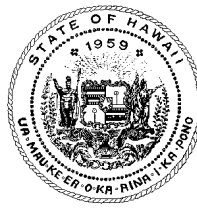


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

NOLAN P. ESPINDA
DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook
Deputy Director
Administration

Shari L. Kimoto
Deputy Director
Corrections

Renee R. Sonobe Hong
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 617,
NOMINATION OF EDMUND HYUN TO THE HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY.

by
Nolan P. Espinda, Director
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Wednesday, May 13, 2020; 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** Governor's Message (GM) 617, nominating Edmund Hyun to the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

Mr. Hyun possesses a variety of relevant skills and experience to effectively fill a seat on the Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA). In fact, the breadth and depth of Fred's experience make him invaluable as a member of the Authority and as HPA's chairperson, a post he has held since 2017.

Mr. Hyun is keenly aware of the myriad of ongoing correctional and parole issues and related matters and enjoys a close and fruitful working relationship with PSD.

The Department strongly endorses the nomination of Mr. Hyun to the Hawaii Paroling Authority and respectfully urges the Committee to advise and consent to his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

GM-617

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 12:57:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Governor's Message 617: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Paroling Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, EDMUND HYUN, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai and the members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I submit this testimony in **support** of Edmund "Fred" Hyun's nomination to continue as the Chairperson of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority.

I have had the privilege of knowing Fred for over 50 years. I know him to be a gentleman with unquestioned integrity and ethical standards.

I first met Fred when we worked together at the Kalihi YMCA in the late 1960s. Fred's involvement with youth and the community continued in his life. He has a remarkable history of volunteer work with various government and community agencies and boards.

We served together in the Hawai'i Air National Guard for many years. He excelled as a member of the 201st Combat Communications Group command staff. Senior leaders trusted his staff work, judgment, and recommendations.

His professional resume shows 31 years of service with the Department of Public Safety in numerous key supervisory and leadership positions.

Edmund "Fred" Hyun has proven to be an invaluable asset to the State of Hawai'i during his tenure as the Chairperson of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority. His extensive life experiences have shaped his temperament; allowing him to render the important decisions as the Chairperson. He is clearly the person to continue serving in this important position.

I urge committee members to recommend Senate confirmation on the nomination of Edmund "Fred" Hyun as the Chairperson of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of his nomination.

JAMES S. TABE

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER
1130 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, SUITE A-254
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96817

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair,
the Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair,
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

State Capitol
417 S. King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM 617 -- Submitting for the consideration and confirmation to
the Hawai'i Paroling Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee Edmund
Hyun

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

It is a pleasure to support the nomination of Edmund "Fred" Hyun for a second term as chair of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority ("HPA").

During Mr. Hyun's first term as the chair, the Office of the Public Defender ("OPD") have found him to be very fair in his adjudication of cases. The HPA is tasked with rendering difficult decisions in terms of the setting of minimum terms of incarceration as well as the granting or denying of parole requests. Mr. Hyun has demonstrated an ability to balance the competing interests of public safety and compassion for the individuals appearing before the HPA in rendering fair and just decisions. Mr. Hyun has been and will continue to be a successful chair of the HPA because of his temperament, character and sensitivity. He always listens and considers carefully the arguments presented by the attorneys. He treats the individuals who appear before the parole board with dignity, patience, and respect.

Finally, under Mr. Hyun's leadership, the HPA has established a good working relationship with the OPD. Mr. Hyun is very approachable and has always made time to listen to the OPD's concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on this matter.

Sincerely,



James S. Tabe
State Public Defender

GM-617

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 10:50:41 AM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shelley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am a concerned citizen opposed to the appointment of Mr. Hyun. I have seen a news article saying that cameras were installed at HPA using taxpayer funds. These cameras were supposed to be for the safety of employees but is used to watch the employees. I don't know if Mr. Hyun is directly responsible for these actions, but it happened under his watch and he has not done anything to resolve the problem. I don't think this is representative of good leadership.

May 12, 2020

TO: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

FR: Joyce K. Matsumori-Hoshijo
Attorney-at-Law

RE: GM 617—Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Edmund Hyun for
Chairperson of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority
Hearing date and time: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.

Dear Senator Nishihara, Senator Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Edmund ("Fred") Hyun as Chairperson of the Hawai'i Paroling Authority (HPA).

I served as a part-time member of the HPA from May 2011 to May 2019. During the years I worked with Fred (August 2016 to May 2019), he worked tirelessly to bring about meaningful changes in HPA policy and procedure.

Fred brings a wealth of experience in state corrections work and understands the importance of balancing both the rehabilitation and punishment aspects of HPA decision-making. The day-to-day work of the board can be very challenging. The board is tasked with adjudicating an average of twenty cases per day and often hears the testimonies of victims and families in cases involving serious harm and loss of life.

In this process, Fred has sought to bring a high level of professionalism and competence to the board's work. He recognizes the importance of training, both at the board and staff levels, and initiated networking with corrections officials locally and in other jurisdictions to share information and strategies for change.

Fred leads by example. He is patient and respectful to others. He is adept at identifying what needs to be done and takes decisive action. Fred is a very positive and enthusiastic person to work with on a daily basis. He cares deeply about the mission of the HPA and I have every confidence in his ability to successfully guide the organization in the years ahead.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Joyce K. Matsumori-Hoshijo

GM-617

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 12:56:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shelley Miyamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha PSM Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on GM617, as a HGEA Union Steward I currently assist members within (HPA) Hawaii Paroling Authority and the Department of Public Safety (PSD), as HPA is administratively attach agency to PSD.

Within the last year, there has been a staff shortage in the HPA office (specifically parole officers) that should be looked in to or investigated. To my knowledge, five (5) Parole Officers, and also the Clerical Staff Office Manager have "quit." I have assisted HPA staff /members in the last few months, and spoken to them before they left HPA.

It should be a great concern to the HPA Chairman regarding the staff shortage which may jeopardize the public's safety.

Thank you.

GM-617

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 2:00:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kelli keawe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Public Safety Chair and Members of the Committee,

My apologies , I could not be there, but thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony, I oppose the reconfirmation and bring to your attention, the mismanagement and abuse of power within HPA Hawaii Paroling Authority, overseen by the Chair. Currently the Governor had reappointed Edmund “Fred” Hyun another term as the chairman for HPA.

I wrote the Governor hoping he can investigate the problems within Hawaii Paroling Authority facing staff shortage of Parole Officers by mismanagement. Staff/Members, notice HPA Administrators lack of communication, training, micromanaging and the abuse of power from both HPA Chair Edmund “Fred” Hyun and HPA Administrator Tommy Johnson handled down to the Supervisors lack of ability to communicate and experience to work with Staff/Members, the overwhelming workload ongoing and now (5) Parole Officer and the Office Supervisor just up and “quit”.

- 1. The Governor place the State under a hiring freeze on new recruitments, now the lack of supervise on clients and no guidance’s in the Parole Office, which place the community at risk, what about the victims. There is is no leadership, teamwork and training for the Parole Office “only” bullying. HPA Staff/Members feel intimidated and fear retaliation.**

All done on HPA Chairman Edmund “Fred” Hyun, clock!! HPA needs a new Chair. it’s not fair to Taxpayers, when thousands of dollars wasted on recruitment and the lack of management training on how to be a supervisor, just a failure in overseeing the daily operation by terrible leadership, (shame on them) by sending themselves to mainland training and not the Parole Officers, whom risk their lives to supervise these parolees back into the community, and overwork Clerical Staff. more.....

Mahalo for your time!!

GM-617

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 5:22:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: