as Director of Budget and Finance.

I have known and worked with Ms. Johnston for many years and know her to be very knowledgeable about government operations. Through her work experiences in the Legislative and Executive branches of state government, she has gained a wealth of knowledge and understanding about the budgeting process and government financing. I truly believe that she has the knowledge, experience and fortitude to be a great budget director.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to submit this testimony in full support of her nomination.

Submitted by: Russell Suzuki
February 10, 2018
Russ1106ras@msn.com