

LATE

March 30, 2022

Hawaii State Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Hawaii State Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education
The Senate
Hawaii State Capitol

Date and Time of Hearing:
March 31, 2022
3:00pm
Conference Room 229

Subject: **Governor's Message Nos. 738 and 739**
Relating to the Appointment of Anne Nakakura
to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

Please accept this letter of testimony in support of the nomination of Ms. Anne Nakakura to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service.

I offer this letter having known Ms. Nakakura both personally and professionally for over twelve (12) years. As noted through it's website, the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service (HCNCS):

"... primary role is to provide resources and leadership to support local initiatives that tackle community needs. As the state service commission, HCNCS will direct effective AmeriCorps national service programs, disability inclusion initiatives, training opportunities and volunteer service recognition awards to gain a specific set of results that meet predetermined performance outcomes. The Commission makes grants; develops partnerships in collaboration with other agencies, foundations, community organizations and state, local governments; facilitates sharing of online resources to nonprofits; provides leadership in volunteerism and service; and ensures the quality of member and recipient experiences and continued involvement."

It is my understanding that Ms. Nakakura is being nominated for service to the HCNCS based on her extensive fiscal and accounting acumen. In addition to her qualifications as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Ms. Nakakura has held a number of executive-level management positions in the field of accounting and fiscal responsibility at prominent entities such as Roberts Hawaii, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Hawaii Baptist Academy and presently, La Pietra – Hawaii School for Girls. Her experiences and aptitude, in my opinion, will be a

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valued asset to the HCNCS as it seeks to provide meaningful opportunities, through the AmeriCorps program, for civic engagement and community building initiatives that are aimed at addressing critical educational, environmental and public safety challenges for our island's at-risk communities and populations.

During my tenure on the Honolulu City Council, I have always had great admiration and appreciation for those individuals who have accepted the "call to serve" through appointments on public and non-profit boards and commissions, in particular, those individuals that already are involved in challenging professional and personal endeavors.

In closing, knowing Ms. Anne Nakakura as well as I do, I am pleased that she has offered herself for service to our State and respectfully ask for your favorable consideration on her appointment to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service.

Respectfully,



ERNEST Y. MARTIN
Chair and Presiding Officer (2011-2016, 2018)
Honolulu City Council