

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawaii

Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 a.m
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 502

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 502, the appointment of Anne Lopez to be Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

From May 2015 through December 2022, Anne held numerous roles within the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), including as Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Operating Officer. In these roles, she was responsible with leading the in-house legal department, which includes the corporate director of risk management, a staff of attorneys, and legal support staff in providing legal counsel and healthcare risk management services for Hawaii's state-owned healthcare system and all its affiliates. She was also responsible with working to facilitate the passage of healthcare legislation and ensured system-wide compliance with federal and state laws.

In addition to her work at HHSC, Anne also has a diverse background of public and private service. She served as a Special Assistant to Attorney General David Louie, a Transaction and Litigation Associate/Of Counsel at the Law Firm of Chun, Kerr, Dodd, Beaman and Wong, a Litigation Associate at the Law Firm of Kobayashi, Sugita and Goda, and was a Law Clerk for Hawaii State Supreme Court Justice Paula Nakayama. In these roles, Anne worked to collaborate and build relationships with elected officials, state agencies, and community stakeholders.

Testimony of the Governor

G.M. No. 502

April 12, 2023

Page 2

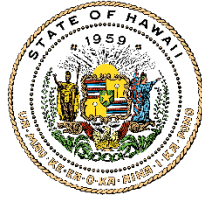
Anne earned her Juris Doctorate graduating *Summa cum Laude* from the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law and earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from San Jose State University in California.

For the reasons above, I am confident that Anne Lopez has the experience necessary to serve the State well in her role as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
JUDICIARY**

**Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 AM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 016 and Videoconference

**In Consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 502
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANNE LOPEZ,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON 12-07-2026**

Governor's Message 502 submits for consideration as the Attorney General, Department the Attorney General, Anne Lopez for a term to expire on December 7, 2026. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this nomination.**

Ms. Lopez has spent the last eight (8) years with the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), most recently as the Vice-President and General Counsel. She started with HHSC as the Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel in May of 2015.

Prior to her work with HHSC, Ms. Lopez was a Special Assistant to the Attorney General, State of Hawaii, for three years, where she worked on facilitating passage of the Administration's legislative agenda, including marriage equality and medical marijuana legislation. Ms. Lopez' work at the Department of the Attorney General afforded her an opportunity to work with most state administrative agencies and legislators and provided her familiarity with the legislative process.

Ms Lopez gained litigation experience in private practice at two of Hawaii's top law firms. She clerked for Hawaii Supreme Court Justice Paula Nakayama and served as a summer Law Clerk for Dwyer, Imanaka, Kudo, Meyer and Fujimoto in 1999 and for Kobayashi, Sugita and Goda in 2000. From 1985 through 1999 Ms Lopes worked mainly in the area of Occupational Health mainly in Hawaii, but also in Denver, Colorado. During the latter part of this period, Ms. Lopez also attended the William S. Richardson Law School, graduating summa cum laude in May 2001.

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Ms. Lopez has the drive and intelligence to finish any task she sets out to do. Her legal and practical expertise in healthcare complements the Green Administration's focus on improving the health systems in our state.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the Governor's nominee for Attorney General, Anne Lopez.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

April 12, 2023

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2023
Time: 10:01 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 16 & Videoconference, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: G.M. 502; Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

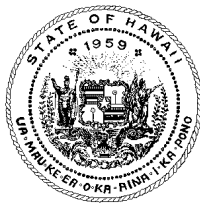
The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Anne E. Lopez as Attorney General to the Department of the Attorney General (ATG).

Ms. Lopez possesses the knowledge and experience to successfully lead the ATG. Ms. Lopez has a stellar work history and dedication to public service. She served as the Special Assistant to former Attorney General David M. Louie and as the Vice President and General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. In both roles, she served as an executive team member and was responsible for overseeing the critical operations and facilitating collaboration with legislators and stakeholders. Ms. Lopez is a well-respected leader and is committed to guiding the State through the legal challenges of today and tomorrow.

The DLIR is confident that Ms. Lopez will provide excellent legal services and guidance in a timely manner. We look forward to working with her and her team on labor and employment matters.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 502.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Michael J. Hoffman
Acting Deputy Director
Corrections

William F. Oku
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 502
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE ANNE LOPEZ

By
Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 12, 2023; 10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016 & Via Video Conference

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in strong support of the nomination and confirmation of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General. Her vast knowledge of federal and state laws, and strategic planning make her the ideal person to lead the Department of the Attorney General.

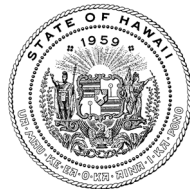
Ms. Lopez's legal background as an attorney with various organizations, coupled with her in-depth knowledge of the operations of non-profit organizations, private sector businesses, and government operations is very impressive and ideal for the position of

Attorney General. She clearly possesses the prerequisite knowledge, honed leadership and managerial skills, and interpersonal skills required of such a complex and far-

reaching position. I strongly urge the committee to recommend advise and consent for this highly qualified nominee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 502 and the confirmation of Ms. Anne Lopez.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 502

April 12, 2023
10:01 a.m.
Room 016 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANNE LOPEZ, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-07-2026.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General. I am working with Ms. Lopez in my professional capacity as Director of Finance. In this capacity, I have the confidence knowing that Ms. Lopez is on top of the situation ensuring that we are within the legal parameters of the law. She has also shown her ability to dive deep into legal matters and understand the implications her decisions will have on government operations. Her opinion on the prior administration's position on grants-in-aid allowed the state to provide the necessary support to numerous social safety net organizations in our community. Her leadership in that instance showed her ability to tackle issues of statewide importance.

I have known Ms. Lopez for over 10 years, when we both served for the Abercrombie Administration, and in that time, I have known her to be a person of strong work ethic and integrity. She has demonstrated the ability to work with all levels of personnel, from staff, to CEOs, and to the Governor, Anne has always provided legal support that has provided the confidence to proceed knowing that the organizations' actions are legally compliant. Anne also has, through her experience at Hawaii Health System Corporation, demonstrated a sound understanding of direct operations and the impact legal decisions can have on the day-to-day responsibilities of organizations. She has the vast experience to know how to run the Attorney General's office in the most efficient and effective way possible. Anne is a leader of the highest quality.

Ms. Lopez is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Ms. Lopez has been serving as the Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General since December 2022. Prior to that, she was the Special Assistant to the Attorney General from 2013 to 2015, and she also held various positions with the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation since 2015 with the most recent as Vice President and General Counsel since January 2021. Her work experience will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I strongly support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/12/2023

Time: 10:01 AM

Location: CR 016 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Judiciary

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: GM 0502 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Purpose of Bill:

Department's Position:

As the Superintendent of the Hawaii State Department of Education, I support Governor's Message 502, nominating Anne Lopez as Attorney General. I have had the pleasure of working with Anne, and she will be an exceptional addition to our state's leadership.

In my experience working with Anne, I have found her to be a highly competent and effective leader. She is an excellent communicator who is able to explain legal concepts in a way that is understandable to non-lawyers. She is also highly ethical, always working with integrity and putting the best interests of the people of Hawaii first.

As the former CEO and general counsel for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Ms. Lopez has displayed an exceptional ability to navigate complex legal issues and make sound decisions that benefit the organization and its stakeholders. Her work at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation included overseeing the legal department and providing guidance on a range of legal matters, including contracts, regulatory compliance, and labor law.

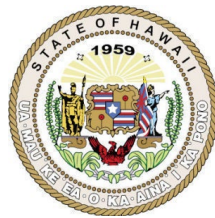
Prior to her time at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Ms. Lopez served as a special

assistant to former Hawaii Attorney General David Louie, where she worked on various high-profile cases and developed a deep understanding of the legal landscape in Hawaii. Ms. Lopez's experience in the Attorney General's office will undoubtedly prove invaluable as she takes on the role of Attorney General herself.

I have no doubt that Ms. Lopez will serve the people of Hawaii well in this critical role. Her private and public sector experience uniquely qualifies her to lead the Attorney General's office. Please support the nomination of Anne Lopez.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



JORDAN LOWE
DIRECTOR

Michael S. Vincent
Deputy Director
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

VACANT
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 502
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF ANNE E. LOPEZ
TO BE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

By
Jordan Lowe, Director

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 12, 2023; 10:01 a.m.
CR 016 & Via Video Conference

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

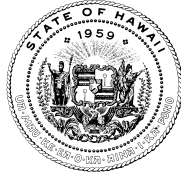
I submit this testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Anne E. Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General (AG).

Ms. Lopez has extensive work experience in both the private sector and state government. Her decade of experience in leadership roles and over twenty years in litigation work makes her a qualified candidate to take on the duties and responsibilities, complexities, and authority as the Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 502 and the confirmation of Ms. Lopez.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawai'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawai'i*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRMAN, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. DUCATT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawai'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
HEARING ON APRIL 12, 2023 AT 10:01AM IN CR 016

IN SUPPORT OF

GM 502

for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General,
Department of the Attorney General,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **ANNE LOPEZ**,
for a term to expire 12-07-2026

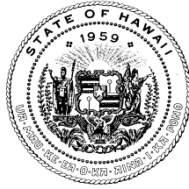
April 12, 2023

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General for the Department of the Attorney General (AG).

Ms. Lopez's diverse work background will provide both structure and a fresh perspective for the AG. Ms. Lopez's work in the health sector as Vice President and General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation adds to her knowledge and expertise in the legal sector. Ms. Lopez's experience in government affairs, compliance with federal and state law, and as a board member for non-profit organizations reflects a wide range of skills that DHHL is confident Ms. Lopez will apply toward her leadership of AG.

DHHL looks forward to working in partnership with Anne Lopez and we respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 A.M.
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
State Capitol

In consideration of
Governor's Message 502
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of
the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez

Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** Ms. Anne Lopez as the Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General (AG).

Ms. Lopez received her Juris Doctor from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and her bachelors from San Jose State University. She recently served as vice president and general counsel for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.

Ms. Lopez has a robust law background that will undoubtedly provide well-informed decision making in her role as the Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 502 – Consideration and Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Anne Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, State of Hawaii

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I am respectfully writing in strong support of gubernatorial nominee Anne Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, State of Hawaii.

I first met Anne when she was in private practice working with my husband at Chun Kerr Dodd Beaman & Wong. Since then, she has been able to effectively transition to the public sector working as a Special Assistant at the Department of the Attorney General's Office as well as continuing to diversify her legal career in her last role as the Vice President and General Counsel for the Hawaii Health System Corporation. Given these varied practices of law and strengthening of management skills, I believe Anne has the background and experience to guide the Department of the Attorney General's Office positively forward. As a client, I believe Anne is accessible and responsive to the needs of the Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission. And, as a colleague and friend, I believe she has the work ethic and commitment to be a successful Attorney General for the State of Hawaii given her straightforwardness and no-nonsense attitude.

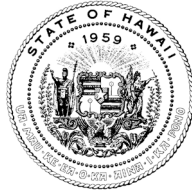
Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter and ask the Committee to support the nomination of Anne.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao".

Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao
Executive Director

JOSH GREEN
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Wednesday, April 12, 2023

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 502
NOMINATION OF ANNE LOPEZ, ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of Governor Josh Green's nomination of Anne Lopez for Attorney General (AG).

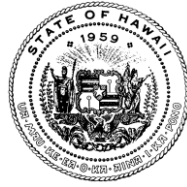
Ms. Lopez served as Vice President and General Counsel for Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) leading the in-house legal department including the corporate director of risk management and a staff of attorneys for Hawai'i's state-owned health care system and its affiliates.

She has also served as HHSC's Chief Operating Officer (COO), as Special Assistant to Attorney General David M. Louie, and as an attorney for the law firm Chun Kerr Dodd Beaman & Wong.

In these roles, she created opportunities for collaborative processes between elected officials, state agencies, and community stakeholders to facilitate the passage of healthcare legislation and ensured system-wide compliance with federal and state laws.

Ms. Lopez is prepared to take on the legal challenges facing the state and provide effective leadership to the Department of the Attorney General and I whole heartedly support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM502
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of
the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire at
noon on 12-07- 2026.

SENATOR KARL RHOADS, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: 4/12/2023

Room Number: 016

1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the nomination of Anne
2 Lopez as Attorney General for the Department of the Attorney General (ATG).

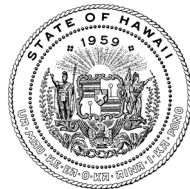
3
4 Ms. Lopez's work experience began on the frontlines in healthcare, and the trajectory of her
5 career helping others culminates in the nomination as Hawaii's top law enforcement official.
6 She will be able to bring the perspectives of day-to-day operations, middle management, legal
7 scholarship and practice, government affairs, and executive leadership to a complex agency
8 dealing with nearly all sectors of government and society.

9
10 DOH recalls the energy, determination, and sense of social justice that she brought to work on
11 medical cannabis and marriage equality, both of which were issues that intersected the
12 Department of Health and the Department of the Attorney General. Her recent opinions on the
13 release of grants pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, reveals the same focus on
14 impacts to real people, just as in her early career as an occupational therapist. DOH looks
15 forward to Anne's leadership of this critical agency to address Hawaii's most pressing issues.

16
17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

18

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 502

April 12, 2023
10:01 a.m.
Room 016 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANNE LOPEZ, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-07-2026.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

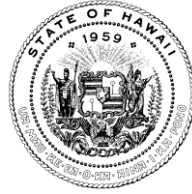
I strongly support the appointment of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General (AG). I am working with Ms. Lopez in my professional capacity as Deputy Director of Finance.

Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Ms. Lopez is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Ms. Lopez has been serving as the Attorney General of the AG since December 2022. Prior to that, she was the Special Assistant to the Attorney General from 2013 to 2015, and held various positions with the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation since 2015 with the most recent being Vice President and General Counsel since January 2021. Her work experience will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA
SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE
DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

**Testimony of
DEAN I HAZAMA
Deputy Director for the
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 AM
Conference Room 016**

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 502 RELATING TO
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE ANNE LOPEZ
ATTORNEY GENERAL AND DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General and to the position of the Director for the Department of the Attorney General.

In the short time I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Lopez, she has been very knowledgeable and exhibited a collaborative leadership style on working several issues of concern for our department. Her past experience and background serving in the Attorney General's office will be a great asset to the people of Hawaii. In addition, her familiarization in working with other Hawaii departments and the Legislature will be invaluable for continuing positive relationships required as the State's Attorney General.

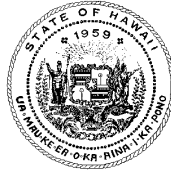
Anne Lopez has always demonstrated her willingness to help those in need, is unafraid to tackle the tough issues but most importantly, she is the best person for this job.

As Governor Green's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our State in a direct and forthright manner, Anne Lopez will be an integral part of the team to achieve the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

RYAN YAMANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

Statement of
BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of
GM502 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General,
Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez, for a
term to expire 12-07-2026

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chairs Gabbard, and the members of the committee.

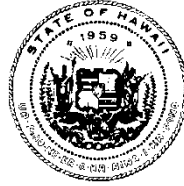
We strongly support the appointment of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General.

Ms. Lopez is well-qualified to lead in this capacity as she has a proven track record of public service as both an attorney and in administrative capacities. Her prior experience as the Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Operating Officer of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, and as the Special Assistant to the Attorney General has afforded her the opportunity to gain extensive knowledge of the legal, administrative, and public policy issues impacting the state.

Since her appointment, I have found Ms. Lopez to be well-informed regarding the myriad legal issues affecting the state and the nation. She has also been responsive and collaborative regarding our department's needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 AM – Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 502
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
ANNE LOPEZ, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026

Honorable Chair Rhoads and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 502, to consider and confirm Ms. Anne Lopez as Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General.

I have known Ms. Lopez for many years, and I am honored to be working alongside with her in Governor Green's administration. She is an integral part of a team that is committed to addressing the many issues facing our State and I believe that she will be able to effectively fulfill her role through her life experiences and professional expertise.

There is no doubt in my mind that her hard work ethic and integrity will be great assets to the State of Hawaii, and she will bring a fresh perspective in developing sound and thoughtful policy for generations to come.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 502. We humbly request your favorable consideration.

GM-502

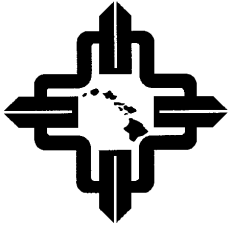
Submitted on: 4/11/2023 4:30:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calvert G. Chipchase	Testifying for Cades Schutte, LLP	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I've had the honor to work with Ms. Lopez when she served as the Vice President & General Counsel at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC"). My firm was hired to represent HHSC in several matters, including a challenging litigation matter. In all matters, Ms. Lopez was engaged in and actively managed each matter. Without exception, Ms. Lopez helped guide the strategy and reach favorable outcomes. At all times, Ms. Lopez ensured budgets were reasonable and respected and that the interests of HHSC remained paramount, while never losing sight of the importance of furthering justice and fairness in state agencies and state actions. I am confident that Ms. Lopez would be a responsible and effective head lawyer for Hawai'i.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Quality Healthcare For All"

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

April 12, 2023
Conference Room 016
and via Videoconference
10:01 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony in Strong Support of Governor's Message 502
for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney
General, Gubernatorial Nominee,
ANNE LOPEZ

Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer
Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation

The Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) **strongly supports** Governor's Message (GM) 502, nominating Anne Lopez as the Attorney General to the Department of the Attorney General.

During nearly eight years as HHSC General Counsel, Ms. Lopez provided critical advice in legal matters and demonstrated exemplary leadership during some of HHSC's most difficult challenges. Over her tenure she developed an extensive base of knowledge not only of healthcare operations, but also labor, contracting, insurance, construction, and other issues within the context of a State agency. Her experience has provided that she is very well versed in the work of the various Executive Branch agencies the Attorney General advises. Ms. Lopez also has a great deal of experience as an administrator. Confident and forthright, yet open to other perspectives, she always made decisions focused on what was best for HHSC, the State, employees, clients, patients, and the community we serve.

HHSC strongly supports Ms. Lopez as the right choice to lead the Department of the Attorney General as we know, first-hand, that she is a woman of great aptitude, integrity, and tenacity who will serve the people of the State of Hawaii well.

HHSC respectfully urges the Committee to advise and consent to her nomination.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

April 12, 2023, 10:01 AM
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Derek Akiyoshi
Oahu Region Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Sean Sanada
Oahu Region Chief Administrative Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

GM 502

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the
Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ,
for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026

We strongly support the appointment and confirmation of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

In her previous capacity as General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (“HHSC”), we have had many opportunities to work with Ms. Lopez and gauge her abilities both as an attorney and leader. Through our interactions on a number of challenging issues, Ms. Lopez demonstrated herself to be a highly intelligent, ethical, and articulate attorney. Of equal importance, we believe that Ms. Lopez will be a skilled leader for the Department because she has a proven ability to effectively manage a large and complex organization. As just one example, Ms. Lopez played an instrumental role in facilitating the very difficult transition of the Maui Regional Healthcare System from HHSC to the private sector.

As the highest legal representative for the State of Hawaii, it is imperative that the Attorney General be a strong advocate for the rule of law and justice. Above all, the Attorney General must be genuinely committed to ensuring that the law is applied fairly and impartially to all parties. Given her track record in both the public and private sectors as well as our direct professional experiences with Ms. Lopez, we are confident that Ms. Lopez will embrace and successfully exceed all of the requisites for this important position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Anne Lopez.

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2023

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, April 12, 2023
TIME: 10:01 AM
PLACE: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

NOTICE OF HEARING

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM502

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Dan Brinkman, East Hawaii Regional CEO, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of GM502 for gubernatorial nominee, Anne Lopez, for Attorney General of the State of Hawaii. As the CEO of the East Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Lopez in her capacity of Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. She has been an invaluable resource for legal affairs to the East Hawaii Region and has lent her expertise to decision-making that has contributed to the growth and advancement of "safety-net" healthcare for Hawaii Island.

I am confident Ms. Lopez will honorably serve as our state's next Attorney General as she has worked with nearly every Executive Branch department over the last 10 years. She experienced in government operations and knows how to work with government agencies. I know she brings the necessary type of leadership to the Attorney General's office that will benefit from her ability to think critically, resolve difficult issues, facilitate collaboration, and understand complex situations. I commend her for her work in her current role as Interim Attorney General over the last four months.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express my support of GM502 for Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205
Kane'ohe, HI 96744
(808) 247-7942
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
For hearing Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Re: GM502 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the
Attorney JDC General, Department of the Attorney General,
Gubernatorial
Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-
2026.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Nominee Anne Lopez has exhibited gross negligence when submitting testimony on pending legislation this year, in the role of Attorney General. Her negligence disqualifies her from this office.

Ms. Lopez' testimony totally ignored explicit language in at least two bills, SB32 and SB52, that would enact new laws violating a highly publicized decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, and another decision by the U.S. District Court in Honolulu which was upheld by the 9th Circuit

Court of Appeals. By discussing other Constitutional issues while ignoring these two Constitutional decisions pertaining to the 15th Amendment, her testimony implicitly endorses proposed new laws about voting which are blatantly and notoriously unconstitutional according to federal court rulings.

SB32 pdf version page 6 lines 18-20 says that OHA board members shall be "elected by qualified voters who are Hawaiians, as provided by law. The board members shall be Hawaiians."

SB52 pdf version page 1 lines 14-16 says "No person shall be eligible for election or appointment to the board unless the person is Hawaiian ..."

Those racist requirements were written into the 1978 amendment to the Hawaii Constitution that created OHA; but because OHA is an agency of the State government, the federal courts ruled them contrary to the U.S. Constitution and stripped them out of the State Constitution.

The racial restriction regarding who can vote for candidates for the OHA board was ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Rice v. Cayetano*, 528 U.S. 495 (2000), by vote of 7-2.

Later in year 2000 the U.S. District Court in Honolulu, Judge Helen Gillmor presiding, ruled that there can be no racial restriction on who can run as a candidate for OHA trustee. The case was CV 00-00514 HG-BMK Arakaki et. al. vs. State of Hawaii et. al, and OHA as intervenor. I was honored to be among the multiracial group of 13 plaintiffs including 3 Native Hawaiians.

Governor Cayetano ousted all nine OHA trustees on grounds they had been illegally elected. In the election of November 2000 I ran as a candidate for OHA trustee, along with 95 other candidates for the 9 seats. There were at least a dozen so-called "non-Hawaiians" [Hawaii citizens with no native blood] among the 96 candidates; and one of them, Charles Ota, won the Maui seat. Judge Gillmor's civil rights racial desegregation decision was appealed to the 9th Circuit Court of

Appeals, and was upheld by the three-judge panel, with the final judgment filed on July 1, 2003 by Honolulu clerk Walter Chinn.

The judgment concludes: "... The State is ordered to permit otherwise qualified non-Hawaiians to run for office and to serve, if elected, as trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Section 5 of Article XII of the State Constitution and HRS Â§ 13D-2 violate the Fifteenth Amendment and the Voting Rights Act, to the extent that they require persons running for OHA trustee positions and serving, if elected, to be Hawaiian."

Ms. Lopez' testimony on SB32 and SB52 discussed difficulties regarding the 14th Amendment requirement often referred to as "one person one vote", but so far as I am aware she has never testified on the clear violation of another aspect of the 14th Amendment often referred to as the "equal protection clause" -- despite the large number of bills appropriating huge sums of money, or providing special benefits, for one favored racial group to the exclusion of all other racial groups.

I believe Ms. Lopez is disqualified from being confirmed as Attorney General because of her egregious negligence in failing to object to the unconstitutional racial restrictions on voting and candidacy in SB32 and SB52, even while her testimony discussed other constitutional issues.

But if this committee chooses to vote in favor of confirming her nomination, I believe such approval should be given only after she does two things: (1) apologize for her negligence in failing to object to the proposed racial restrictions on voting and candidacy in SB32 and SB52; and (2) promise to warn against violations of the 14th Amendment equal protection clause on all bills in 2024 which provide money or benefits that are exclusively for one racial group.



April 12, 2023 at 10:01 a.m.
Conference Room 016

Senate Committee on Judiciary

To: Chair Karl Rhoads
Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

From: Hilton R. Raethel
President and CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
GM 502, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General, Ms. Anne Lopez

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the healthcare continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities, and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to **support** the nomination of Ms. Anne Lopez as the Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General. Ms. Lopez has a long and extensive career as both an attorney and Administrative Executive. Notably, she has served the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation as General Counsel between 2017 and December of last year. In her role at HHSC, Ms. Lopez had the opportunity to work on a wide variety of projects and initiatives that impacted healthcare, and the various communities in which HHSC operates across the state.

The association and our members have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Lopez on various issues since her appointment. She has played a pivotal role in efforts to ensure that quality healthcare is available, accessible, and affordable for the State of Hawaii. She is a dedicated and committed public servant, and we look forward to working with her to increase the accessibility of healthcare in the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony for this nomination and we would urge your committee to approve Ms. Lopez's confirmation.

Phone: (808) 521-8961 | Fax: (808) 599-2879 | HAH.org | 707 Richards Street, PH2 - Honolulu, HI 96813



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Charles D. Hunter
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Christopher T. Kobayashi*
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David B. Tongg*
Caycie K. G. Wong

*A Law Corporation

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Sianha M. Gualano
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Stephen G. K. Kaneshiro
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Chelsea C. Maja

April 10, 2023

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair, Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: Wednesday, April 12, 2023
TIME: 10:01 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 016

Re: GM 502 - TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF ANNE LOPEZ AS
NOMINEE FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Committee Members:

I submit this letter in strong support of Anne E. Lopez for the position of Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, State of Hawaii.

I am the former Attorney General of the State of Hawaii, having served under Governor Neil Abercrombie from 2011 through 2014. I have been a practicing lawyer for the past 45 years, since 1978. I served as the President and Director of the Hawaii State Bar Association, Lawyer Representative for the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit, Northwest Regional Governor of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Vice Chair of the Hawaii Supreme Court Rule 19 Committee on Judicial Performance, Chair and Director of the Aloha Tower Development Corporation, and on numerous Bench Bar Committees. I served as a Co-Vice Chair on the recent Task Force on Civil Justice Improvements, which revised the Civil Rules for Hawaii's Circuit Courts.

I have worked with and observed many state Attorneys General on numerous occasions, both in Hawaii and nationally. I have also worked with many lawyers and judges during my career. I have appeared in court many, many times, both in Circuit Court and District Court. I have also

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair, Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

April 10, 2023

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appeared before the Hawaii Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit. I am very familiar with how the justice system works and the role of the Attorney General.

I strongly recommend that you select Ms. Lopez for this position. I have known Ms. Lopez for the past ten (10) years. I first met Ms. Lopez at the end of 2012 when I served as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. Ms. Lopez was hired by me to serve as the Special Executive Assistant to the Attorney General. I worked with her frequently on numerous matters and interacted with her while she served as Special Executive Assistant. Ms. Lopez handled special projects, assisted with the preparation and vetting of legislative testimony and served on numerous departmental committees. I had many discussions with her, consulted with her on a daily basis and saw her perform on many occasions. She was always well prepared, intelligent, articulate and reasonable.

After I left the Attorney General position and returned to private practice, I was retained on several occasions by Ms. Lopez to serve as litigation counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) where Ms. Lopez served as General Counsel. I worked closely with her on the handling of various lawsuits filed against HHSC. Ms. Lopez has been in public service for the past decade and has served admirably. I have thus observed Ms. Lopez in a variety of settings and find her to be a person who would make an excellent Attorney General.

Ms. Lopez is very well qualified to serve as Attorney General. First, Ms. Lopez is an excellent lawyer who understands law and policy from a practical experiential perspective and is familiar with many legal issues that apply to the State of Hawaii. She has the intelligence, legal knowledge and experience to guide the Department of the Attorney General. During her time as Special Executive Assistant, she handled major initiatives in the Department, such as the legalization of same sex marriage by the Legislature. Ms. Lopez was part of the small team of deputy attorneys general who were involved in drafting the legislation that resulted in the legalization of same sex marriage in Hawaii and providing legislative strategy to ensure that the bill became law. When she was General Counsel of HHSC, she handled the sale of certain hospitals to private insurers, and managed the transition of those hospitals to ensure better financial solvency and patient care.

Second, Ms. Lopez is very thoughtful and understands the role of government in making things better for the citizens of Hawaii. She is empathic, caring and understands the human dimensions of decisions that are made by state government and agencies, so that such decisions address the needs of both government and the people affected. She is fiscally responsible and has had involvement and responsibility for various state budgets for the agencies she has worked for.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair, Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

April 10, 2023

Page 3

Third, Ms. Lopez has the temperament, demeanor and calmness needed to succeed as Attorney General. She is calm, measured, never flustered, even-handed, fair, well balanced and unfailingly polite. She is able to listen to all sides before making a decision in order to obtain all viewpoints and perspectives. She is dispassionate and analytical, but she also understands the human dimensions of the cases that lawyers handle. She is empathic and able to understand the motivations and pressures that underlie the actions of people. She is thus able to serve all of the clients of the Department of the Attorney General, including the Governor, the Legislature, the various departments and agencies, as well as the employees of the State.

Fourth, Ms. Lopez has an impeccable reputation in the Hawaii legal community for honesty, trustworthiness, character, integrity and citizenship. In my experience she has always paid due consideration to ethical issues that arose in the various matters she handled.

Ms. Lopez will be an asset to the Administration of Governor Josh Green. She is hard working, diligent, and unflagging in her enthusiasm and passion to get the right answer and see that justice is done. She is in good health, is energetic, enthusiastic and upbeat. She will be very effective in helping move Hawaii forward over the coming years.

Very truly yours,



DAVID M. LOUIE, ESQ.

for

KOBAYASHI SUGITA & GODA, LLP



April 11, 2023

Dear Senator Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America are writing in strong support of the confirmation of Anne Lopez for Attorney General of Hawai'i.

Everytown is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country with nearly 10 million supporters including moms, mayors, survivors and everyday Americans who are fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and help save lives. At the core of Everytown are Mayors Against Illegal Guns, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and the Everytown Survivor Network. Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. Moms Demand Action campaigns for new and stronger solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our children and families. Since its inception after the tragedy at Sandy Hook School, Moms Demand Action has established a chapter in every state of the country, including Hawai'i.

Since she was appointed in December, Attorney General Lopez and her office have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to keeping the state safe from gun violence. We appreciate their leadership in responding to the U.S. Supreme Court's June 2022 decision in *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*, which jeopardized public safety in Hawai'i by making it significantly easier for people to carry concealed guns in public. AG Lopez and her team thoughtfully crafted and introduced legislation to strengthen Hawai'i's concealed carry license system in a number of key ways in response to the Court's decision that strike a balance between respecting the rights of individuals who want to carry a firearm in public and protecting against the safety risks posed by more guns being carried in more places.

We urge you to confirm AG Lopez.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sumadi
Associate Regional Director of State Government Affairs
Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action & Students Demand Action
450 Lexington Ave.
New York, NY 10163
ssumadi@everytown.org



**Parents And
Children Together**

**BUILDING THE RELATIONSHIPS
THAT MATTER MOST**

ParentsAndChildrenTogether.org

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 502

TO: Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, & Members
Senate Committee on Judiciary
FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO
DATE: April 12, 2023 at 10:01 AM

Parents and Children Together (PACT) supports GM 502, the gubernatorial nomination of Anne Lopez for the position of the Attorney General.

For the past 10 years, until her appointment as Attorney General, PACT has been fortunate to have Anne serve on our Board of Directors, including as the chair of our Governance Committee. As chair of the Governance Committee, she led discussions to ensure that our board maintained a diverse voice and perspective to reflect the communities we serve. Her leadership also resulted in PACT expanding services for domestic violence survivors, children who have been sexually abused, and poverty prevention. I see Anne's appointment as a tremendous opportunity for the State of Hawai'i to benefit from her expertise, professionalism, and servant leadership.

Founded in 1968, PACT is a statewide community-based organization providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 15,000 people across the state annually, we help identify, address, and successfully resolve challenges through our 20 programs. Among our services are early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

Anne's deep knowledge of the intersection of the law with these issues in addition to her experience with health care access and affordable housing through the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation demonstrate Anne's extensive qualifications for the role of Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.



Akamai Cannabis Consulting

3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304

Honolulu, HI 96816

TESTIMONY ON GM 502
CONFIRMATION HEARING FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNE LOPEZ

By
Clifton Otto, MD

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 12, 2023; 10:01 AM
State Capitol, Room 016 & Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to offer COMMENTS on this confirmation hearing.

Please ask Attorney General Lopez where she stands on having our dispensaries become legal producers of Cannabis under state and federal law.

References:

[HCR132 \(2021\)](#):

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO APPLY TO THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION'S OFFICE OF DIVERSION CONTROL FOR AN EXCEPTION UNDER TITLE 21 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS SECTION 1307.03, AND REQUEST FORMAL WRITTEN ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT THE LISTING OF MARIJUANA, MARIJUANA EXTRACT, AND TETRAHYDRO-CANNABINOLS AS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IN FEDERAL SCHEDULE I DOES NOT APPLY TO THE PROTECTED ACTIVITIES IN HAWAII REVISED STATUTES.

[21 USC 822\(d\)](#):

(d) WAIVER

The Attorney General may, by regulation, waive the requirement for registration of certain [manufacturers](#), [distributors](#), or [dispensers](#) if he finds it consistent with the public health and safety.

Aloha.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 502: RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF
ANNE LOPEZ AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Testimony of Ted Baker

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 10:01 a.m.

Conference Room 016

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the nomination of Anne Lopez to be Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

I have known Ms. Lopez for going on 15 years and while we first met in a social capacity, I also have come to know her in the capacity of private attorney, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, and General Counsel, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Be it over the family dinner table or while taking in a Rainbows' baseball game, we have had many discussions about issues that have arisen in the course of our shared history in law, public service, and executive management.

Please allow me to share some of the qualities that will make Ms. Lopez an excellent Attorney General.

- She has a keen intellect that allows her to quickly discern the contours of an issue, yet she does not jump to conclusions and knows when to call upon those with more expertise, especially when it comes to difficult decisions;
- While I would not say she lacks ego, her decision-making process is a calm, collaborative one, and her focus is always on achieving results, not taking credit;
- She is a leader who empowers employees by delegating authority and demanding accountability, making everyone around her better without micromanaging them; and
- She has worked with a wide array of State departments in a variety of capacities and knows the Attorney General's role is not to dictate policy to client departments in the guise of legal advice.

Some may wonder about Ms. Lopez's lack of criminal law background or the extent of her litigation experience. First, I would note that I worked for three Attorneys General, none of whom had criminal law experience to speak of before leading the Department. That did not prevent them from taking vigorous action to enforce criminal law within the Department's jurisdiction, or advocating successfully for criminal law legislation here at the Capitol. Second, the role of the Attorney General is not to appear in court herself but to manage those who do, and Ms. Lopez has abundant experience managing litigation conducted by others. Third, the Hawaii State Bar Association has found her "qualified," and that opinion carries some weight in both regards.

Finally, I commend the Governor for his commitment to make appointments that reflect the diverse nature of Hawaii's population. As it relates to gender, I can only say from long personal and professional experience that our country and our State can only benefit from the type of leadership I know Anne Lopez will provide. Please give her your support.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony of
Brenden L.J.B. Kinoshita

In consideration of G.M. No. 502

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General of the
Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial nominee, Anne E. Lopez

Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 016

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to offer testimony, in my personal capacity, in strong support of the confirmation of Anne E. Lopez to lead the Department of the Attorney General (Department) as the Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i.

As Anne's resume highlights the credentials and experiences that make her exceptionally qualified to lead the Department, I am testifying to my own experiences that illustrate the caliber of her character. I have had the privilege of working with Anne in my current role as the Administrative Services Manager for the Department as well as in my former role as the Department of Budget and Finance Program Budget Analyst assigned to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation. In both roles my experience working with Anne has been consistent. She is markedly intelligent, thoughtfully intentional, and demonstrates a steadfast commitment to justice and the rule of law.

Already as the Attorney General appointee, Anne has proven her dedication to affirming and preserving Hawai'i's robust legal structure on issues such as reproductive rights, firearms, and restoring public trust and good governance, among others. If confirmed, I know that Anne would continue to be a fair and sound advocate of the law for the benefit of the people of Hawai'i. The Legislature can be confident that, if confirmed, they have voted for a capable public servant grounded in her ethics that is a proactive problem solver whose heart resonates with a love for our state.

As a department head, despite the obvious demands of the role of the Attorney General, I have found Anne to be tireless, humble, and accessible to the many attorneys and staff she oversees; qualities that contribute to the Department's overall success and morale. Anne's leadership style is one that balances a tenacious dedication to the job with a sincere appreciation for the empowerment and well-being of those she leads.

I thank the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee for considering my testimony and strongly urge the confirmation of the nominee.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 1:27:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L. Richard Fried, Jr.	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Anne Lopez is an outstanding choice to be our Attorney General. I have known Ms.Lopez and worked closely with her for nearly a decade as (1) Special Assistant to AG David Louie, (2) as COO and General Counsel of HI Health Systems Corporation and (3) as AG while her confirmation is pending. Anne, shortly after suit was filed by the State against the two drug companies who manufactured the drug Plavix, took her position with HHSC and met with me and my law partner, Patrick McTernan, and other attorneys and department heads to assist in responding to extensive discovery requests filed by the Defendants'.

More recently, I have dealt with Ms. Lopez re the State's civil enforcement action against opioid manufacturers and in the Plavix litigation. Her intelligence, work ethic, demeanor and integrity compares favorably to any of the trial lawyers I have interacted with over my 50 year litigation practice. Ms. Lopex grasped the nuances and details of the issues in these complex pieces of litigation. I have dealt with at least 5 former HI AGs and she compares very well with any of them. We are fortunate in HI to have someone as talented as Ms. Lopez willing to serve as our AG. Thank you. Rick Fried

Testimony
Joshua Wisch
Kailua, Hawai'i

GM 502
Nomination of Anne Lopez for Attorney General

Senate Committee on Judiciary

April 12, 2023 at 10:01 am in Room 016

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee,

My name is Joshua Wisch and I am testifying in my individual capacity **in support of Anne Lopez** to be confirmed as Attorney General.

I have known Anne for almost twenty years, and I have had the good fortune of being able to work with her often during that period. Anne and I first worked together while we were fellow associates at the Chun Kerr¹ law firm. I worked at Chun Kerr from 2005 through 2008 during which time I was a litigator and Anne did transactional work. Because it was a mid-sized firm, all the attorneys worked together closely, and transactional attorneys and litigators frequently collaborated. As a result, I got to see Anne's legal work up close for years and was consistently impressed by the clarity of her legal thinking, her creative problem-solving approaches to our clients' problems, and her great partnership as a fellow attorney.

After leaving the firm I served in several different roles, eventually going to work as Special Assistant to the Attorney General under then-Attorney General David Louie in 2011. Anne and I maintained our friendship during this time, and I would regularly seek her advice and counsel. In 2013 Governor Abercrombie asked me to move from the Department of the Attorney General (ATG) to become Deputy Director of the Department of Taxation (DOTAX). Because of this move, Attorney General Louie asked me if I had any recommendations for someone to take my place as Special Assistant and my recommendation was Anne Lopez. I knew she had the agile legal mind, the problem-solving attitude, and the desire to give back through public service that would be needed to do the job. I did not make the recommendation lightly because I loved that job and deeply respected everyone at ATG. I wanted to ensure that whoever took the position would serve the department well. I knew Anne would. She was hired and held the position throughout the remainder of the Abercrombie Administration. I continued to work with her in my new position at DOTAX and—again—got to see her work firsthand as a result and—again—was deeply impressed with what she brought to the role.

Since then, Anne has continued to expand and hone her considerable skillset, serving as general counsel, vice president, and chief operating officer at Hawai'i Health Systems Corp. I

¹ At the time of our mutual employment there, it was known as Chun Kerr Dodd Beaman & Wong.

highlight this because in the five years I worked for ATG under two excellent Attorneys General, I saw that the most important attribute for an Attorney General is leadership.

The Attorney General spends most of their time doing a mix of running a department of several hundred people while also providing legal counsel to their clients including the governor, the department heads, and the members of the legislature. This counsel ranges from constitutional interpretation, to review of complex contracts and litigation, to legislative analysis. The Attorney General must be able to delegate and assemble a team with the big picture in mind. They must have the acumen to determine which lawyers in the department should handle legislative or administrative briefings, which may need to be assigned to specific litigation, and have the situational leadership skills to know when to pivot.

Anne Lopez has these attributes in spades. She has the leadership capacity, management experience, and solid judgment necessary to excel in the role of Attorney General. She has experience writing, reviewing, and negotiating complex agreements. She has experience advising department heads, the governor, and members of the legislature. She has experience running a large, critical state agency. She is calm under pressure, always maintains a good sense of humor, and is a person of excellent character.

I am happy to give my strong support to Anne Lopez's nomination, and I appreciate the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joshua Wisch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "J" and a stylized "W".

Joshua Wisch

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 3:16:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch Jr	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I support Anne to be the Attorney General.

Mahalo,,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:09:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of the appointment of Anne Lopez as Attorney General to lead the Department of the Attorney General. I have worked closely with Anne for almost eight years at the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) in her roles as Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel.

As a separate State jurisdiction by statute, HHSC has its own General Counsel rather than being advised by the Department of the Attorney General as is the case for the Executive Departments. As such, Anne was responsible for a broad array of legal matters at HHSC. She is tireless in her work ethic doing research and seeking input before reaching conclusions. Her approach to difficult issues is not to quickly throw up barriers, as attorneys sometimes do, but to constantly work in a collegial manner to find solutions. All HHSC hospitals and clinics across the state, and the communities they serve, benefited from her wise counsel.

Today the Committee will hear from supporters about the many positive attributes Anne Lopez brings to this appointment. Also please note that in my experience, there are few individuals as devoted as she to the ideal of public service. She is truly driven to work for the good of all people. I hope you will provide her the opportunity to take her idea of service to the next level as Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

IVAN M. LUI-KWAN

Pacific Guardian Center, Makai Tower
733 Bishop Street, Suite 1900
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

THE SENATE THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2023

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, April 12, 2023
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

POSITION: Support of Confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to provide my strong support of Anne Lopez as attorney general.

It is my belief that Ms. Lopez, if confirmed, will serve with distinction as attorney general. Anne Lopez is a highly qualified attorney, and in possession of valuable executive management skills. More specifically, the following are my observations of her public service commitment and skills.

- She is passionate in her public service commitment to improving the quality of life for residents of Hawaii.
- She possesses great intellectual and professional capacity to perform the duties of the attorney general.
- My observation is that she is an effective team leader and member. She works very well with State of Hawaii employees at the director and staff levels.

Testimony to Committee on Judiciary Re GM 502

April 10, 2023

Page 2

I urge your confirmation of Anne Lopez as attorney general.

Mahalo nui for allowing me to present this testimony.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan M. Lui-Kwan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the first part of the name.

Ivan M. Lui-Kwan

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 7:18:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Okubo	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to speak today. My name is Nathan Okubo and I testify in strong support of Anne Lopez's nomination as Attorney General.

I am here today in two separate capacities. First, as her cousin, by way of marriage, and second, as a practicing attorney and member of the Hawaii State Bar.

First, with respect to our family, our entire family unequivocally supports Anne's nomination. Through the twenty-five years that we have known her, Anne has always been kind, considerate, and empathetic. She cares about family and the community, and she has shown that she is not afraid to stand up and fight against injustice and inequality to help others. We think her personal characteristics will contribute to her success as Attorney General.

Second, as a practicing attorney and member of the Hawaii State Bar, I offer a few additional points for why Anne is the right person for the job at this time. Before Anne went to work for the state hospital system, like myself, Anne practiced real estate law for a private law firm. I believe her experience with and knowledge of real estate law will make her an extremely valuable asset for one very important issue facing our state today, that is, housing. In addition, with her work as general counsel and chief operating officer of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Anne's experience with and knowledge of health care law will also be critically important as our state continues to emerge out of the pandemic. And finally, Anne's experience as an executive of a large institution like Hawaii Health Systems Corporation will serve her well in being able to manage and lead the Attorney General's office.

We are all extremely proud of Anne, and know that she will make an excellent Attorney General. Thank you again.

Nathan Okubo

**Testimony of
Matthew S. Dvnoch**

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **In Support of the Nomination of Anne Lopez to the Position of
Attorney General
GM 502
Hearing Date/Time: April 12, 2023 at 10:01 a.m.**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i.

I currently serve as First Deputy Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i. In that capacity, I work very closely with AG Lopez on matters concerning the day-to-day operations of the Department as well as important legal issues faced by the State. I am writing in my personal capacity.

I first met AG Lopez when she served as Special Assistant to then-Attorney General David Louie. I was a deputy attorney general at the time and worked with her on legislative issues and several substantive legal matters involving my then-client, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. At that time, I found AG Lopez to be bright, quick-thinking, and professional when faced with thorny legal and policy issues. Her work as Special Assistant brought her in contact with the Legislature, the Judiciary, as well as just about every State agency, and she was able to speak fluently about all of them. When she decamped to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, word quickly spread of AG Lopez's good work transitioning several hospitals to private entities, which ensured their continued solvency without disrupting patient services.

In her relatively short time at the Department as Attorney General, AG Lopez has demonstrated that she possesses the leadership qualities required of the job. There are two areas where this is most evident: (1) her initiative to improve the way the Department interacts with the Legislature; and (2) her approach to litigation management.

In the past, the Department has taken a largely reactive approach to legislation, with legislators learning for the first time that a bill has constitutional or other legal problems through written and oral testimony at committee hearings. AG Lopez has committed herself and the Department to being proactive when it comes to such issues, which means working with legislators before and during the legislative session to ensure that their bills can withstand legal scrutiny. I believe this initiative is already bearing fruit, resulting in stronger bills and a healthier working relationship with the Legislature.

AG Lopez also brings to the Department a wealth of litigation management experience from her time as General Counsel and Chief Operating Office at the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation. The Department faces a steady stream of litigation involving diverse subject matter and it is very important that the Attorney General be able to manage litigation at a high level, rather than practice in the courtroom. In meetings with experienced litigation deputies, I have observed AG Lopez's ability to ask insightful questions, recommend litigation strategies to move cases forward, and make difficult executive decisions regarding whether cases settle or go to trial.

One of AG Lopez's top priorities is reducing the amount of litigation against the State by proactively working with clients to avoid legal trouble before it arises. This means having the Department's attorneys get involved with client projects in their infancy to provide advice and ensure that legal problems are headed off at a project's inception, rather than solving them on the back end, by which time litigation may be inevitable. This is an often-overlooked aspect of litigation management and has the potential to significantly reduce litigation, which will save the State time, staff resources, and money.

Above all of these qualities, though, AG Lopez possesses the one attribute most critical to being a good Attorney General: integrity. In my conversations with her, she has stressed the need to do the right thing in every situation, even if some people may not be happy with the result. She is serious about her ethical obligations as a State employee under the Hawai'i Ethics Code, as well as her responsibilities as an attorney under the Hawai'i Rules of Professional Conduct. AG Lopez has made it clear to the Department that as public servants, we must always hold ourselves to the highest ethical standards. I have full confidence that she will continue to act with the utmost integrity, without exception, if she is confirmed by the Senate.

I wholeheartedly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i and urge this committee to look favorably on her nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads
Hawai'i State Senator
Chairperson, Senate Judiciary Committee
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM 502: Testimony in Strong Support of the Confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General

Chairperson Rhoads and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am testifying in my personal capacity in **strong support** of Anne Lopez to be confirmed as Attorney General. I currently serve as the Special Assistant to the Attorney General Lopez, a unique position under Hawai'i law. *See* HRS § 28-8.5. In this position, I have had the best possible vantage point for observing Attorney General Lopez's first months on the job and can say, without equivocation, that she is not only highly qualified for the position of Attorney General, but that she was made for it.

A bit on my perspective: I love the Department of the Attorney General because it has given me numerous unbelievable opportunities so early in my career. Since joining the Department in 2015, I have been blessed with opportunities to prevail in multi-million-dollar trials, to argue cases before the Hawai'i Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and to serve as the Hearings Officer in the December 2021 emergency contested-case hearing on the Red Hill crisis. But beyond such matters, the Department of the Attorney General provides one-of-a-kind opportunities for public service and does a multitude of good work unseen by the public on a day-to-day basis.

Attorney General Lopez sees the immense potential for the Department to serve all branches of government and the public at large in her important role. I would like to emphasize four points: (1) Attorney General Lopez's background, which prepared her for her current role; (2) her desire to overhaul the way the Department works and interfaces with the Legislature; (3) her belief in elevating the Department's morale and its public perception; and (4) her character.

First, the diversity of Attorney General Lopez's background has prepared her to be Attorney General, with a breadth of experience perhaps unseen in recent times. Specifically, she has worked in the judiciary (law clerk to Justice Paula Nakayama), in private practice as a transactional and litigation attorney, at the Department of the Attorney General as then

Attorney General David Louie's Special Assistant, and as an executive leading the Hawai'i Health Services Corporation. Attorney General Lopez knows how to manage and lead a large department, to work with legislators and the media, and to direct litigation, from trial to the Supreme Court.

The wide scope of Attorney General Lopez's experience exhibits itself in numerous positive ways, but, as an example, she has shown herself to be an excellent decision-maker with respect to litigation. An Attorney General's primary role in litigation is not to take depositions, review box files of documents, or go to trial—it is instead to make the tough litigation decisions, based upon the totality of the circumstances and considering the advice of her deputies. In this role, Attorney General Lopez has excelled: she quickly understands the issues, makes sensible decisions, and provides clear directives that the trial attorneys can then use to effectuate the decision.

Attorney General Lopez has excellent instincts and is decisive, a product of her experience. Nowhere was this better seen in her public decision to not re-prosecute the thirty kapuna who were arrested in 2019 on the Mauna Kea Access Road. Whatever one thinks about this highly contentious issue, the re-prosecution of the kapuna was not in the best interest of anyone. And while she took some criticism, her decisive action to end the prosecutions was in the best interest of the State and has created conditions allowing for the State to move forward without being mired in the past.

Second, Attorney General Lopez's desire to drastically overhaul the way the Department of the Attorney General interfaces with the Legislature is among her top priorities. In the past, the Department has perhaps been perceived by the Legislature as the Department of "No," a wet blanket thrown on legislative prerogatives without the provision of helpful alternatives. This way of doing business is anathema to Attorney General Lopez.

Instead, Attorney General Lopez believes in supporting legislative initiatives and working constructively with the Legislature or individual legislators on their bills before and during session to help overcome legal defects. We want the legislators to come to us with their ideas as soon as this session is over with an eye toward next session, and we can work together to formulate bills that will pass legal scrutiny. Attorney General Lopez hopes to build trust with the Legislature, an organization that she believes is not only the Department's client, but one that stands at the heart of our democracy in this State.

Third, Attorney General Lopez wishes to improve the wellbeing and morale of ATG employees and to better promote their good work in public. I have seen numerous instances of Attorney General Lopez trying to emphasize that deputies need to find the joy in their work and to balance their work obligations with their family lives and physical and mental wellbeing. The work of a deputy attorney general, like any attorney, is one that is often stressful, with litigation deadlines and important client obligations. Attorney General Lopez believes that by improving the quality of ATG employees' day-to-day lives, the quality of legal work product will improve along with it.

As Special Assistant, I have also had the opportunity to put Attorney General Lopez's media philosophy into action: to promote the good work of deputies over her own notoriety. In my experience under previous administrations, a litigation attorney could do all of the work and win the big case, and the attorney general could take full credit in the press—with the litigation attorney who won the case remaining anonymous. This is not so with Attorney General Lopez. And even a cursory review of press releases and news stories show our news coverage is filled with the good work of individual deputies. The Department of the Attorney General is where attorneys can make a name for themselves if they so desire, and Attorney General Lopez wants to promote deputies and help them achieve their professional goals.

Fourth, Attorney General Lopez is a good person. She believes in doing the right thing, even if it is difficult. Her sense of ethics is high, and she demands those same ethical standards from everyone in the Department. She is cool under pressure and does not get angry. Attorney General Lopez has compassion for everyone and tries to see the best in people. She has a calm temperament, with a good sense of humor, which is ideally suited to the position of Attorney General.

* * *

I am honored to serve as Anne Lopez's Special Assistant, and I strongly support your recommendation that she be confirmed as Attorney General.

Sincerely,

/s/ Dave Day

Dave Day
Hawai'i Bar #9427

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/6/2023 8:38:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NO !!!

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/7/2023 1:12:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I submit testimony in support of the nomination of Anne E. Lopez as Hawaii's next Attorney General.

I have known Anne since before she started law school in the late 1990's, through her law school career and since. I also know her partner and have met her family and friends. Though my interaction with her has been sporadic in the last decade or so, I am confident I can speak to her exceptional qualities that will serve our state well.

During her law school career, Anne stood out for her maturity, beyond her excellence in academics, top leadership skills and high intelligence. She was an outstanding and highly respected member of her law school class who always exhibited high character, good temperament, excellent judgment and a deep thoughtfulness. I think I can speak for her classmates, as well administration and faculty who knew her during that period. You could rely on Anne and know that she put everything, including diligence and hard work, into whatever task or challenge she faced. Moreover, from my years of knowing Anne, she has always been modest and approachable.

Her career trajectory since graduation from law school has solidified her deep background and experience in the law - private practice, corporate work and state government. I remember speaking with her when she was special assistant to former State Attorney General David Louie. She was so positive about her work with AG Louie. I had never heard her so enthusiastic about her work!

I unequivocally support Anne Lopez for our next State Attorney General and look forward to years of her leadership.

Thank you,

Carol Mon Lee

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/7/2023 1:51:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Kobayashi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have worked Anne since 2000 when we were both Judicial Law Clerks for the Supreme Court of Hawaii. Not only does she have a strong legal mind, she also is someone with great integrity, who believes in the rule of law, and who is the type of leader that will continue to lead the AG's office with grace. I strongly support Anne to become our next AG as I have significant confidence in her ability to provide this State with the type of leadership and legal support that we need during this uncertain times.

April 7, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM 502 Testimony in Support of Anne Lopez

Aloha, Chair Rhoads:

I respectfully submit testimony in support of Anne Lopez's nomination as Attorney General.

As a former Attorney General (2015-2018), I am certain the nominee has what it takes to lead the Department of the Attorney General and to represent the State of Hawaii. I worked closely with the nominee, first for a few months when she was still the Special Assistant to the Attorney General, and then when she served as counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. In those roles and in others, the nominee has developed an extensive, broad experience in understanding and working with State agencies and the Legislature in the wide variety of matters affecting the State. The nominee has outstanding communication skills. She is fair and respectful. I have great respect for the nominee's leadership skills, demeanor, and devotion to public service. The nominee clearly understands the importance of consensus building and bringing people from all sides of difficult issues together to find solutions. The nominee is even-tempered, practical and solution-oriented. She is well-deserving of and well-positioned to make a positive impact in this new position at this very important time.

I thank the Senate Committee on Judiciary for its consideration of Anne Lopez to serve as the Attorney General and urge its members to confirm her.

Sincerely,



Doug Chin

Cronin, Fried, Sekiya, Kekina & Fairbanks

Attorneys at Law, A Law Corporation

L. Richard Fried, Jr.
Gerald Y. Sekiya
Wayne K. Kekina
John D. Thomas, Jr.
Bert S. Sakuda
Patrick F. McTernan
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Stuart A. Kaneko (Ret)
Keith K.H. Young (Ret)

April 7, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol, Conference Room 16
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **Testimony in Support of GM 502:** Consideration and Confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a Term to Expire at Noon on December 7, 2026
HEARING DATE/TIME: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Dear Chairman Rhoads, Vice-Chairman Gabbard and Distinguished Committee Members:

I am writing in wholehearted support of the appointment of Anne Lopez as Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i.

I have been a litigation attorney for more than 35 years, 32 of which have been with the law firm of Cronin, Fried, Sekiya, Kekina & Fairbanks. I have been a partner/shareholder in our firm for more than 20 years. Periodically over the last several decades, my law firm and I have been honored to be appointed Special Deputy Attorneys General to represent the State in large, complex litigation against national and multinational corporations for unfair or deceptive trade practices and/or the sale and distribution of dangerously defective products. In that capacity, I have known Anne Lopez professionally for approximately 10 years. During that time, Anne has worked with me while serving in several different roles: (1) as Special Assistant to former Hawai'i Attorney General David M. Louie; (2) as Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC"); and (3) as Attorney General while her confirmation is pending.

I first met Anne when my partner, Rick Fried, and I were engaged to represent the State in litigation against the manufacturers of the antiplatelet medication Plavix (hereinafter "Plavix Litigation"). As Special Assistant to Attorney General David Louie, Anne participated in strategy sessions leading up to the filing of the Plavix Litigation. Shortly after suit was filed, Anne became Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel for HHSC. In that position she met with me and other attorneys and department heads regarding the Plavix Litigation in order to prepare responses to the Defendants' discovery requests. Also, I personally met with Anne, one-

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
April 7, 2023
Page 2 of 2

on-one, on numerous occasions to obtain documents and interrogatory answers, and to prepare her for her deposition in the case. As a result, I had an opportunity to observe firsthand her integrity, diligence, efficiency, legal knowledge and ability, professionalism, and demeanor. I found her to be bright, thoughtful, witty (as appropriate), and diligent in gathering and compiling information and documents from personnel in the various regions under the HHSC umbrella. In preparing Anne for her deposition, I found her to be highly professional, savvy, a quick study, and appropriately cognizant of the legal implications of the questions she was asked and the importance of candor, clarity and accuracy in her answers. She easily understood the factual and legal issues being discussed, and often had thoughtful questions and comments.

More recently, I have had additional contact with Anne in her capacity as Attorney General, in both the Plavix Litigation and the State's civil enforcement action against opioid manufacturers (hereinafter "Opioid Litigation"). As Attorney General, I have found her to be tough, no-nonsense, and a committed, articulate advocate for the interests of the State and its citizens. I have also found her to be an independent thinker who listens carefully to her advisors but ultimately makes her own decisions regarding the best course of action to be pursued.

Over the roughly 10 years that I have known Anne, I have served under five other Attorneys General and/or Acting Attorneys General – David Louie, Russell Suzuki, Douglas Chin, Clare Connors, and Holly Shikada. In my view, Anne compares favorably with each of them, in terms of her integrity, intelligence, demeanor, professionalism, and the many other attributes that make for an effective and formidable Attorney General. I understand that some have suggested Anne lacks extensive experience as a trial attorney in the courtroom. I am not in a position to speak to that issue. What I can say is that, in my personal experience, Anne readily understands and appreciates the evidence, arguments, and strategies that matter in litigation – including some very complex litigation – whether or not she has extensive experience in personally cross-examining witnesses or laying the foundation for admission of evidence in court (which, for all I know, she may have).

In my humble opinion, the public and the Hawai'i legal community would be well-served (and are being well-served) with Anne Lopez as their Attorney General. I support her confirmation as Attorney General wholeheartedly and without reservation, and I urge this Committee and the entire Senate to do the same.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this input.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Patrick F. McTernan

Patrick F. McTernan

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/8/2023 2:06:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in opposition of this nominee. I question her judgement on hiring an outside attorney (Contractor) to defend the State on a lawsuit. Is our regular DAGs not good enough or experienced to defend this lawsuit. I question her fiscal management as to expend tax payer money to pay an outsider, rather than her own DAGs. I request that you ask her for the justification on this issue. Mahalo..

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/8/2023 2:21:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard,

I oppose the confirmation of Anne Lopes to Attorney General.

I recently found out that on March 21st AG Lopez submitted a motion Pro Hac Vice to have a lobby organization attorney, Wayne J. Taylor Jr., defend the state against a lawsuit from the National Association of Gun Rights, challenging Hawaii's assault weapons ban and their magazine ban. To no surprise, the motion was approved on March 23rd.

Wayne J. Taylor is an attorney for the lobbyist organization "Everytown for Gun Safety," a dark money funded group.

I find this to be a serious conflict of interest by having an attorney for the same group that lobbied legislators for the passage of the same law to be deputized by AG Lopez to defend it in Federal court.

Additionally, in one of her first acts after her appointment by Governor Green on December 5, 2022, AG Lopez signed on to an Amicus Brief brought forth by 17 other State AGs in support of a lawsuit by private citizens (parents) in Florida against the State's Parental Rights in Education Act. Not only does this lawsuit have nothing to do with Hawai'i, in my opinion it violates her basic enumerated responsibilities as the chief legal officer and chief law enforcement officer of the State of Hawaii, which are:

1. appears for the State in civil and criminal cases when the State is a party;
2. investigates violations of state laws, and initiates civil and criminal actions to enforce the laws or prosecute persons who violate them;
3. prepares legal opinions for the Governor, the Legislature, and the heads of state departments;
4. advises state officials on legal matters so that they may faithfully execute their duties and responsibilities; and
5. defends and represents state officials and employees when they are sued for actions they have taken or are about to take in connection with their state positions.

Furthermore, AG Lopez has no experience in law enforcement, she was a real estate lawyer prior to becoming a special assistant (not a Deputy AG) to Attorney General David M. Louie, then she

was General Council for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation which is a public body corporation and agency of the State (§323F-2).

As a concerned voter and resident, it is my opinion AG Lopez will be an activist AG and perform her duties based on her personal biases rather than the law. Hawai'i deserves an AG that knows criminal law and understands law enforcement. As Governor Green stated after her appointment, "*I consider her an effective manager...*", we don't need a manager as the chief legal officer and chief law enforcement officer of the State, we need a leader who will uphold our laws without an agenda!

Mahalo,
Brett Kulbis
Ewa Beach

TESTIMONY OF
CARRIE K. S. OKINAGA

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
April 12, 2023
10:01 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 016

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 502 RELATING TO
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE ANNE LOPEZ
FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee:

I support the nomination of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General.

In the relatively short period of time I have worked with her as the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii, I have been impressed by her willingness to listen and her commitment to serve day and night in this tremendously important leadership role for the State. Her knowledge of and experience in government and working with both the executive and legislative branches of our State government are impressive and have really allowed her to hit the ground running. I admire her confidence and desire to take on difficult and challenging issues, with her direct yet easygoing personality and her much-needed sense of humor.

In summary, I believe Attorney General Lopez is not just qualified to be confirmed, but also that Governor Green and the people of Hawaii are extremely well-served by her appointment to this position. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/8/2023 3:51:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Hanson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 2:24:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roger Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Anne Lopez for the position of Attorney General. Anne is a hard working, kind individual who will work tirelessly to make Hawaii a better place.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 2:38:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Okubo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Anne Lopez for Attorney General. She has the right temperament, a calm disposition, and leadership skills to succeed in this position. Please confirm her for Attorney General. Thank you.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 2:59:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stanley Kuriyama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I've personally known Anne Lopez for over 10 years. During that time, I have found her to have the highest moral and ethical standards. We need people in government, particularly the Attorney General of the State, who can be dependably counted on to act with integrity, courage and respect for the law and our community. I have no doubt that Anne will meet all of those requirements, and then some. I strongly support her nomination as our State Attorney General. Very truly yours, Stan Kuriyama

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 3:25:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Enid Okubo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Anne Lopez for Attorney General. I believe she has the right leadership skills and experiences that will benefit the State of Hawaii. Personally, Anne is compassionate and caring, but she also has the capability and the tenacity to affect change. Please confirm Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 5:18:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelli Okubo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Anne Lopez for Attorney General

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 7:53:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scudder Briggs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of this candidate.

AERI Y. TILKER

April 9, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Members of the Judiciary Committee
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM502 – Nomination of Anne Lopez, Esq.
Attorney General

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I submit this testimony in strong support of Ms. Anne Lopez's confirmation as Attorney General. Ms. Lopez's distinctive career makes her singularly prepared to lead the Department of the Attorney General.

I have known Ms. Lopez since 2015 – initially in my prior capacity as a Deputy Attorney General and later as an Associate General Counsel at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC"). From 2015-2016, I had the opportunity to work alongside Ms. Lopez in a complex matter. During that time, I observed Ms. Lopez's exceptional legal abilities, as demonstrated by her negotiation skills and legal advocacy, and commitment to public service. From 2016-2020, I had the privilege of working under Ms. Lopez's supervision. At HHSC, I observed Ms. Lopez continue to address and handle complex legal matters with the highest degree of integrity and diligence. In her handling of such matters, Ms. Lopez exercised financial and ethical responsibility in furtherance of her commitment to public service and crucial understanding of executive management and government affairs.

In addition, Ms. Lopez was a great supervisor and mentor during my time at HHSC. She was respectful, professional, patient, and had a positive management style that fostered teamwork, effective communication, and transparency. Based on my personal knowledge, Ms. Lopez possesses the qualities of a strong and effective leader along with the skills, temperament, and expertise to lead the Department of the Attorney General.

I support Ms. Lopez's confirmation wholeheartedly, without reservation and respectfully urge Ms. Lopez's swift confirmation.

Sincerely,

Aeri Y. Tilker

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 4:20:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Zeldes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Senator Rhoads and the Committee on Judiciary:

I am a 2000 graduate of the University of Hawaii's Richardson school of Law, a former law clerk to the Honorable Judge Daniel Foley and a practicing class action attorney for over 20 years. I went to law school with Anne Lopez at UH Richardson and have known her for approximately 24 years. I write to you to express my unequivocal support for Anne Lopez's nomination for Hawaii Attorney General. Anne is a standout as one of the most brilliant legal minds I have known as well as one of the most ethical people I have known. I hope you will vote to approve her nomination as state Attorney General.

Sincerely,

Helen I. Zeldes

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 5:10:16 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liane Arakawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez as our next Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 6:48:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Thornton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good morning Honarbale Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and member of this Committee,

I am in Strong Support of Attorney General Anne Lopez, to be confirmed as the next Attorney General for the next 4 years. Attorney General Lopez resume speaks for itself, as a true manager, and one with great leadership. Ms. Lopez will need this time to fix the damage caused by the previous AG. During the last several years, the Office of the Attorney General have been in dire need of a leader to help lead this Department and the State of Hawaii. The management of the previous attorney general was a failure, with an F+ grade, and showed great skills of how to create a hostile work environment, and how not to be truthful, and how to lower the morale of your employees. Many whom have quit, retired or was terminated for unjust cause.

The road to success will be difficult and I believe AG.Anne Lopez is up for the challenge.

Thank you!

David Thornton

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 8:06:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucy Masa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez to be confirmed as Attorney General. She has been a strong supporter of women's and reproductive rights, has fought against Trump administration policies, and has worked hard to enact reasonable gun legislation and to keep our communities safe. I offer my strong support.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 8:15:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Wynhoff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee

I stand in strong support of confirming Anne Lopez as Hawaii Attorney General.

I am now retired after working 20 years as a Deputy Attorney General. During part of that time, Ms. Lopez was the special assistant to the Attorney General - effectively the number 3 position in the Office of Attorney General. During that time, I worked closely with Ms. Lopez. In my experience, she is smart, hard working, compassionate, and effective. She will bring those same qualities to the job of Attorney General. I believe the State will be well served by her service and respectfully ask that your committee recommend confirmation.

Let me add that I am very familiar with Ms. Lopez's proposed First Deputy Attorney General Matthew Dvovich and Special Assistant David Day (I hired Mr. Day and worked closely with him as Supervising Deputy of the Land/Transportation Division). Both of them are excellent choices. I have 100% confidence in their abilities to succeed completely in their proposed roles.

Thank you.

Bill Wynhoff

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:11:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Dvonch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support the nomination of Anne E. Lopez as Attorney General. I've known Anne since she was Special Assistant at the Department of the Attorney General, and she was wonderful to work with. When she came back to the Department in January, it was like a "welcome home."

Anne's reputation at the Department was and continues to be one of high integrity, extreme professionalism, and expert legal ability. She is also very approachable, personable, and cares deeply about everybody who works at the Department. Her dedication to public service is immeasurable, and we are very happy to have a talent like Anne leading the Department.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:15:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Oku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Sen. Rhoads, Vice Chair Sen. Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

I strongly support the consideration and confirmation of Anne Lopez to serve as the Attorney General for the Department of the Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:32:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Max Levins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Anne Lopez's nomination as Attorney General. Her broad legal experience across both the private and public sector are an enormous asset to the Department.

April 9, 2023

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads
Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol

**Re: GM502. Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General,
Department of the Attorney General , Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez
Hearing: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 10:01 a.m.**

Dear Chairperson Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

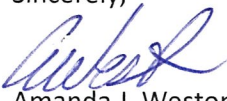
I strongly support the nomination and confirmation of Anne Lopez to serve as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

I have had the pleasure of working with Anne since she was nominated in early December 2022. She has proven to be an excellent and positive leader for the department. She is passionate in her role and enthusiastic about helping the department and the state. Ms. Lopez is highly intelligent, warm and generous with her time and collaboration.

In addition to her present position, Ms. Lopez was Special Assistant to previous Attorney General David Louie and she is very familiar with the department and its wide range of work. Ms. Lopez has also spent several years working in other leadership positions with the state including as CEO and General Counsel for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Ms. Lopez also has ample legal experience in the private sector working as an attorney at Chun Kerr Dodd Beaman & Wong.

Ms. Lopez possesses the experience, intelligence and integrity necessary for the position of Attorney General.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Amanda J. Weston

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:41:01 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reid Oya	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the confirmation of Anne Lopez. She is clearly against the Second Amendment. She wants to bring in an attorney from Everytown For Gun Safety (anti 2A group), who is NOT licensed in Hawaii to practice. Why is she bringing him in? Is because she knows the laws are unconstitutional? As officials of the Government . I believe everyone in government is supposed to be fighting to uphold the Constitution of the USA

rtnakatsuji@gmail.com

April 10, 2023

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: Written Testimony in Support of Nomination of Anne Lopez for Attorney General (GM 502, hearing on April 12, 2023, 10:01 a.m., Conference Room 016)

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I have been an attorney for 27 years and have been employed as a Deputy Attorney General for the last 12 years. During that time, I have served under a total of five Attorneys General. Based on that experience, and my experience with Ms. Lopez, I believe that Ms. Lopez is a strong and highly capable leader who will serve our Department well.

Therefore, I support her nomination and urge the Senate to confirm her as Attorney General.

(Please note that I submit this letter purely in my personal capacity.)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert T. Nakatsuji".

Robert T. Nakatsuji

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 10:26:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carter Siu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of Anne Lopez as Attorney General.

I am currently the supervising deputy attorney general for the education division and have worked with Ms. Lopez first when she was the Special Assistant to the Attorney General and now as the prospective Attorney General. I've known Ms. Lopez to be a great listener, someone who supports her employees, and a tremendous advocate for our clients. Ms. Lopez is also hard working, intelligent, and affable. I believe that she would be an outstanding Attorney General and I support her nomination.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 10:33:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacce Mikulanec	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Honorable Senators,

I am writing in strong support of Anne Lopez's nomination for the position of Attorney General. Ms. Lopez possess the qualities, intellect, and temperament essential for carrying out the duties of this office. Throughout her career she has consistently demonstrated compassion for her clients and colleagues as well as a depth of legal understanding that will serve her staff and the people of Hawai'i exceptionally well.

Mahalo,

Jacce Mikulanec

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 11:13:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Sato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate Chair Karl Rhoads and Senate Committee,

Re: GM502

I, Nicole Sato, a niece of Anne Lopez, would like to testify in favor of Anne Lopez for the position of Attorney General. I strongly support Anne Lopez given her previous legal and gubernatorial experience, strong moral character, and steadfast commitment to justice and the law. For these reasons and beyond, I believe Anne Lopez will serve the state of Hawai'i as Attorney General with utmost dedication and honor.

Sincerely,

Nicole T. Sato

nicolesato1@gmail.com

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 11:15:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pankaj Bhanot	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, my name is Pankaj Bhanot and I am submitting this testimony as an individual in strong support of GM 502 submitted by the Governor for consideration and confirmation of Ms. Anne Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Ms. Lopez has served the Executive Branch of our great Aloha State with distinction and exemplary excellence for over ten (10) years, most recently as the Vice President and General Counsel of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC); and engaged in private practice of law in Honolulu for over twelve (12) years. Anne has the professional experience (legal, administrative, managerial, legislative, government affairs, and public affairs), education, knowledge, skills, abilities, and the lived experience to honorably and competently serve as the Attorney General.

During my tenure as the Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD) Administrator (2013-2015), I had the distinct privilege and honor of working closely and collaboratively with Anne on various policy and legal issues impacting BESSD and the Department of Human Services (DHS), for example legal issues related to child care subsidies, child care licensing, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, General Assistance, among others. Throughout my interactions with Anne, I found her to be knowledgeable, professional, fair, warm, kind, and deeply rooted in a strong belief that we must keep rule of law, “Aloha Spirit”, and well-being of Hawaii’s residents and public servants in our minds when we make policy and operational decisions. Anne also possesses a sharp legal mind and acumen and will make a great Attorney General.

For the foregoing reasons, I request the Senate Committee on Judiciary to unanimously confirm Anne Lopez as the Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to support GM 502.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 11:18:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregg Sato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 11:31:51 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristina Ogawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General!

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 11:44:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carly Arakawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

In Support of Anne E. Lopez
Confirmation as Attorney General
GM502

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair, Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, and Honorable Senators
Brandon J.C. Elefante, Joy A. San Buenaventura, Brenton Awa, Members
The Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol

This is in support of the confirmation of nominee Anne E. Lopez as Attorney General.

I am the Acting Chief Investigator of the Department of the Attorney General and have served in this capacity since September 2022. I am submitting this testimony in what I believe is the public interest and the interests of the investigators and staff in the division. We have experienced difficult challenges in our division and department. This has changed for the better. Anne Lopez is uniquely gifted as a leader and administrator who is positively transforming our department in new and better ways. I believe in her and our future with her as Attorney General.

Anne Lopez has been the acting Attorney General since December 7, 2022, and has already proven herself to be a dynamic and positive leader. She brings exceptional knowledge and experience to her position. This is evident in her legal insight and skill as an administrator (and her resume). She inspires with her energy and dedication. She has genuine compassion for our community and for the people who serve in the department. In the short time she has been with us, she has inspired us with her vision, unified us as a department and revitalized us with her contagious passion for the mission. She has revitalized our organizational culture and renewed our sense of purpose. She is committed to the law, professional service, and helping to build a better future for Hawaii.

Above all, Anne Lopez is deeply committed to justice. She is the advocate for Hawaii.

Anne Lopez is the Attorney General we need and deserve at this pivotal time in Hawaii.

I support and recommend confirmation of Anne E. Lopez as Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

Context – I have been employed in the Department of the Attorney General in the Investigations Division for 10 years. I have served under many great and gifted leaders at the Department of the Attorney General, beginning with the Honorable David M. Louie through the present. I was previously employed with the Honolulu Police Department where I experienced first-hand great Chiefs of Police and administrators in the police department. I recognize the leadership and many talents of Anne Lopez and offer this in support of her confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

John Thompson

John C. Thompson

john.c.thompson@Hawaii.gov

April 10, 2023

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF JILL T. NAGAMINE

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

GM 502, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Judiciary

DATE: Wednesday April 12, 2023 **Time:** 10:01 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

Testifier: **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**
(For more information, contact Jill T. Nagamine,
Deputy Attorney General, at (808) 586-1200)

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in my individual capacity to express my **strong support** for the confirmation of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i. I have been a deputy attorney general for over 34 years.

I have known Anne since she served as the Special Assistant to Attorney General David Louie. My contacts with her then were mostly related to legislation, and two significant projects stand out in my memory: the Marriage Equality bill and the Medical Cannabis Dispensary bill. I was one of the deputies assigned to those major legislative undertakings, both of which were highly controversial. As I recall, there were a lot of issues and viewpoints to consider on both of those bills, and Anne was skilled at communicating with the key legislators and working through challenges as they arose. She maneuvered through the intense legislative process and made sure that the legal concerns of the Department of the Attorney General were heard and considered, and she always had my back.

As the current Supervising Deputy Attorney General for the Legislative Division of the Department, I am delighted that Anne has a proficient understanding of the legislative process. She expects the Department of the Attorney General to work closely and collaboratively with the Legislature in making and improving laws. It is clear that she believes in the importance of lawmaking and values our department's relationship with the Legislature.

Anne is able to quickly grasp the crux of issues and ask the right questions of the right people. She is really smart, and her insight helps her recognize problems, analyze the applicable law, and formulate a plan to solve the problems. Because she served in the Department before, she already has much of the institutional knowledge required for the job, and she is already familiar with most of the key deputies and supervisors that she will need to guide in their handling of the variety of legal issues facing the State.

In terms of leadership, I have been impressed with Anne's method of building up people and focusing on strengths. She focuses on the positive rather than the negative. She has high expectations and brings out the best in those around her. She has a sense of humor and lightness in her demeanor, but takes her role and her responsibilities very seriously. She is well aware that by leading the Department of the Attorney General she will bear responsibility for our work, and she does not shirk or shy away from that duty.

In the four months that she has served as the Attorney General, Anne has proven herself to be an outstanding asset to the Department. She is discerning, responsible, decisive, and experienced. She holds herself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. She has an open-door policy that allows for efficient communications within the Department. She brings a breath of fresh air to the Department. She is imminently qualified to be the Attorney General.

I wholeheartedly urge the Committee to recommend Anne for confirmation as the Attorney General. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Anne.

Written Testimony of John Nitao in Support of Anne Lopez
April 10, 2023

Dear Senators:

My name is John Nitao. I am a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association since 1992. I am Executive Vice President and General Counsel for The Queen's Health Systems ("QHS"). I submit testimony, in my individual capacity, in support of the confirmation of Anne Lopez as State of Hawaii, Attorney General.

I have known Ms. Lopez for approximately 19 years. My early interactions with Ms. Lopez were social. I have always known Anne to be smart, kind, respectful, courteous and a nice person to be around.

Over the past eight years, I have had multiple professional interactions with Ms. Lopez in her capacity as Chief Operating Officer ("COO") and General Counsel ("GC") of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC"), and in my capacity as General Counsel of QHS. In all such dealings, Ms. Lopez conducted herself and represented HHSC in a manner that all employers/clients would expect and desire. Ms. Lopez advocated strongly for HHSC and negotiated skillfully, honestly, fairly and with integrity. She focused on the important issues and collaborated to achieve resolutions so that the work of our respective health systems could get done.

I believe Ms. Lopez's experience as COO of HHSC has prepared her well for the responsibilities of the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii. As COO, Ms. Lopez managed the operations of HHSC, which includes a number of departments, divisions and individuals. About one year ago, Ms. Lopez and I were involved in a large project where I saw firsthand Ms. Lopez lead and manage HHSC team members in various departments to complete the project.

The divisions of the Office of the Attorney General include, tort, employment, labor, health, land, tax, legislative, criminal and other areas of law. Similar to the Office of Attorney General, the office of a health system General Counsel regularly deals with these areas of law. Ms. Lopez has excelled as GC of HHSC because she has developed knowledge in a broad range of laws, including those handled by the Office of Attorney General.

The Office of the Attorney General is a large team of lawyers and staff, who practice in a wide array of legal subject matters. In my opinion, the office would be best served by a person who (i) has experience and a strong ability to manage and lead the office, and (ii) is knowledgeable and skilled in a broad range of laws. Ms. Lopez has such traits, and I believe she would be an excellent Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,



John Nitao

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 1:06:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Riley Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Riley Smith. I am the President of Lanihau Properties. We own and manage about 10,000 acres of land in North Kona, Island of Hawaii. I worked with Anne Lopez, when she was the Chief Operating Officer/General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, the entity that manages the State owned hospitals in Hawaii. Ms. Lopez was instrumental in collaborating with the various health care providers in Hawaii, to address the continuing needs of the residents of Hawaii island. She is a team player, very smart and always looking for ways to encourage and develop public/private partnerships in our community.

For these reasons, I wholeheartedly support her nomination as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

Riley Smith, P.E.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 2:40:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dean Soma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Anne Lopez to be the Attorney general of the State of Hawaii.

I have had the pleasure of working with Anne Lopez when she was with the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (“HHSC”) as well as at the Department of the Attorney General. She is the consummate professional and strives to uphold the mission of the Department and the laws of the State. I respectfully urge that Anne Lopez be confirmed as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 2:52:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ray Kamikawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, Members of the Committee,

I strongly support Anne Lopez's nomination as Attorney General and urge her confirmation.

During 2005 - 2012, Anne served as an associate/counsel at the Chun Kerr law firm at which I was a partner. In working with Anne on assigned matters, I was impressed with Anne's willingness to learn new areas of the law, her diligent research, and ability to work independently. Anne is an excellent communicator, diplomatic in areas of disagreement, and adhering to the highest of ethical standards. Anne will never abuse her power in office and will treat everyone fairly and even-handed. Finally, Anne is just a pleasant person to talk with. Hawaii would be well served to have Anne as its Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 3:49:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I write to express support for the confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General. I believe Ms. Lopez has the experience, values, and desire to serve the state that make her qualified to lead the state's legal department and represent state's legal interests.

I have been a litigation attorney in private practice in Hawaii since 2007, and had the opportunity to work with Ms. Lopez in her capacity as General Counsel for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. From my observation, Ms. Lopez was thoughtful in evaluating issues, gave careful consideration to competing viewpoints, and adhered to high ethical standards. I believe she will work hard to apply her legal experience and knowledge to the difficult legal challenges facing the state, will treat people with respect and fairness, and will represent the state to the best of her abilities. I believe that her experience working in the Attorney General's Office and for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation will enable her to hit the ground running, as she's already done while awaiting confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of my input on this important selection.

Amanda Jones

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: GM 502 – Confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

I would like to submit my testimony in **strong** support for the appointment of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General.

I met Anne a decade ago, when I had the opportunity to work with her under the Abercrombie Administration, where she served as special assistant to former Hawaii AG David Louie. In her career, Anne has gained a wealth of experience in various roles, including her most recent position as CEO and general counsel for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.

With her years of experience in the Executive Branch, Anne is uniquely qualified and has the necessary skills to be a successful AG for the State of Hawaii. She has tons of grit, is an effective communicator and collaborator, is a leader who can make tough decisions, and is always looking for new and innovative ways to problem solve.

In addition, Anne has an amazing sense of humor, a heart of gold and is a true friend. She is someone who embodies integrity, honesty, loyalty, and respect. Hawaii is a special place that needs a special person to serve as the people's attorney. I believe Anne is the right person to serve in the role of AG for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Hirasa".

Christine Hirasa

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary
The Senate of the 32nd Legislature
State of Hawaii

RE: Governor's Message No. 502 - submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026.

Hearing date – April 12, 2023 at 10:01am

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony **in strong support** of the Governor's Message No. 502, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026.

I have known Anne Lopez professionally for many years, most recently in my capacity as Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC"). During that time, Anne has demonstrated a leadership style that is fair, collaborative, and inclusive, with the ability to make difficult decisions in challenging situations requiring the balancing of often competing and complex interests. She is very passionate about her work as a public servant and fully committed to helping the people of Hawaii. This has been shown through her most recent position as the current acting Attorney General, previously as Special Assistant to the Attorney General at the Department of the Attorney General and as Vice President and General Counsel at HHSC. An experienced public servant and attorney, Anne Lopez has the professional skills, insight, and passion to make the necessary and critical decisions as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the Governor's Message No. 502 and the confirmation of ANNE LOPEZ.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 5:10:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charla Ota	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM502

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my personal opinion in support of the nomination of Anne Lopez as Attorney General. I worked with Ms. Lopez for nearly 8 years at the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation where she served as General Counsel/COO and most recently Vice President & General Counsel. In addition to her keen legal acumen and true passion for public service, Ms. Lopez is well known for her innovative, problem-solving approach to legal and other issues. She has demonstrated tremendous capacity for identifying and facilitating creative solutions to complex problems for the benefit of myriad stakeholders, while remaining in compliance with law. As Attorney General, I believe Ms. Lopez can and will continue actively bringing interested parties together to solve difficult challenges facing our state and its residents. I am confident that Ms. Lopez' tenure as attorney general will be marked with many successes in the best interest of our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Ms. Lopez' nomination.

Sincerely,

Charla Ota

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 5:21:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richelle Lu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of GM 502 regarding the confirmation of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General for a term to expire at noon on December 7, 2026. I had the privilege and pleasure of working with Ms. Lopez for several years when she was General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and I was an Assistant General Counsel. Ms. Lopez is a highly intelligent and skilled attorney that has years of experience as an Administrator. While Ms. Lopez is thoughtful, thorough, and reasonable in her approach to legal issues and challenges, she is also decisive and able to take difficult positions for her clients. Ms. Lopez has extensive experience as a Deputy Attorney General serving the people of Hawaii as well as the State Departments and employees. Ms Lopez has proven over the past several months that she is more than capable of leading the Department of the Attorney General effectively with excellence. Most importantly, Ms. Lopez is a forthright, genuine person who has the highest level of integrity. For the aforementioned reasons, I urge you to confirm Ms. Lopez as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. Thank you for this opportunity to Testify in support of the confirmation of Ms. Anne Lopez as Attorney General.

Sincerely, Richelle Kawasaki Lu

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol, Room 016
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Governor's Message 502, Consideration and Confirmation of Anne Lopez
Hearing: Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Aloha Chair Rhoades and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Anne Lopez to serve as Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i.

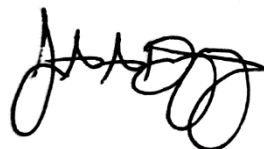
I first met Ms. Lopez in 2017, at the start of my legal career. Since then, I have had the privilege of working closely with her on multiple matters. Ms. Lopez is intelligent, dedicated, fair, professional, honest, and compassionate. She is an excellent attorney who consistently demonstrates impeccable judgment, superb command of the law, and a deep understanding of complex factual issues. She has a keen ability to bring people together despite the existence of a wide range of viewpoints and (sometimes) disagreements. It is her ability to holistically, fairly, and competently evaluate the law, facts, and stakeholder viewpoints that makes her a uniquely strong leader who is able to solve seemingly impossible problems.

Ms. Lopez is well-qualified to serve as Attorney General of Hawai'i. She graduated from the University of Hawai'i, William S. Richardson School of Law and went on the clerk for the Hawai'i Supreme Court before establishing a successful career as a litigator in Honolulu. She then dedicated herself to serving the citizens of Hawai'i—first, as Special Assistant to the Attorney General and then as General Counsel, Chief Operating Officer, and Vice President of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC). While at HHSC, she demonstrated unparalleled poise, competence, and fearlessness in assisting the State navigate through the largest public health emergency in modern history. Her efforts and leadership were invaluable in ensuring that patients in Hawai'i, especially those in underserved and rural locations, could receive life-saving medication and medical and nursing care. She has continued to demonstrate her qualifications for the job of Attorney General since she began serving as Acting Attorney General in December 2022.

Finally, Ms. Lopez embodies the Aloha Spirit. She treats everyone with whom she works with dignity and respect. She carries herself with the utmost integrity and professionalism. She has earned the respect of her peers and colleagues. And, most importantly, she truly cares for the people of Hawai'i.

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of Ms. Lopez's nomination as Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jarrett A. Dempsey', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Jarrett A. Dempsey

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 6:27:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vernalyn Uson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Gov. Msg. No. 502. Thank you.

TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary
FROM: James W. Walther
DATE: April 10, 2023

RE: GM 502 - Consideration and Confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General
Hearing: Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 10:01 a.m.

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I write in support of Anne Lopez for your consideration to be confirmed as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. Ms. Lopez is an exemplary attorney who brings considerable experience to the position. I believe she has the legal and administrative skills and abilities to lead the Department of the Attorney General in our legal representation of the State, and transform the work of the Department to be more collaborative and integrated into the work of the agencies we advise.

Ms. Lopez is already familiar with the Department, having served as the Special Assistant to the Attorney General. And as General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Ms. Lopez helped to administer a complex organization with unique challenges. With that experience, she developed an understanding of the nature of the work and the challenges the Department faces, and she came into the office on the first day with goals and ideas of how to reach them.

My experience working with Ms. Lopez has always been positive and engaging. She is demanding in the standards she expects Deputies to achieve in our work, but she is also supportive and thoughtful in providing feedback. Even if she disagrees with a position a Deputy presents, she is measured in her demeanor and approaches the experience as a learning opportunity for the Deputy.

Finally, my experience with Anne personally has always been collegial, friendly, and fun. We work in an environment that is inherently full of conflict and confrontation, where we often are called upon to solve problems in unique situations with limited resources and tight deadlines. Anne recognizes that and keeps the mood positive and pleasant; that is a heavy lift in our job, and Anne does it with flair.

Respectfully,



James W. Walther

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 7:14:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Arakawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez as our Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 7:32:45 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryan Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhodes and members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Anne E. Lopez as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

I am writing as an individual, but am a deputy attorney general who has seen Ms. Lopez's work ethic, good judgment, and legal acumen. She is a reasonable person, but willing to fight when the situation demands it. She is thoughtful, but willing to make hard decisions. She stops to listen to other people, but will ultimately use her own independent judgment. I look forward to working with her to serve the people of this State to the best of our abilities. Please confirm her nomination.

Bryan Yee

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 7:46:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcus Arakawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 8:07:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danielle Sato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Danielle Sato, and I am writing in strong support of Anne Lopez for the Attorney General position. As her niece, I have been able to personally engage with Anne Lopez regarding the ongoing, important social matters our local communities face. She is a dedicated individual with a strong sense of justice, and is willing to stand up for what is right. I believe her integrity and work ethic will continue to push Hawai'i forward towards a bright and just future.

Mahalo for the consideration.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 8:15:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Kacatin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am absolutely in opposition to the nominee Anne Lopez. If she and others of her political leanings are allowed to take the office of the highest law enforcement official in the State, then the State of Hawaii will continue to be open to lawsuits that will cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars as every attempt at eliminating the right to keep and bear arms will be proven unconstitutional.

Recent events and recent legal actions against the State of Hawaii challenging existing "gun" laws have proven the State of Hawaii is incapable of legally justifying their "laws".

TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary
FROM: James W. Walther
DATE: April 10, 2023

RE: GM 502 - Consideration and Confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General
Hearing: Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 10:01 a.m.

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I write in support of Anne Lopez for your consideration to be confirmed as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. Ms. Lopez is an exemplary attorney who brings considerable experience to the position. I believe she has the legal and administrative skills and abilities to lead the Department of the Attorney General in our legal representation of the State, and transform the work of the Department to be more collaborative and integrated into the work of the agencies we advise.

Ms. Lopez is already familiar with the Department, having served as the Special Assistant to the Attorney General. And as General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Ms. Lopez helped to administer a complex organization with unique challenges. With that experience, she developed an understanding of the nature of the work and the challenges the Department faces, and she came into the office on the first day with goals and ideas of how to reach them.

My experience working with Ms. Lopez has always been positive and engaging. She is demanding in the standards she expects Deputies to achieve in our work, but she is also supportive and thoughtful in providing feedback. Even if she disagrees with a position a Deputy presents, she is measured in her demeanor and approaches the experience as a learning opportunity for the Deputy.

Finally, my experience with Anne personally has always been collegial, friendly, and fun. We work in an environment that is inherently full of conflict and confrontation, where we often are called upon to solve problems in unique situations with limited resources and tight deadlines. Anne recognizes that and keeps the mood positive and pleasant; that is a heavy lift in our job, and Anne does it with flair.

Respectfully,



James W. Walther

April 10, 2023

Committee on Judiciary, Senate
State Capitol, Room 016
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813

GM 502, Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 10:01 am
Written testimony only

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I write in **strong support** of Anne E. Lopez's nomination for the position of Attorney General, State of Hawai'i.

I'm a practicing attorney with more than 20 years' experience and am currently a partner at Goodsell Anderson Quinn & Stifel. I write in my personal capacity to offer my strongest recommendation in favor of Ms. Lopez. I started my current job in the private sector in 2018. Before that, I was a deputy attorney general at the Department of the Attorney General for 14 years. It was in that capacity that Anne and I worked together, during the Abercrombie administration, when she worked alongside David M. Louie, then-attorney general. David assigned both Anne and myself, and two other deputies, James Walther and Jill Nagamine, to take the lead on drafting the bill that would eventually become Hawaii's Marriage Equality Act, 2013 Haw. 2nd Sp. Sess. L. Act 1.

Although I worked with Anne on other matters during those years, the Marriage Equality Act was by far the largest project we worked on together. Our team of four understood then—and understands to this day, just shy of 10 years later—that the Marriage Equality Act was very likely the most important thing we would ever do in our professional lives. Together we embraced the privilege of serving in that moment, and wrote, rewrote, edited, vetted, and debated the bill, line by line and provision by provision. Every single piece of it was tested, numerous times, over and over, in an unrelenting process that went on for months before the special session began. At the same time, and through the special session, we advised legislators and leadership, fielded comments, and answered complex and challenging legal questions. Eventually the bill passed and we celebrated together when it was signed into law.

That was the public process. The insights I offer here about Anne's skills and character are from behind the scenes. Anne is consistently calm in the face of challenge and stress. As a lawyer, she is whip-smart, insightful, and strategic. She is able to constructively discuss challenging topics in heated moments with a wide variety of people—the Governor's staff, legislative leadership, the press—without avoiding either the challenge of a difficult conversation *or* the underlying legal questions. She is unafraid to seek advice from the most knowledgeable people around her. In fact, she conscientiously gathers the people who can collectively add to the knowledge of a team. She is willing to consider genuinely creative options, that is, to ask people to not just to think outside the box but perhaps, if appropriate, to discard the box altogether. Anne can and does employ all these skills consistently and well over time. And she

does all of this while maintaining a refreshing sense of humor that sustains people through difficult moments.

I saw Anne display all these skills many times over during our years working together and was thrilled when I learned she had been nominated to serve as Attorney General. In addition to her years at the AGs office, Anne has extensive public sector experience in other state agencies. This experience will give her a substantial head start in managing the Department of the Attorney General, which interacts with nearly every agency in state government.

I offer one final comment as a longtime former deputy attorney general myself. I saw Attorneys General and other leaders of the Department change repeatedly over time, and I understand both the strengths of that office and its challenges. I feel strongly that Anne will bring the right kind of leadership to the AGs. Her extensive public sector experience means that she already understands government. She will face the Department's challenges head-on, as an engaged, involved leader. At the same time, she will bring out the best in other people. If given the opportunity, I am confident that Anne's leadership and direction will improve the Department overall.

I strongly urge the Committee to vote in favor of Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Deirdre Marie-Iha
Honolulu, Hawaii

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:31:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elise Amemiya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit this testimony in support of the Governor’s nominee, Anne Lopez, for Attorney General. I am submitting this testimony in my personal and individual capacity.

I have known Anne for over 20 years when we were both students at the William S. Richardson School of Law. More recently, I have worked under Anne as a Deputy Attorney General. Anne is smart, knowledgeable, and provides valuable support to her Deputies. More importantly, Anne is approachable – her calm, even demeanor makes her easy to get along with. I would not hesitate to go to her for advice and guidance. I believe this is an important characteristic of a good leader. Furthermore, Anne is decisive and not afraid to implement change or effectuate new ideas. This is not easy to do, but sometimes necessary to improve and enhance an environment.

Accordingly, I believe Anne would be a valuable asset to the State of Hawaii as Attorney General and firmly support her nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:39:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Nakata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Anne Lopez for the position of Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General (DAG).

I have known Ms. Lopez personally and professionally for over 20 years. She is well qualified for the position and eager to serve.

Ms. Lopez is smart, a hardworker, has good judgment, and grasps issues well. Her experience as general counsel to Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, her private sector legal experience, and her past experience as Special Assistant within the DAG will enable her to be an effective leader. She is knowledgeable of the peculiarities and nuances of the issues faced by state government.

I feel Ms. Lopez is prepared and committed to work hard in serving the best interests of the State. She is eager to tackle the challenging legal issues and I am confident that she will do a great job.

In my opinion, the Committee would do well in supporting Ms. Lopez's nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Michelle E. Nakata

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:41:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:31:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elise Amemiya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit this testimony in support of the Governor’s nominee, Anne Lopez, for Attorney General. I am submitting this testimony in my personal and individual capacity.

I have known Anne for over 20 years when we were both students at the William S. Richardson School of Law. More recently, I have worked under Anne as a Deputy Attorney General. Anne is smart, knowledgeable, and provides valuable support to her Deputies. More importantly, Anne is approachable – her calm, even demeanor makes her easy to get along with. I would not hesitate to go to her for advice and guidance. I believe this is an important characteristic of a good leader. Furthermore, Anne is decisive and not afraid to implement change or effectuate new ideas. This is not easy to do, but sometimes necessary to improve and enhance an environment.

Accordingly, I believe Anne would be a valuable asset to the State of Hawaii as Attorney General and firmly support her nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 10:40:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer L Rodrigues	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General. She is an amazing, straightforward and honest individual.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 11:41:34 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chloe Sato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez for Attorney General.

Testimony of
CHRIS J. SADAYASU
to the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

**In consideration of
GM 502**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee.

I support the appointment of Anne Lopez to serve as the Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General.

Ms. Lopez has experience in both the public and private sectors. She was previously the Special Assistant to the Attorney General within the Department of the Attorney General, where she served as the chief legislative liaison, public information officer, and special projects administrator. Ms. Lopez also has extensive leadership experience with the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, where she was responsible for leading the in-house legal department, providing counsel to the board of directors, and ensuring system-wide compliance with laws, regulations, and rules. Her background in executive management, government affairs, and public affairs will be beneficial to the state as she continues in this key role. Ms. Lopez is also a fellow graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for Ms. Lopez's confirmation as the Attorney General for the Department of the Attorney General. Thank you for the opportunity to provide support.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 6:40:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mara Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the appointment of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General. I have known Ms. Lopez my entire life. She has always been a caring and a compassionate listener to my sister and I. She will make a fantastic Attorney General.

Written Testimony to the
Senate Committee on Judiciary

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: Gov. Msg. No. 502 – Nomination of Anne Lopez, Esq. for Attorney General

I unequivocally support the nomination of Anne Lopez, Esq. for Attorney General of the State of Hawai‘i.

I have worked with Ms. Lopez extensively in her former capacity as General Counsel and Chief Operations Officer of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, and in such capacity, have witnessed her applying her high intelligence and great work ethic to a demanding and difficult job. She understands that the key to resolving difficult problems and disagreements is to study all points of view and to actively engage with all stakeholders in a fair and ethical manner. I know she will serve both the people of the State and all of the Department of Attorney General’s clients very well.

Ms. Lopez also cares deeply for her staff, and provides them with ample support so that they may also excel in their positions. Her leadership, particularly during difficult times, is truly exemplary and I have no doubt that the employees within the Department will flourish with her support and guidance.

In sum, I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of the nomination of Anne Lopez, Esq. for Attorney General of the State of Hawai‘i

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:22:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
R. Malia Taum-Deenik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne Lopez has the necessary experience and skills required to lead the Department of the Attorney General into the 21st century. As we emerge from the pandemic, Hawaii needs to strengthen its infrastructure, government systems, including the workforce, to be prepared and to support resilient communities. She has working knowledge on how the government works and she has ideas on how to improve the way government works for Hawaii's residents. Ms. Lopez also has made time to serve the community as a board member of a non-profit that serves parents and children that addresses the needs of Hawaii's most vulnerable families with children. Ms. Lopez will get things done that make things better for Hawaii and its people.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:27:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez's nomination as the Attorney General. I have known Anne personally and professionally for over 20 years. She has an impressive grasp of the State's issues in these challenging times. She has a diverse background which is an asset as the AG. The State will benefit from her varied experience, professional accomplishments, and commitment to service.

I have witnessed Anne's work ethic and commitment to consensus-building within her team. She is a leader with compassion, integrity, and intelligence, and she is a quick learner with excellent analytical abilities.

Anne possesses a commendable and demonstrated commitment to service. She has an impressive educational and professional background that she can draw upon to fulfill her responsibilities as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

Anne truly believes in the office's mission to protect our constitution and implement the law. She will positively contribute to the State of Hawaii.

Thank you!

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:43:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Toni Schwartz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne Lopez has extensive legal experience and a lengthy background in administrative leadership in both state government and in the private sector. She is more than qualified for the position of Hawaii Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:45:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael K Champion	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am testifying in my personal capacity as an individual citizen. My opinion is informed by my experience working in the Department of Health on issues that frequently involve the clinical-legal interface. Anne Lopez is an accomplished legal leader with extensive relevant experience including significant roles in public health settings. In her time as Attorney General to date, she has demonstrated an ability to address complex challenges in a collaborative and effective manner. As a member of our community and healthcare community, I strongly support her nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

-Michael K Champion, MD

On The Following Measure: GM 502, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire at noon on 12-7-2026.

Before the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 10:01 a.m.

Location: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Testifier: Kimberly T. Guidry

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Anne Lopez's confirmation as Attorney General of the State of Hawai'i. I submit this testimony entirely in my individual, personal capacity.

I know Anne well. I first worked with Anne when she served as the Special Assistant to then-Attorney General David Louie. And I have had the privilege of again working closely with Anne after she herself was appointed as Attorney General in December 2022. I know Anne to be smart, kind, and very well-suited to the role of our State's chief legal officer. She is an excellent attorney, as well as a strong leader – a skilled manager who leads with compassion, and fosters a collegial and respectful working environment.

I have tremendous respect for Anne, both as an attorney and person. She will serve the State well, and I respectfully urge her swift confirmation.

Sincerely,

Kimberly T. Guidry

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:13:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern:

Anne Lopez will serve the State of Hawaii in a responsible, ethical and collaborative manner as Attorney General. Her knowledge and skills--amassed over a lifetime full of personal and professional accomplishments--have undoubtedly prepared her for this position. She has my full support.

Best,

Laura Hanson

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:04:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chad Kumagai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Anne Lopez's nomination for Attorney General.

**TESTIMONY OF
GARY S. SUGANUMA**

In consideration of G.M. No. 502

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General
of the Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial nominee, Anne Lopez

Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 016

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Ms. Anne Lopez as the Attorney General of the Department of the Attorney General.

I have had the pleasure of working alongside Ms. Lopez at the Department of the Attorney general, as well as opposite her on a matter when she was general counsel for Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation. I have always known Ms. Lopez to be professional, ethical, and knowledgeable about the legal issues at hand. I believe that Ms. Lopez's private and government legal experience provides her with a solid foundation to lead the Attorney General's office. I believe Ms. Lopez is committed and dedicated to serving the best interests of the State and will do a great job as the Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 502.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 9:42:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Dumlao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2023 RE: Governor’s Message No. 502 - Submitting written testimony for consideration and confirmation as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026 Hearing date: April 12, 2023 at 10:01am

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the committee, my name is Tammy Dumlao and I am submitting testimony in SUPPORT of GM 502 for confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General.

I have known Ms. Lopez for 7 years, as we worked together at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Over the years I observed her to be ethical, humble, hardworking and caring. Her leadership displays her skills and experience to make difficult decisions, create and sustain collaborative relationships and the ability to think critically.

I strongly believe that Ms. Lopez will serve the people of the State of Hawaii well and I respectfully request that you recommend approval of her nomination as the Attorney General. Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 502.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 9:56:28 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Craig Iha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Rhoads and members of the committee:

I am in strong support of the nomination of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General of Hawaii. I am testifying in my personal capacity.

I have known Ms. Lopez since 2013 when she served as the Special Assistant to the Attorney General. Ms. Lopez has exceptional integrity, and has always been firmly committed to public service, whether at her prior positions with the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation or as the State Attorney General.

While Ms. Lopez has significant legal background, she also does not hesitate to consult with subject matter experts whenever necessary. She is passionate about public service while being measured and thoughtful when giving direction. She sets high standards for the work-product generated by our department but does not micromanage. She gives credit where credit is due, choosing to highlight the accomplishments of the department and its employees over her own. In short, Ms. Lopez leads our department by example – through thoughtfulness, hard work, balance, and recognition of others.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Ms. Lopez.



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April 11, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Senate
450 S. Beretania Street, Room 016
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 502 Consideration and confirmation as Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General, Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026

Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

I am testifying in strong support of the nomination of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney.

I have known Anne for many years – first as a hard-working colleague in private practice and then as a well-spoken advocate for the people of Hawaii.

Anne's experiences of working with diverse communities along with her ability to empathize and communicate with different constituents are skills that will be well used in her position as the Attorney General.

I believe that Ms. Lopez will be a strong leader for the Department of the Attorney General. I humbly ask for your strong support and to advise and consent in the affirmative to her nomination as the Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

CHUN KERR LLP
a Limited Liability Law Partnership

Danton S. Wong

Testimony of
Charleen M. Aina

Before the Senate Committee on Judiciary
Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 10:01 a.m., CR 016 & Videoconference

In consideration of **GM 502**
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director, Department of Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee ANNE LOPEZ, for a term to expire 12-07-2026

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Governor Green’s nomination of Anne Lopez to serve as the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii. Based on the 40+ years I served as a deputy attorney general, and more specifically the 12+ years I worked with her while she served as Attorney General David Louie’s special assistant, and as the General Counsel and Chief Operating Officer of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation thereafter, I believe Anne is more than capable and qualified to serve as the State’s Attorney General and direct all the legal and other work the Department of the Attorney General is responsible for performing.

Having worked for four years as the AG’s special assistant, Anne knows first-hand what the Attorney General, personally or through the 180+ deputy attorneys general the Attorney General appoints, is responsible for knowing and doing – (1) representing and protecting the interests of the State in the state and federal courts, (2) providing legal opinions and legal advice to the Governor, members of the Legislature, department heads, and state officers, to allow them to perform their duties faithfully, and (3) serving as the State’s chief law enforcement officer to enforce all of the State’s civil and criminal statutes and the common law, on behalf of the State and the public. She also knows first-hand when, and how to outline and bring legal issues and concerns to the attention of the Governor, legislators, and other state officials, and at times to the public as well.

As HHSC’s General Counsel she also has had first-hand and complete experience evaluating, asserting, and defending against legal claims grounded in contract, tort, employment, real and personal property law, and state and federal law, even though she may only have asserted them personally in negotiating to engage private counsel for the HHSC, or in face-to face meetings, negotiations, or arbitrations, and not before a court. In my mind, her best legal work has always been in this setting, and the best example of this is the work she did as general counsel for the HHSC and its Maui Region to implement Act 103, SLH 2015, which the Legislature enacted to “to use one or more of the [HHSC]’s facilities more cost-effectively by discontinuing the system’s provision of health care services at one or more of those facilities and transferring the right and responsibility to manage, operate and provide health care services in those facilities to” Kaiser Permanente’s Maui Health System in 2017. She was principally

responsible for negotiating, drafting and implementing the terms included in the Transfer Agreement and Fixed Term Lease that HHSC and Kaiser were required to enter into by Act 103.

As Attorney General Anne will not do all detailed legislative, public information, contract, tort, labor management, real property, procurement, document review, and substantive and procedural federal and state administrative work she did as special assistant to the AG and HHSC's general counsel. However, she assuredly will know what the Department's attorneys, investigators, and other professional and support staff need to do, and how to direct and guide them to complete those tasks.

Lastly, and most importantly, she will serve as Attorney General with grace, good humor, patience, and a pure interest in executing and enforcing the laws of the State of Hawaii competently and fairly.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 10:38:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimo galon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose GM502. I as a citizen of Hawaii do not want AG Nominee, ANNE LOPEZ representing me and others of hawaii. AG Anne Lopez views do not align with fighting for the peoples rights. and who is known to violating peoples rights.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 10:40:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Kanemoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne Lopez has the experience to be an effective Attorney General. She was instrumental in the Maui Region's public- private partnership with Kaiser. The complexity of this event required discipline, coordination, openness and determination to have all parties reach the agreement.

Since that time she has worked on increasing legal services to the regional boards. Improved the policy's of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. These are some examples of her leadership abilities.

I support Ms Anne Lopez to be the Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 10:14:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Tulang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ms. Anne Lopez:

I've known Ms. Lopez for 8 years as a board member of HHSC. She has preformed her legal counsel services professionally, with care to explain to a lay person the intent of the law, or with guidance for questions I've posed. Ms. Lopez will be an asset to our State and the people of each community. I am confident she will do an outstanding job.

Julie Tulang, Hawaii Island resident

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Senate
450 S. Beretania Street, Room 016
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 502 Consideration and confirmation as Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Anne Lopez, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026

Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

I support the nomination of Anne Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General.

I have known Ms. Lopez for over 20 years. We are friends. We were colleagues at the law firm of Chun Kerr LLP. And I am an admirer of Ms. Lopez's work as a public servant since she left private practice to serve as the Special Assistant to then-Attorney General David Louie. Ms. Lopez's achievements as a public servant have warranted her advancements through the ranks of public service to become the Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.

Ms. Lopez is a consensus builder and problem solver. She appropriately and correctly applies the law to the betterment of her clients (be those in her earlier private practice and in her now decades-long public service). She strives to understand all parties to a matter – be it a friendly business transaction or litigation. Ms. Lopez seeks to avoid the zero-sum outcomes where possible, but she is unafraid of defending her clients' rights and positions in all events. For these reasons, Ms. Lopez has earned and held the respect of her peers in the legal community.

Importantly, Ms. Lopez is a leader. She treats her employees and co-workers with respect. She listens before she talks and she leads by example. Ms. Lopez also knows when and how to make the tough decisions – she does so having collected the information available, and having given sufficient deliberation of the issues.

It has been written that Ms. Lopez lacks courtroom experience, but she has managed litigators at trial. I would suggest that this experience will be valuable as one of the Attorney General's jobs is to manage the Deputy Attorneys General who must go to trial.

I believe that Ms. Lopez is prepared to serve as our Attorney General. I sincerely hope she is afforded the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,



Adrienne S. Yoshihara

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 11:13:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Abbey Day	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne Lopez is absolutely the best person for this job. She is uniquely qualified, understands the needs of Hawaii and I look forward to her leadership.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 11:24:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frances Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez to lead the Department of the Attorney General. I believe she has the intelligence and integrity to be the Attorney General.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

KAUAI REGION

E Pono Mau Loa ~ Always Excellent

April 11, 2023

The Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Subject: GM 502 Confirmation Hearing for Attorney General Gubernatorial Nominee Anne Lopez

My name is Lance K. Segawa, Chief Executive Officer for the Kauai Region, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC). I had the privilege of working closely with Anne Lopez from 2015 to 2022 while she served as the corporate Chief Operating Officer/General Counsel for HHSC. During this time, Anne was a dependable legal resource for me and a competent executive working on complex issues such as the Maui Region's operating lease arrangement with Kaiser Permanente.

Anne's moral character is unquestionable. Her knowledge of the law is foundational and positions her well for deliberations on matters around justice and fairness. Anne possesses excellent communication skills and is able to express herself clearly both verbally and in writing. She is an active listener who can critically think through issues focused on resolution and positive progress. Anne is a "people person" who demonstrates high levels of emotional intelligence. She is a team player with an exceptional ability to draw out the best in others. Anne is unafraid to have difficult conversations to resolve matters in ways that preserve the dignity of those around her. Anne is a servant leader and will represent the State of Hawaii as Attorney General to the highest levels of professionalism and competency.

Without reservation, I strongly recommend the Senate Committee on Judiciary confirm Anne Lopez for the position of Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity for allowing me to express my opinions on Gubernatorial Nominee Anne Lopez.

Mahalo,

Lance K. Segawa, FACHE, MPH, NHA
HHSC Kauai Region Chief Executive Officer

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 2:16:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DIANNE WINTER BROOKINS	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the Governor's nomination of Anne Lopez to serve as Attorney General. I worked with Anne during her tenure with HHSC over a number of years, and on a wide variety of matters. I have found Anne to be practical, reasonable, responsive, and very knowledgeable in the matters where we interacted. We did not always agree, but Anne knows how to disagree without being disagreeable. I believe the qualities I have observed in Anne, as well as her deep knowledge of how State government works and the roles and challenges of the various Departments, make her very well-suited to serve as Attorney General. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee vote to confirm Anne Lopez to serve as our next Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 4:00:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mihoko Ito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I write to submit testimony in **strong support** of GM 508 which nominates Anne Lopez as Attorney General. I have known Anne for over a decade, including during the time she served as a special assistant to the Attorney General, and during our service on the board of Parents and Children Together (PACT). For PACT, Anne chaired the Governance Committee, which was responsible for managing board composition and ensuring the diversity of the Board.

I have always been impressed with Anne - she has been a passionate and dedicated public servant for many years, and has also dedicated so much time and effort to support the work of PACT. In my work with Anne, I have her to be a person of integrity, diligent and hard working, but also a person who is continually guided by making decisions based on what is best for our community. She has always been willing to step up to work on challenging issues and has also always provided thoughtful insights based on her many years of experience in the health care and legal sectors.

For the reasons set forth above, I believe that Anne is a great candidate for the Attorney General position and is extremely well qualified to serve in this role.

I respectfully ask the Committee to advise and consent to Anne Lopez's nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Mihoko Ito

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 5:21:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support Anne Lopez to be the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

I had the pleasure of serving with Anne on the Newtown Estates Board of Directors and was impressed with her clarity when confronted with complex issues. Anne understood the laws and rules and provided wise counsel on how to get our initiatives completed.

I know she will serve our state well as Attorney General.

Robert G.F. Lee

Major General, US Army (Ret)

Former State Adjutant General (2003-2011)

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 5:41:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Frank H. Sayre, D.D.S.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

My name is Frank Sayre and I am a dentist residing in Kailua-Kona. I served on the West Hawaii Regional Board of HHSC for 8 years with 5 1/2 as Board Chair. During that time I had many interactions with Anne Lopez, Esq. I found Anne to be extremely intelligent, knowledgeable and compassionate. She has a wealth of legal experience and her knowledge of Hawaii Statute Law was superb. We needed to terminate a new CEO and there were a number of legal landmines that she was able to guide us through with amazing knowledge and forthright. The State of Hawaii would be well served with Anne as Attorney General. Mahalo piha,

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 6:10:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Annie Kumataka Lukec	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of GM502, appointing Ms. Anne Lopez as the Attorney General. I have worked with Anne for the past 7 years. I enjoyed being her assistant during those years. I appreciated the fact that Anne treated everyone fairly and was genuinely interested and cared about our well-being and the issues at hand. She was always open to input and considered each suggestion with serious intent.

Your consideration of this request in support of appointing Anne Lopez as Attorney General would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Annie Kumataka Lukec

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:58:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madeline Lynn Tompkins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne Lopez is a brilliant attorney. She is a collaborator, impeccably honest, and one of the most hard working people I have ever known. She cares deeply for the people of the State of Hawaii and will work tirelessly with her team to stand up for the law.

Please vote yes for Anne Lopez, Attorney General.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:04:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

The Honorable Karl Rhoads and Committee Members:

I testify in strong support of Ann Lopez as the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

Ann's past experiences as a lawyer and in the health care field, provides her with tools that will aide in her work as the attorney general - balancing the weight of the law while empathizing with underserved and disengaged communities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I humbly ask for your strong support of the nomination of Ann Lopez as the Attorney General, Department of the Attorney General for the State.

I am writing **in support** of the nomination of Anne Lopez to the position of Attorney General for the State of Hawai'i. Anne is extraordinarily purpose driven and deeply believes in the work the State Attorney General's office does on behalf of the people of Hawai'i.

Her career has crossed over a wide range of legal subjects but I believe her knowledge and understanding of the legal landscape of health in Hawai'i will be crucial to our state, especially as we navigate the aftermath of the pandemic, prevalent mental health issues and shortages in the healthcare workforce.

She's always willing to listen, willing to change her mind when needed, and willing to do what it takes to ensure that the mission is carried out. She has a keen ability to manage an influx of complicated matters, while keeping her moral compass due north.

Having previously worked as a deputy AG, I have no doubt that she'll be able to fulfill the role of Attorney General and that the State of Hawai'i will be better because of it.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Suzuki', with a stylized, cursive-like script.

Andrea A. Suzuki, Esq.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:43:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shelly Kunishige	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne Lopez is principled, calm, and intelligent. Her qualities will make for an excellent Attorney General.

I had the pleasure to work with Anne when she served as the Special Assistant to then Attorney General David Louie. She was a solid resource to the state's public information officers and was always willing to lend a hand during emergency activations and exercises.

Anne has a strong moral code and is not afraid to stand up for what she believes is right. She is the best choice for the chief counsel as she will always provide a perspective based on justice and the legal code.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting the appointment of Anne Lopez as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii.

GM-502

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 9:07:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/12/2023 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nadine Ando	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in strong support for the confirmation of Anne Lopez as Attorney General for the State of Hawaii. Nominee Lopez has an impressive resume of experience working in management and administration in the private sector, where, among other executive duties, she led the legal department of HHSC, as well as work with government agencies and the legislature as an executive member in the attorney general's office for several years. She will serve the State of Hawaii well in this leadership role and is well qualified to fulfill the requirements of the position. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



Testimony of the
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
relating to the nomination of

Anne Elizabeth Lopez
Attorney General for the State of Hawaii (GM502)

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Rhonda L. Griswold
President, Hawaii State Bar Association

Hearing: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 10:01 a.m.
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
State Capitol

The Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the appointment of Anne Lopez for the position of Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

The HSBA Board of Directors followed its multi-step process to inform the confirming authority of its findings on this appointment.

- Appointment to the nominee of the HSBA appointment review process, which includes a questionnaire requesting educational credentials, legal and other professional work experiences, personal references; a resume; a form authorizing disclosure from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel of any disciplinary action; and an interview with the HSBA Board of Directors.
- Notification via electronic transmission to the HSBA membership of the appointment and a request for comments on the nominee
- Appointment of a three-person review subcommittee of HSBA Board members by the President which serves as a neutral fact-finding body to: review documentation submitted by the nominee, contact references submitted by the nominee, review comments received from the HSBA membership, and conduct follow-up member contact for clarification, if necessary, for presentation to the HSBA Board.
- Submittal of a report by the three-person review subcommittee to the President, and subsequently to the entire Board.

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- Meeting of the President, the Executive Director, and the nominee prior to the scheduled interview of the nominee by the Board.
- Interview of the nominee by the HSBA Board.
- Deliberation of the HSBA Board.
- Submittal of the HSBA Board's recommendation to the confirming authority.

The HSBA President and the Executive Director met with Ms. Lopez on March 22, 2023, to discuss the subcommittee's findings. On March 23, 2023, Ms. Lopez was interviewed by the HSBA Board of Directors in executive session.

Documentation submitted by Ms. Lopez was reviewed and the references listed were contacted for their personal opinions and observations. The comments and letters received from HSBA members reflected an affirmation of Ms. Lopez in all categories of the HSBA criteria which include:

- Integrity
- Diligence
- Legal knowledge and ability
- Professional experience
- Temperament
- Financial responsibility
- Public service
- Ability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of the position

Anne E. Lopez is best known as the Vice President and General Counsel for the Hawaii Health System Corporation (HHSC) and for her role in the transfer of Maui Memorial Medical Hospital, Kula Hospital, and Lanai Community Hospital from HHSC to Maui Health Systems. In these roles the Nominee was called upon to handle a myriad of issues ranging from healthcare laws and regulations, state laws and governance, state and private labor and employment issues, litigation and claims, finance, management of outside counsel, ceded lands, real property, insurance, and risk management. During this period of time Ms. Lopez was called upon to manage resources to effectively achieve the ultimate goal of a smooth transition to ensure that the healthcare needs of Maui residents were met without interruption.

The Nominee began her professional life as an occupational therapist in health care settings and as a business owner. She sought out a different career path and was accepted into the William S. Richardson School of Law where she graduated *summa cum laude*. After serving as a judicial law clerk in the Hawaii Supreme Court, Ms. Lopez transitioned to the private practice of law. In 2013 the Nominee was appointed Special Assistant in the Department of the Attorney where her philosophy of government making things better for the citizens of Hawaii was further solidified. The Nominee came to appreciate the vast responsibilities of the Attorney General's Office which is constitutionally tasked with serving as legal counsel for the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of government when needs arise, especially during the annual legislative sessions. As one of the few Attorney General nominees who have served in the Department before appointment, Ms. Lopez understands the need for interaction among the Department's different divisions in order to efficiently and effectively manage the Office's large legal and support staff appointed as well as those in collective bargaining units, and the dynamics of managing staff on all islands.

Ms. Lopez is well respected in the legal community for her integrity, diligence, and strong work ethic. Colleagues have indicated that she provides guidance on a wide variety of issues from small to complex, and explains her rationale so that all levels of management and staff understand. Her guidance is reportedly always based on sound legal analysis. The Nominee's experience in large organization management is invaluable because the Attorney General for the State of Hawaii is the managing partner of one of the State's largest law firms.

After the interview of the nominee, which included dialogue and questioning relating to her background, experiences, and reasons for pursuing the position of Attorney General of the State of Hawaii, the Board of the Hawaii State Bar Association found Ms. Anne Lopez to be **QUALIFIED** for the position of Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments for consideration during the deliberations and decision making of our Committee.