

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1205

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 8 - 2019

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 596

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred Governor's Message No. 596, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

BOARD CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

G.M. No. 596      PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO,  
for a term to expire 12-31-2022 (name  
amended to PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
by GM634),

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser for service as the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser from Governor David Y. Ige; Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Transportation; Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Defense; Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Workforce Development Division; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawaii Agriculture Research Center; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Ulupono Initiative; Bayer; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; Ponoholo Ranch Limited; Hawaii Coffee Association; Hawai'i Farm

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Bureau; Hartung Brothers, Inc.; Maui County Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; SK Natural Farms, LLC (aka 2 Lady Farmers); and eighty-six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the nomination for the appointment of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on the nomination for the appointment of Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser from Rancho Aloha and Ka Ohana O Na Pua.

Your Committee finds that Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser earned a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. She thereafter earned a Master of Science in Avian Sciences from the University of California, Davis. With over thirty years' experience, Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser's background in fresh egg production, management, and poultry feed has provided her with a wealth of knowledge in the poultry industry in Hawaii. From 2009 to 2014, she served as the President of Mikilua Poultry Farm, Inc., in Waiānae. Since 2015, Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser has served as the Deputy Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and, according to the Governor, has been instrumental in moving the Department of Agriculture forward in our efforts to increase local food production.

Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser has also served on a number of boards and committees in the community, including the State Medical Marijuana Dispensary License Selection Panel, State Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee, State Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawaii Egg Producers Cooperative, United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Hawaii State Committee, University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension Veterinary Specialist Search Committee, and Hawaii State Board of Agriculture. Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser has also received recognition from the agricultural community as the first female recipient of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation Outstanding Member award.


Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser's mission is to assist all farmers and ranchers to grow more wholesome food, fiber, and energy through coexistence of conventional and organic practices with innovative tools to double local food production. Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser's passion for and commitment to sustainability, food resiliency, and quality of life for the people of Hawaii make her well-suited to serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this



report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Agriculture and  
Environment,



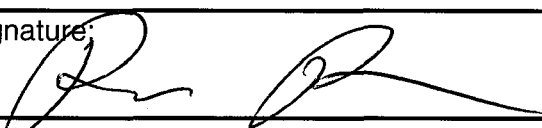
MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**  
**Advise and Consent**

CHAIR

Governor's Message No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:		
GM 596	AEN	3.01.2019		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)		X		
RHOADS, Karl	X			
THIELEN, Laura H.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	1	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b>				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes