

# GM633

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, gubernatorial nominee, SHERYL NOJIMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.  
Report Title: Hawai'i Workforce Development Council  
Description:  
Companion:  
Package:  
Current Referral: LBR  
Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by</u> <u>Date</u>	<b>Status Text</b>
3/9/2018	S Received.
3/9/2018	S Referred to LBR.
3/22/2018	S The committee(s) on LBR has scheduled a public hearing on 03-29-18 2:45PM in conference room 229.

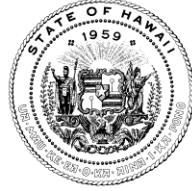
**S** = Senate | **H** = House | **D** = Data Systems | **\$** = Appropriation measure | **ConAm** = Constitutional Amendment

Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

# GM633

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LEONARD HOSHIJO  
DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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March 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair,  
The Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Labor

Date: Thursday, March 29, 2018  
Time: 2:45 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

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

**GM 633 Sheryl Nojima to Serve on the Workforce Development Council**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, 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 nomination of Dr. Nojima to serve on the Workforce Development Council. Dr. Nojima's impressive educational background, including a PhD, MBA, and Civil Engineering degrees, her experience as an engineer and a managing partner of an engineering firm, and numerous accolades in engineering, make her extremely qualified to serve on the Workforce Development Council.

I urge you to confirm Dr. Nojima to serve on the Workforce Development Council, where, if confirmed, she may utilize her wealth of understanding and experience to fulfill Hawaii's workforce development needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Dr. Nojima.

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR  
**DOUGLAS S. CHIN**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



**LESLIE WILKINS**  
CHAIRPERSON  
**ALLICYN H. TAsAKA**  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
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March 22, 2018

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Labor

From: Sunshine Topping, Member  
Workforce Development Council

RE: GM 633 Gubernatorial Nominee Sheryl Nojima to the Workforce Development Council  
for a term to expire June 30, 2022  
Hearing: Thursday, March 29, 2018 @ 2:45 p.m., State Capitol Room 229

POSITION: Strong Support

Good afternoon Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and members of the Committee on Labor. I am Sunshine Topping, a member of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying on behalf of the Council in strong support of Sheryl Nojima's confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2022. If confirmed, Sheryl would continue to fill a slot reserved for a private sector member on the Council.

The WDC is an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and advises the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for employers and employees.

The WDC is responsible for the administrative oversight and implementation of a federally mandated initiative, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 or WIOA. WDC is tasked with strategic planning and developing the infrastructure for a seamless common intake and referral system at the American Job Centers (or One-Stop Centers) so job seekers and employers can maneuver through the workforce system efficiently and receive employment, education, training and support services throughout the State. It's a "no wrong door" approach to workforce development.

As President of Gray, Hong, Nojima, and Associates (GHN), Sheryl Nojima is responsible for environmental and civil services of the firm. She is currently the principal-in-charge for regulatory/permitting assistance, preparation of environmental impact statements and assessment,

hydrologic and drainage studies, and civil sitework. As the managing partner of GHN she is also responsible for the firm's business development and administration.

Sheryl is an active member attending Council meetings regularly. She serves as Vice Chair of the Data Management and Technology committee which is the moving force to coordinate the development of an online common sign on for job seekers to apply post their resumes and seek employment services throughout the State.

Sheryl has an impressive academic background earning a PhD at the University of Hawaii, Masters of Science (MS) at the University of California at Berkeley, and Bachelors of Science at UH – all in engineering. She served as Assistant Dean at the UH College of Engineering. In between her engineering studies, Sheryl went on to earn a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) at UH.

Sheryl has served in leadership positions with the American Council of Engineering Companies in Hawaii as President, Secretary and Treasurer, as well as a National Director.

Sheryl's experience and knowledge of the engineering and construction industries as well as her involvement with numerous civil projects and environmental reviews has proven to be valuable in providing guidance to the Council on the current and future needs of these industry sectors.

I respectfully urge you to confirm Sheryl as a member of the Workforce Development Council where she can continue to contribute to moving the work of the Council forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support for Sheryl Nojima.

# ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of Hawaii

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March 27, 2018

## **Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

**Hearing Date: March 29, 2018 2:45 PM, Room 229**

Honorable Senators Jill Tokuda, Chair; J. Kalani English, Vice Chair; and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

**Subject: GM 633, Advise and Consent, Nominee Sheryl Nojima as a  
Member of the Workforce Development Council**

**Position: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Committee Members:

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii (ACECH) represents more than 60 member firms with over 1,500 employees throughout Hawaii. ACECH member firm projects directly affect the quality of the water we drink and the food we eat; the safety of our buildings, highways, bridges, and infrastructure; and the quality of the environment in which we work and play.

Hawaii is at a critical juncture, and it is essential that we develop sustainable strategies that will aid in the development of local talent. We strongly support Sheryl Nojima's nomination as a member of the Workforce Development Council. She will be an active contributor in helping guide the state's education and workforce development strategies that will provide the skill sets needed to drive innovation and business growth in Hawaii.

In addition to serving on our Board of Directors for the past decade, Ms. Nojima has been an active member of several of our City and State liaison committees. She has experience in both the private and public sectors and also has a unique background having worked with many undergraduate engineering students as an Assistant Dean of Engineering, as well as a mentor in the Civil Engineering capstone design course at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF HAWAII

Jeffrey K. Kalani, P.E.  
President



**MYM Services, LLC**  
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**March 26, 2018**

**To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair and  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Labor**

**From: Michael Y. Magaoay, President  
MYM Services, LLC**

**Re: GM 633 Advise and Consent, Nominee Sheryl Nojima to the  
Hawaii Workforce Development Council  
Hearing: Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 2:45 pm, Room 229**

**Position: STRONG SUPPORT**

**Good afternoon Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English and members of the Committee on Labor. I am Michael Magaoay, an electrical engineer consultant testifying in strong support of Sheryl Nojima's confirmation to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2022 (GM 633).**

**Ms. Nojima is the President of Gray, Hong, Nojima & Associates, Inc. and got her civil engineer degree, MBA, and PhD. From the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Her involvements and affiliations are with the Hawaii Workforce Development Council; Water Environment Federation, Hawaii Delegate; American Society of Civil Engineers; Dean's Council, University of Hawaii College of Engineers. Presently we serve on the Dean's Council together and currently I am the Chairman. Sheryl will continue to bring a wealth and experience to Workforce Development Council.**

**I respectfully urge you and the committee to confirm Ms. Sheryl Nojima as a member of the Workforce Development Council.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in strong support of Ms. Sheryl Nojima's nomination.**

**Senate Committee on Labor  
Thursday, March 29, 2018, 2:45 PM  
Room 229, State Capitol**

**Testimony in Support of GM 633**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council (WDC) Gubernatorial Nominee, SHERYL NOJIMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.**

**Chair Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair J. Kalani English, and members of the Committee on Labor**

I am H. Ronald Riggs, Interim Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) testifying in unqualified support of Dr. Sheryl Nojima's confirmation to the WDC for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

Dr. Nojima has been President of Gray, Hong, Nojima & Associates since 2009. She has served on the UHM Engineering Dean's Council since 2007 and has been active on the Council's Executive Committee since 2010. She served as Vice Chair of the Council in 2013–2014 and Chair in 2015-2016.

Through Dr. Nojima's previous association with UH, current association through the Dean's Council, and her leadership role in the American Council of Engineering Companies, she has an impressive and extensive knowledge of the workforce issues facing engineers, as well as the broader construction industry, in Hawai'i. Given the importance of the engineering profession to the health and security of Hawai'i's current and future economy, engineering and workforce issues are of paramount importance. As we try to grow and broaden the technological sectors of our economy, Dr. Nojima is particularly qualified to understand the needs and opportunities going forward. She is completely qualified to be a member of the WDC and I recommend her to you.

Thank You.

Personal Written Testimony Presented by:



H. R. Riggs  
Interim Dean, College of Engineering  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa