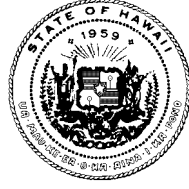


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 14, 2022

TO: The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **GM 806 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAURIE TOCHIKI, for a term to expire 06-30-2027.**

Hearing: April 19, 2022, 2:05 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference
State Capitol

As the Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS), I strongly support the nomination and confirmation of Laurie Tochiki, Ph.D., J.D., to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Ms. Tochiki has the academic credentials and vast professional experiences that will contribute to the governance of the University of Hawaii as the state emerges from the many impacts of the pandemic. Her years teaching and mentoring law students at the University of Hawaii, William S. Richardson School of Law, and her leadership at Epic Ohana Conferencing, which serves youth and families involved in the child welfare system, illustrate Ms. Tochiki's dedication and commitment to improving the lives of Hawaii's brightest and most treasured resource, it's people. Ms. Tochiki leads with integrity, guided by her connection to the community and deep care for Hawaii's families and children. Her background enables her to be a productive and meaningful member of the Board of Regents.

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

Karen Worthington, 66 Puakea Place, Kula, HI 96790

April 18, 2022

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education

From: Karen Worthington, Private Citizen

Re: **GM806:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAURIE TOCHIKI, for a term to expire 06-30-2027.

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 225 and Videoconference, April 19, 2017, 2:05 PM

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Kim, Senator Kadani, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the nomination of Laurie Tochiki to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i. I fully support this nomination and believe that there is no one else as qualified for this position as Laurie Tochiki.

My name is Karen Worthington, and I am a children's law and policy attorney with my own consulting company on Maui, Karen Worthington Consulting. I have known Ms. Tochiki since 2010 when I met her through her work on a federal grant-funded initiative that she led at the William S. Richardson School of Law. Since then, I have worked with Ms. Tochiki in a variety of capacities related to higher education, child welfare, family engagement and empowerment, and most recently as chair of the board of directors of EPIC 'Ohana, where Ms. Tochiki serves as the Executive Director.

In every capacity in which she serves and in every gathering in which she participates, Ms. Tochiki brings wisdom; expertise; an analytical and open mind; an extraordinary ability to listen intently and comprehend fully; and warmth, kindness, and calmness. In settings where there is tension or mistrust, Ms. Tochiki instinctively draws on her years as a mediator with the Mediation Center of the Pacific and gets people to open up and focus on shared goals. Her ability to bridge gaps and inspire people to collaborate is a rare gift and one that is much needed in today's society.

In addition to these many talents, Ms. Tochiki has a career full of experience that makes her an ideal candidate to serve on the Board of Regents. She has participated in the University of Hawai'i system as a student, professor, program administrator, and Associate Dean. Her formal education includes a Master's of Science in Administration and a PhD in Education Policy. She has taught at both the School of Law and Kapi'olani Community College, and has extensive experience working in the community across Oahu and throughout the state (EPIC 'Ohana is a statewide organization).

I am proud to call Ms. Tochiki a colleague and a friend and know she would be an exceptional addition to the Board of Regents. I wholeheartedly SUPPORT her nomination. If you would like additional information related to my testimony, please do not hesitate to contact me (karen@karenworthington.com).

Best regards,



Karen Worthington

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR



Testimony of

Michael A. Dahilig

Managing Director, County of Kaua'i

Before the

Senate Committee on Higher Education

April 19, 2022 at 2:05 PM

In consideration of

GM 806– Laurie A. Tochiki, Ph.D.

Gubernatorial Nominee for the

University of Hawai'i Board of Regents

Honorable Chair Kim, Honorable Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of Dr. Laurie A. Tochiki's nomination to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. As a nominee, she is well qualified to fulfill this responsibility given her professional and life experiences, her temperament, and desire to serve.

My primary desire to support Dr. Tochiki's nomination comes from my experience when I knew her as "Dean Tochiki" during my time as a law student at the William S. Richardson School of Law. At the time, she was the Dean of Student Services, and I can point to many indelible moments in my memory that serve to confirm her caring and empathetic nature, her pedigree as an educator, and her sharp skill as a master of legal academics. Some of those moments were in mentorship and guiding, I dare to say one was for disciplinary purposes -- but in every touch during my experience at Richardson, there was a genuineness, aloha, and love there for the students that one could not just manufacture or fake.

Hundreds of this state's lawyers have been shepherded and guided by her hand, and there is always a fondness and aloha we feel whenever we run into her at the market, or professional venue. There is nothing like a Dean Tochiki hug when you see her.

It takes a rare person to choose a life's work where you intersect law, child social work, education, and management – all difficult fields. Certainly, her work as Associate Dean while at Richardson has shaped much of the skill and competence your committee is poised to evaluate for potential governance work on the Regents. However, I beg to suggest that her total contribution to this state is the special and unique quality that this University needs in setting a higher education direction for the future – understanding where education, empathy, tutelage, and accountability all align to set the table at our institutions for this state's young minds to become critical contributors to this community.

The Board and the State will undoubtedly be enriched by her service on the Regents. I have confidence in Dr. Tochiki's skill to serve with competence and integrity on the Board. I respectfully ask this honorable committee to **ADVISE AND CONSENT** to her nomination.

Mahalo for your consideration.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 2:47:08 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Jacobs	Testifying for EPIC `Ohana	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha -

This written testimony is submitted to support GM806, University of Hawai'i Board of Regents nominee Laurie Tochiki. Since February 2018, I have served on the Board of Directors of EPIC `Ohana, which is a non-profit organization in Hawai'i that serves families in the child welfare system and vulnerable transitioning youth, for which Laurie Tochiki has served as Executive Director, President, and CEO for many years.

Laurie is an outstanding, compassionate, and fiscally adept leader of EPIC `Ohana. Laurie's attention to detail in carrying out her EPIC `Ohana's Executive Director duties cannot be overstated. It was truly amazing for me to witness Laurie in action over the past 2+ years as she handled steering EPIC `Ohana through the COVID-19 pandemic and all of the quick pivoting that was needed, especially early on in March 2020. The heart of EPIC `Ohana, pre-pandemic, was convening in-person conferences to support foster youth with their support network. Within days, when society needed to cease in-person meetings, Laurie led efforts to convert the in-person conferences to online conferences. Also, over the past two years of this pandemic, Laurie also acted quickly to secure PPP loans, to protect the jobs and livelihoods of EPIC `Ohana staff.

I believe that Laurie's outstanding character and effective leadership which she has demonstrated as the Executive Director of EPIC `Ohana would translate well as a University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Member. Therefore, I hereby provide my full support to Laurie Tochiki's nomination to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jacobs, Esq.

Board of Directors, EPIC `Ohana

Co-Chair, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the Hawai'i State Bar Association

Past President and Current Secretary, Conflict Resolution Alliance Hawai'i

Mediator, Facilitator, and Trainer, Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.

Collaborative Attorney and Mediator - Better Way Divorce, also known as Pono Divorce

email: lisawongjacobs@gmail.com

cell phone: (808) 263-6299

website: www.PonoDivorce.com

Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Dr. Laurie Tochiki
HRE April 19, 2022, 2:00PM
GM 806

TO: The Honorable HRE Chair, Donna Mercado Kim and
The Honorable Vice Chair, Michelle N. Kadani
FROM: Susan M. Chandler, Ph.D.
RE: SUPPORT for GM 806

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Laurie Tochiki who has been nominated to serve on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I cannot think of a person more qualified to serve in this position. My name is Susan Chandler and I have known Dr. Tochiki for over 25 years. I am a retired U.H. professor and taught for 42 years. Thus, I am quite familiar with the needs of the University and the Board of Regents and think that Laurie has the knowledge, skills and temperament to be a superb regent.

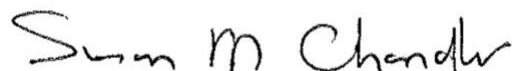
I first met Laurie when she was at the Family Court and she was instrumental in developing the design of Hawaii's major child welfare reform initiative and `Ohana Conferencing. This family empowering model has become the established, empirically tested practice across the state as well as a best practice model across the nation. Laurie as the Executive Director of EPIC `Ohana has expanded the group conferencing model to other populations and has become a leader and expert in the field across the country.

As you see from Dr. Tochiki's resume, she has had a variety of experiences at the William S. Richardson School of Law. She has been a lecturer, a researcher, and the Associate Dean. Her educational background includes not only a law degree, but a doctorate in educational policy, and a MA, specializing in public administration. She has received many awards for excellence in leadership and nonprofit management. As a Board member of EPIC `Ohana, I have seen Laurie provide superb leadership to the field of child welfare for over two decades. Her work with the Center on Alternative Dispute Resolution and her many years as a volunteer mediator at the Mediation Center of the Pacific attests to her excellent problem solving skills.

I have moved to the mainland, and am residing in Massachusetts, otherwise, I would be at your hearing to support Dr. Tochiki in person.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in strong support of G.M. 806.

Aloha,



GM-806

Submitted on: 4/15/2022 1:55:55 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Levi K. Hookano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice-chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education,

I give my utmost support to the nomination of Laurie Tochiki to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. Ms. Tochiki possesses all of qualities one could hope for as a Regent. She is intelligent, thoughtful, and respectful.

Laurie is as smart as they come. Just looking at the initials after her name, you are just scratching the surface of her commitment to formal higher education. From her beginnings at Waipahu High School to the University of Hawaii, she fully developed herself in multiple disciplines. And while she fully demonstrates her academic credentials, Ms. Tochiki also displays high levels of emotional intelligence. As the Associate Dean for Student Services at the William S. Richardson School of Law, Laurie was often the mediator and voice of reason for student conflicts. She related to her students and never talked down to them. Everyone who interacted with Dean Tochiki knew that when she made a decision it was well thought out and reasoned, taking all points of view into account.x

Laurie's thoughtfulness extends to those she has yet to meet. I first encountered Ms. Tochiki in 2002, a year before I entered the William S. Richardson School of Law. While I was getting my MPA from UH, I was interested in taking a law school course towards my master's degree. I contacted the Law School and was put in touch with her to help me through the process. She immediately welcomed me, walked me through the necessary steps to enroll in the courses I wanted to take, and took the time to explain what I needed to do to make it all happen. It was such an amazing thing for someone in her position to take that kind of time for someone she didn't yet know.

Finally, Ms. Tochiki is respectful and is respected. She respects the process, people, ideas, and outcomes. As an attorney, Laurie experienced many difficult and emotional cases, particularly in the family law arena. She worked hard to ensure families, particularly children, were cared for in the family law process. And while working for the law school, she always took the time to listen to her students, and always with a smile on her face. She's faced adversity in many areas of her life, but she always took it in stride. Her humility and dedication to those she serves shines through, earning her the respect of those around her. A true servant leader.

I cannot emphasize how thrilled I am with the nomination of Ms. Tochiki as a UH Regent. She will undoubtedly be a tremendous asset to the UH System, and I know that there are hundreds of

Richardson Alumni who fondly think of Laurie as their "law school mom" who took care of us to ensure we were successful in our academic and professional pursuits. It is for these reasons, among many many more, that I respectfully urge this committee to support Ms. Tochiki's confirmation to the UH Board of Regents. Mahalo.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/15/2022 2:46:13 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
H. Shan Wirt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senate,

I write in FULL SUPPORT of Dr. Laurie Tochiki for the UH Board of Regents.

I have personally known Dr. Tochiki in various capacities over 19 years ranging from my days as a law student at the UH William S. Richardson School of Law when she served as Associate Dean and co-faculty advisor for the American Bar Association Client Counseling Competition Team to more recently as a fellow Board member of Hawaii Women Lawyers. She is an exemplary teacher, community builder and leader.

Further, I respectfully request that gender equity be considered for the Board of Regents. I believe Dr. Tochiki to be a highly qualified and experienced woman who will serve UH and the State well. I have no doubt that she will make great contributions if appointed.

Sincerely,

H. Shan Wirt, Esq.

UH Manoa, B.A. in Journalism (Public Relations) and UH William S. Richardson School of Law, J.D.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/15/2022 3:01:39 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christina Ohira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing to support the appointment of Laurie Tochiki to the UH Board of Regents. She is an amazing person, educator, and advisor. I would not have been successful in law school or in life without her guidance. I think she would be an amazing addition to the Board. Vote for Dean Tochiki!!!

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/15/2022 4:28:07 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sherry broder	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kim and Committee Members,

I am submitting this testimony to give the highest recommendation to Dr, Laurie Tochiki for the position of Regent, University of Hawai`i. I have know Dr. Tochiki for decades. Dr. Tochiki is hard-working, smart, kind, generous, and fair. She is always willing to pitch in and do what needs to be done to get the job done. Dr. Tochiki works effectively with others. She is very much liked by everyone that she comes in contact with. She is a true leader. Dr. Tochiki is of the highest moral character, has unquestionably demonstrated academic and professional excellence, and possesses an unwavering commitment to service to the community. She never hesitates to go the extra mile. I am confident that she will do an excellent job in service to the University system and the people of Hawai`i.

Mahalo for considering my comments and unqualified support for the confirmation of Dr. Tochiki.

Sherry Broder



HALE KIPA

April 15, 2023

TO: COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: GM806: IN SUPPORT of Board of Regents Nominee, Laurie Tochiki

Aloha,

Mahalo for allowing me the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Laurie Tochiki to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. I am Jaque Kelley-Uyeoka, MSW, Deputy CEO of Hale Kipa and I was so thrilled to hear of her nomination.

I have known Ms. Tochiki for over ten years and she is one of the most honorable people I know. She is brilliant, and passionate about service to the community and, in particular, service to vulnerable populations. She has actually spent her life in service to others, diligently advocating and working to improve opportunities for children and families. She has conscientiously forged ways for young people to overcome barriers and access education.

Her roots are local and simple; she has attended public schools and is a proud graduate of the University of Hawaii where she spent many years demonstrating servant leadership and giving back to her alma mater in countless ways that benefitted numerous students. Her children have continued her legacy.

I enjoy being a colleague of Ms. Tochiki. She is a leader and a team player, she is humble and strength-based, she is creative and responsive, honest and forthright, integrous and dependable.

I full endorse her appointment and believe the UH Board of Regents will be well-served by her contributions.

Sincerely,

Jaque Kelley-Uyeoka, MSW
Hale Kipa Deputy CEO

91-2128 Old Fort Weaver Road • 'Ewa Beach, HI 96706 • T 808.589.1829 • F 808.589.2610 • info@halekipa.org • www.halekipa.org

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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

The William S. Richardson School of Law
Professor John Barkai

April 16, 2022

RE: GM 806 – LAURIE TOCHIKI to the UH Board of Regents

I strongly support the appointment of LAURIE TOCHIKI to the UH Board of Regents.

I first met Laurie when she was an outstanding, thoughtful, and committed student in my class at the University of Hawaii School of Law. Later, she was a colleague as a professor at the Law School, and still later as an Associate Dean there. She has remained a friend and a credit to the community during her whole career.

She and her family have been well connected to the University of Hawaii and strong supporters of public education. She has worked tirelessly for the community.

As a student, instructor, lecturer, adjunct professor, professor, and associate dean, she has an exceptionally wide variety of experiences at the University. With a Master of Science in Administration, law degree, and PH. D in Education Policy, she has been at all levels of university education. With over a decade as a president and CEO of a non-profit, a lawyer, a law clerk, research analyst, and small business owner, she has a well rounded background.

She is mature, smart, and both a leader and a conflict resolver, and gets along very well with all types of people.

Please confirm her to the Board of Regents. I am completing my 44th year as a professor at U.H.

We need her there.

Sincerely,



John Barkai
Professor of Law (since 1978)
William S. Richardson School of Law

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/16/2022 5:41:56 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mr. Calvin Pang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, and Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Fr: Calvin Pang

Re: Governor’s Message No. 806 re the Nomination of Laurie Tochiki to the UH Board of Regents; April 19, 2022, 2:05 p.m.

I write in strong support of Governor David Ige’s nomination of Dr. Laurie Tochiki to the University of Hawai i Board of Regents. I am a tenured professor at the William S. Richardson School of Law, where Dr. Tochiki was both a faculty colleague and Associate Dean for Student Services.

I have known Dr. Tochiki for almost thirty-five years. I first met her when visiting a law school classmate, whom Dr. Tochiki had graciously provided space to begin her law practice. It was the first of many acts of grace I have seen from Dr. Tochiki over the years.

When Dr. Tochiki was our Associate Dean for Student Services, I heard students refer to her as “Auntie Laurie” or “Mom.” It wasn’t just her warmth and emotional intelligence, which Dr. Tochiki has in spades. As we know, Moms are the world’s best advocates and doers when it comes to protecting, nurturing, and advancing those entrusted in their care. Dr. Tochiki undertook her deanship, knowing that her office would fill with students in need, some in long-term crisis. She moved quietly, humbly, and smartly to figure how to address the student’s needs. With Dr. Tochiki as our associate dean, the law students knew that they had someone who would take care of them. She effectively did this for twelve years. Her students always perched at the top of her priorities.

Dr. Tochiki’s concern for her students’ welfare was part of her larger understanding of their education as developing lawyers and human beings. Because she is wise, smart, and balanced, she was able to envision the “long game” for her students. Of course, she had to put out fires in short order, but her problem-solving approach anticipated steps down the line that not only got a student past a crisis, but put them in a far better place, where a student could not only survive but flourish.

I recruited Dr. Tochiki to be my partner in a variety of projects. We launched our award-winning Client Counseling Team twenty-five years ago, and she remains the team's senior coach. We also started the law school's annual Stew Day, where faculty members in thrift store aprons and paper hats pay for and serve stew lunches to students. It is a small way for professors to show appreciation for our students and demonstrate the service ethic of the faculty. Dr. Tochiki and I also began collecting "Hero Stories," where students described in writing how classmates engaged in quiet, sacrificial acts to benefit others. We have hundreds of those little stories now. And for years, we just sat together, trying to figure out how to approach distressed students in my classes. It was there that I saw her mind, spirit, and heart whirl together to chalk out her sensible, workable plans.

What do I know about Laurie Tochiki? She is smart, strategic, visionary, and heartfelt. She is gutsy but knows how to keep her distance from the foolhardy. She listens and reads non-verbal language like no one else can. And boy, can she work, even when she's tired. When something or someone's important to her, there is always time. It's not a trouble for her.

To Dr. Tochiki, the University of Hawai'i is important. She has been a stakeholder in a number of ways and remains so today. Her voice comes from a humble, grounded, strong, and Hawai'i-centric place. She would bring to the Board of Trustees the same commitment, intelligence, skill, and compassion that she has brought to everything and everyone who has mattered to her.

Please affirm her nomination. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at clpang5@yahoo.com. Thank you for this opportunity to submit my written testimony.



PŪ'Ā FOUNDATION
Empowering Individuals, Families & Communities

Governor's Message – 806 – NOMINATION OF LAURIE TOCHIKI TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS

To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

From: Toni Bissen, Executive Director-Pū'ā Foundation, toni.bissen@puafoundation.net

Date: Tues., April 19, 2022, 2:05 pm; Before the Senate Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION, State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Re: **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT of GM 806 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE LAURIE TOCHIKI.**

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Ms. Laurie Tochiki to the Board of Regents, University of Hawaii. Ms. Tochiki brings a wealth of experience and institutional knowledge to the job. She has held a number of positions at the University of Hawaii, William S. Richardson School of Law, as well as in the community, which enhances her insights and contributes to her leadership effectiveness. With her expansive community service, dedication and willingness to serve, Ms. Tochiki provides a critical representation of that combination.

In addition, with her educational background earning a PhD from the University of Hawaii in Educational Policy, along with the foregoing mentioned experience she would be a tremendous asset.

I have had the honor and privilege to work with her in our community efforts within the child welfare system, and the juvenile and criminal justice systems and I have every reason to believe that Ms. Tochiki will provide effective oversight as a regent in service to the University of Hawaii community and the people of Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure offering strong support of GM 806 to confirm Ms. Tochiki to the Board of Regents, University of Hawaii.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/17/2022 8:49:23 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Coralie Chun Matayoshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TESTIMONY OF CORALIE CHUN MATAYOSHI IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF LAURIE TOCHIKI, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS (GM 806) April 19, 2022, 2:05pm, Conference Room 225

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

I am writing to express my strong and heartfelt support for the nomination of Laurie Tochiki to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. When I first learned that she had been appointed, I immediately reached out to congratulate and thank her for agreeing to serve.

I have known Laurie for over 25 years, and she is just what the Board of Regents needs. She is a bright, thoughtful, humble, caring, and collaborative problem solver with uncompromising integrity and high moral courage. Having served in various positions at the University for nearly 20 years, she understands the challenges that students face and is passionate about providing them every opportunity to succeed.

Laurie's decades of work with parents and children in crisis motivates her to find creative solutions to offer hope for families in need. She cares deeply about all of Hawaii's people, especially those less fortunate, and understands the critical importance of education as a promise for a better future.

When I served as Executive Director of the Hawaii State Bar Association, I witnessed first-hand Laurie's hard work and determination in creating and implementing programs like Kid's First that had immediate, positive, system-wide impact.

As the President and CEO of EPIC 'Ohana, she works with over 40 agencies on difficult problems with no easy solutions. Recently, Laurie was a guest on my KHON2 What's the Law podcast, where she admitted there were gaps in the child welfare system but was determined and remained optimistic about helping to fix them with the community's help. Laurie doesn't shy away from controversy or challenges, and I deeply admire her commitment to making a difference in the lives of so many children.

We are very lucky that Laurie has chosen to dedicate her valuable time and tremendous talent to make the University of Hawaii the best it can be. I am honored to testify on her behalf and urge her speedy confirmation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

Coralie Chun Matayoshi, University of Hawaii Emeritus Regent

Coralie.matayoshi@gmail.com

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/17/2022 12:53:32 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maura Okamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Laurie Tochiki for a seat on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. I have known Laurie for over 25 years, since we first met when I was a student at WSRSL and she was the faculty advisor to the Client Counseling Team, of which I was a member. I found Laurie to be one of the most helpful faculty members, who always had students' best interests in mind. Throughout the years I have stayed in contact with Laurie, being involved with the Kids First program at Family Court and also as member of Hawaii Women Lawyers and as a board member for the Law School Alumni Association. I know that she will be an asset to the Board of Regents and will help the University do its best for all students.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/17/2022 6:00:46 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Mon Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit testimony in SUPPORT of the confirmation of Laurie Ariel Tochiki for a seat on the Univ. of Hawaii Board of Regents. I have known and worked with Ms. Tochiki in many capacities over several decades but most closely on a daily basis for about 8 years between 1999 through 2006 at UH Richardson School of Law. Along with the law school dean, Ms. Tochiki and I formed the senior administration in the running of the law school. That period was one of great challenges, including 9/11, a University strike and deep budget cuts resulting in limited support staff for administration. Therefore, while we three deans each had our separate roles, there was great overlap and team work necessary to carry out our mission.

Ms. Tochiki was an outstanding administrator and colleague. The growth and development of the law school during her tenure speaks for itself. Her prior experience as an alumna, practicing lawyer, administrator and faculty member gave her a unique understanding of the variety of issues facing the law school and its constituents. Of course, beyond skills, her work style and habits were always solid, reliable, and thorough combined with good humor and composure. More importantly, and what I will always cherish, is the heart that she brought to her role in any matter. She was wise and loved by students, referred to as Auntie Laurie, because of her reputation of compassion paired with good judgement and values. We worked extraordinarily well as a team for the benefit of the law school. I have no doubt she will do the same for the board and the university.

Thank you,

Carol Mon Lee



THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES, INC.
Ending the Cycle of Homelessness

Aloha Members of the Hawaii State Senate,

My name is Connie Mitchell and I serve as Executive Director for IHS, The Institute for Human Services whose mission it is to offer solutions to homelessness for a board spectrum of individuals experiencing such. It's my pleasure to offer you my support for the confirmation of Dr. Laurie Tochiki, J.D., Ph.D. to serve on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I worked with Laurie during a five-year period when I served on the Board of Directors for EPIC Ohana, the non-profit organization which Laurie Tochiki has led as Executive Director for the last 10 years. We were also in the same cohort of Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation Fellows that trained together as non-profit executive directors. I continue to connect and consult with her since leaving her board as the mission of EPIC Ohana often interfaces with the mission of IHS. I consider her an esteemed colleague and I appreciate deeply her passion for the youth and adults alike.

As a local girl who was educated in the local public school system, who also went away to college on the Continent and returned to complete a law degree and also a Ph.D. in Education policy from the University of Hawaii, Laurie has unique educational and life experiences that would serve the UH Board of Regents well in their responsibilities to preserve and further the mission of the University of Hawaii. Our State would be blessed to have such an accomplished and passionate woman to serve in this capacity.

Dr. Tochiki's achievements are many as her curriculum vitae would demonstrate. But it is her heart for young people and her determination to offer them the best possible opportunities to excel in life that make her such a distinguished candidate for this role as a UH Regent. She is also an University of Hawaii alumna with a desire to afford the kind of quality education she had access to in shaping her own career. I imagine that the Board would have a challenge finding a candidate more suitable for this role than Dr. Tochiki. Please confirm her appointment to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my perspectives for your confirmation process.

Connie Mitchell, M.S. APRN (also an University of Hawaii alumna)

IHS, The Institute for Human Services, Inc. is Hawaii's oldest, largest and most comprehensive homeless services agency focused exclusively on ending and preventing homelessness in Hawaii. IHS is a 501 (c) (3) charitable non-profit organization. IHS EIN: 99-0199107



**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT
G.M. 806**

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Troy J.H. Andrade, Ph.D., J.D.

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of G.M. 806, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, LAURIE TOCHIKI, for a term to expire 06-30-2027.

DATE: Tuesday, April 19, 2022
TIME: 2:05 P.M.
PLACE: State Capitol, Conference Room 225
415 South Beretania Street

I write today in *strong support* of Governor David Y. Ige's nomination of Dr. Laurie A. Tochiki to serve as a Regent for the University of Hawai'i.

I have known and interacted with Dr. Tochiki for over a decade and I can imagine no better candidate to be a Regent. I first interacted with Dr. Tochiki when I was a law student. She reminded me of the women in my family—brilliant, soft spoken, and kind. And, she would not let you slack off. She provided you with the resources you needed to succeed, but pushed you to be the best version of yourself. As a first-generation college and law student, Dr. Tochiki was always available if I needed advice or support.

In recent years, I have interacted with Dr. Tochiki as she has been an avid supporter of the William S. Richardson School of Law, the Law School's Ulu Lehua Scholars Program, and the Law School's Patsy T. Mink Legislative Fellowship. In my capacity as a law professor and director of the Ulu Lehua Scholars Program, I have found Dr. Tochiki to be a tremendous community partner to ensure the success of our school and program. She has written a pivotal dissertation about the Ulu Lehua Scholars Program that describes the significance of this jewel at the Richardson Law School. Her work has served as a roadmap for ensuring the continued success of the program. This year, the Mink Fellowship—created while Dr. Tochiki was Associate Dean of Student Services and with her encouragement—celebrates twenty years. For the last two decades of the Mink Fellowship, which sends one Richardson student to work in the Washington, D.C. office of one of our congressional members, Dr. Tochiki has served as a member of the selection committee. Without a doubt, she has been the cornerstone of the fellowship's success.

These personal interactions show the work that Dr. Tochiki has done to ensure everyone is successful. She is the epitome of ensuring equity, access, and inclusion in higher education.

But, personal interactions aside, I encourage you to confirm Dr. Tochiki as a UH regent because she has a breadth of experience rarely found in nominees in that she has attended UH as a student, served as a faculty member and administrator, and was a parent to a UH student. She understands the intricacies of services (i.e., mental health, Title IX, academic support, financial aid, admissions) provided to students. She understands how to make decisions that affect multiple constituencies. She also has experience leading successful organizations, which provides her skills necessary to assist in the work of the Regents. Finally, her work as a law clerk, lawyer, and law professor provides her with the necessary skills to analyze complex issues.

Dr. Laurie A. Tochiki, therefore, has the skills and background that will complement the current members of the UH Board of Regents and make her a successful team member to ensure the success of the University of Hawai'i. I respectfully urge your confirmation of Dr. Tochiki.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/18/2022 7:36:09 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nahelani Webster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Submitting strong support for Laurie Tochiki who I have had the pleasure of volunteering with in support of the Patsy T Mink Fellowship. Laurie is an excellent leader with an admirable dedication to the community and helping others. Wholeheartedly support her appointment to the UH Board of Regents.

Testimony in SUPPORT of Dr. Laurie Tochiki

HRE April 19, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

GM 806

TO: The Honorable HRE Chair, Donna Mercado Kim
The Honorable Vice Chair, Michelle N. Kadani

FROM: Patrick K.S.L. Yim, Judge of the First Circuit, Retired

RE: SUPPORT for GM 806

Mahalo for allowing me this opportunity to testify in support of Laurie Tochiki, who has been nominated to serve on the University of Hawaii, Board of Regents.

In my almost 24 years of service as a member of the Hawaii State Judiciary, of which 13 years were in the Family Court of the First Circuit, followed by 18 years as a Trustee of the Liliuokalani Trust, I have an understanding and appreciation for, not only the relationship between families, the law, and our Community, but also the nature and quality of services being extended to help families in stress. As a member of Board of Directors of EPIC, Ohana Conferencing, for an extended period, I have come to appreciate the extensive breadth of Dr. Tochiki's very warm aloha for others, her dedication, her leadership, her expertise, her compassion and her drive on behalf of others. Her resume and her accomplishments bespeak of the kind of individual that would lead, serve and greatly benefit the University of Hawaii in its kuleana, promise and role in effectively preparing those who will lead the Hawaii of tomorrow.

For these reasons, I voice my strong support for your favorable consideration of GM 806.

Mahalo nui hou for this opportunity.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Judge Patrick K.S.L. Yim, Retired

April 18, 2022

Aloha Senators,

I am writing in support of Laurie Tochiki. I graduated from the William S. Richardson School of Law and it was there that I met Dean Tochiki. I also had the pleasure of working with her while she helped with the Client Counseling Team of which I was a part of. The first impression she gives is that of warmth and intelligence. Her advice was always so concise and spot on. She made a difference to me and I'm sure many other law students. She was never one to yell to get her point across. Her words spoke volumes but also, she led by example. She showed up on time. She made time for the students. She always made others feel valued. It is those qualities that make her such a great leader and problem solver. I believe that her commitment to UH and her desire to make it better is what will make her an asset as a member of the UH Board of Regents. Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Sincerely,

Doris Lum

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/18/2022 9:52:23 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tia Roberts Hartsock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Mercado Kim and Vice Chair Kidani -

I am Tia Roberts Hartsock and am writing as a community member in strong support of Dr. Laurie Tochiki to be considered and confirmed as a Board of Regent to the University of Hawaii. I have known Dr. Tochiki for almost 20 years in a professional capacity and have had the honor of working with her on child welfare, mental health and criminal justice efforts. In our working relationship, Dr. Tochiki has displayed stellar ethics in judgement and decision making and provides a sense of quiet and confident leadership that allows creativity to take place. Her passion to improve the quality of care for youth and families, to uplift and support students and staff in their own professional development and mentor the next generation to continue to build upon the strengths of our communities is amazing to witness.

As the Chair of the Act 209 Trauma-Informed Care Task Force, a lecturer at the University of Hawaii and a graduate from the Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health masters program, I am happy and privileged to provide my support to Laurie as a colleague and a friend. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit my testimony in support of Dr. Tochiki.

With aloha,

Tia Roberts Hartsock, MSW, MSCJA



SAPOLU

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808.466.1520

April 18, 2022

TO: SENTATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

RE: **Letter in Strong Support of Laurie Tochiki**

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and Senators of the Committee on Higher Education,

This letter is submitted in strong support of Gubernatorial Nominee Laurie Tochiki for a five year term on the Board of Regents for the University of Hawaii. I first met Dean Tochiki in 2007 when I entered law school at the William S. Richardson School of Law. In a stress filled and intimidating point of my life, she was a source of constant support and understanding. In her role as Dean of the law school, she ensured that the concerns of every student was considered in carrying out her administrative duties. Her commitment to equality, fairness, and the legacy of CJ Richardson, was evident in her everyday work.

I am confident that she will bring this type of commitment as a Regent for all of UH and its many students. Though you may meet hundreds or thousands of people in your lifetime, there are only a few that leave lasting impressions – Dean Tochiki has definitely been one of those in my life. I would not have made it through law school without her.

Respectfully,

CHASID M. SAPOLU Esq.

Trisha Y. Nakamura, Esq.
P.O. Box 61619, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96839

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education
Date: April 18, 2022
Re: GM 806; Strong Support for the Nomination of Laurie Tochiki to the Board of Regents
Hrg: April 19, 2022 at 2:05 p.m.

(This testimony is offered in my personal capacity.)

I write to share my strong support of the nomination of Laurie Tochiki to the Board of Regents. I have known Laurie Tochiki in different capacities. I first met then Dean Tochiki as a student at the William S. Richardson School of Law (Richardson). I became employed as a post-JD Fellow on child welfare matters and understood she was a stellar well-respected practitioner in the Family Law arena. Now, as I interface with Laurie in her role as the Executive Director EPIC 'Ohana and talk with her to garner insight into my roles at Richardson, I see her as a paramount leader who serves as administrator, relationship builder, and strategist.

Her confirmation as a Regent would benefit the State, our communities, and the University of Hawai'i. She would bring with her the wisdom and experiences gathered from work as an attorney, University administrator, program manager, and also nonprofit executive director. She also brings a unique set of skills built from her work and training with children, families, education, and the law.

SETTING THE BAR HIGH WITH COMPASSION

Then Dean Tochiki always set the bar high for her students at Richardson. She brought humanity and compassion to her work with students. She was respectful and kind—even when she made tough unpopular decisions. It is these characteristics of respect and care that help enable her ability to move projects forward and united people. She has the ability to convey that what is done has been contemplated and has a basis.

LEADING WITH CALM INTENTION

Laurie is charged and tasked with providing critical services to some of our most needy families and children—those engaged in the child welfare system. She has led EPIC Ohana and expanded their capacity and reach. This is not surprising as she worked with partners in the Judiciary and private sector to as the Director of Child Welfare Projects which brought together experts from various disciplines to improve the child welfare system. Her work and mind are strategic with the goal of being impactful.

SERVING COMMUNITIES WITH SELFLESSNESS

I must share that Laurie is selfless and kind people. She finds the time to contribute to initiatives that benefit others. She gives back. She supports those in her communities. Laurie also is dedicated to her family. I note this as the work of the Board of Regents is important and critical, requiring significant time and work, understanding issues, researching matters, and responding to the needs of our community internally and externally. Laurie will take this work seriously because it must be done and because she is called to do it.

I ask that you confirm Laurie A. Tochiki to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

GM-806

Submitted on: 4/18/2022 2:33:52 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/19/2022 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Whitten	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Laurie Tochiki is one of the most amazing educators I have ever encountered throughout my academic career. She was a tremendous asset to the law school and will be an amazing Regent.