

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2

Honolulu, Hawaii

OCT 19 2022

RE: JUD. COM. NO. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Third Special Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Judiciary Communication No. 1, submitting for study and consideration the appointment of:

DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

J.C. No. 1           TIMOTHY E. HO,  
for a term to expire in 6 years,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Judge Timothy E. Ho for service on the District Court of the First Circuit, State of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the appointment of Judge Timothy E. Ho from one member of the Honolulu City Council and forty-seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the appointment of Judge Timothy E. Ho from one individual. Your Committee received comments on the appointment of Judge Timothy E. Ho from the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

The Hawaii State Bar Association Board of Directors (HSBA Board) uses a rating system that considers several criteria to assist the HSBA Board in making a recommendation to your Committee on whether the appointee is "qualified" or "not qualified". Specifically, the criteria the HSBA Board employs is the same criteria found in the American Bar Association's Guidelines for Reviewing Qualifications of Candidates for State Judicial Office. Those guidelines include the following criteria, which are not



exclusive: integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, temperament, financial responsibility, public service, health, and ability to perform the responsibilities and duties required of the position for which the applicant has been appointed. Upon review of the established criteria, the HSBA Board found the appointee to be qualified for the position of District Court Judge of the First Circuit.

Judge Ho attended Creighton University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree and won the Small Business Administration Award for excellence in consultation. He received his Juris Doctorate from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and has been licensed to practice law in the State of Hawaii since 1987.

Judge Ho is currently a Per Diem Judge for the District Court of the First Circuit where he presides over the criminal calendar, DUI and traffic crimes calendar, and civil calendar. Judge Ho is also an attorney with the Law Office of Timothy E. Ho where he specializes in criminal defense and civil litigation. Previously, Judge Ho was an associate attorney at Imanaka Asato, LLLC, where he was a plaintiff's attorney handling wrongful foreclosure actions and representing corporations and individuals in foreclosures, tradename violations, lease disputes, and bankruptcies. From 2004 to 2018, Judge Ho was a Chief Deputy Public Defender at the State of Hawaii Office of the Public Defender where he assisted the State Public Defender with the administration of the office, budget and interagency committees, and task forces established by the Court and Legislature and was responsible for the statewide supervision and recruitment of all the office employees. Prior to 2004, for over sixteen years, Judge Ho held numerous other titles and roles at the Office of the Public Defender.

Judge Ho has been an active participant in professional and community activities throughout his career and has demonstrated his commitment to serving the public. From 2000 to 2018, Judge Ho was an Adjunct Professor at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he co-taught the Defense Clinic, a course that teaches students all aspects of the representation of a criminal defendant in the District Court. From 2015 to 2018, he served on the Department of Public Safety Reentry Commission. For over fourteen years, Judge Ho served on various interagency task forces and committees. From 2014 to



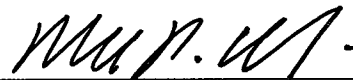
2018, he was active with the Hawaii State Bar Association, participating in Lawyers in the Classroom and the Junior Judges Program.

Testimony submitted in support of Judge Ho's appointment commends his extensive legal experience and knowledge, compassion, and dedication to the community. Testimony further indicates that during his time as a Per Diem Judge at the District Court of the First Circuit and the Office of the Public Defender, he has shown exceptional judgment, strong leadership, and respect for others. Numerous testifiers also praise his professional integrity, as well as his diligence and work ethic.

Your Committee finds that, based on the testimony submitted on his behalf, responses to questions asked by the members of your Committee, and your Committee's review of information about his qualifications, Judge Timothy E. Ho has the experience, judicial temperament, and other competencies to be a District Court Judge of the First Circuit, and possesses the knowledge, commitment, and demeanor to fully and faithfully discharge the duties associated with that judicial office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the appointee, has found the appointee to be qualified for the position to which appointed and recommends that the Senate consent to the appointment.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**  
**Consent**

Gov. Msg./Jud. Com. No.:* <b>JC 1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>JDC</b>	Date: <b>10/19/2022</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Consent</b> 2347 <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not Consent</b> 2349</span>				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
RHOADS, Karl (C)				/
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
GABBARD, Mike	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
LEE, Chris	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	6	-	-	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Adopted</b> <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not Adopted</b></span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> <span style="margin-left: 50px;">Original</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Yellow</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Pink</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Goldenrod</span>				
<span style="margin-left: 50px;">File with Committee Report</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Clerk's Office</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Drafting Agency</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Committee File Copy</span>				

**\*Only one Message/Communication per Record of Votes**