



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
February 11, 2015 at 8:30am
by
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WRITTEN ONLY

GM512 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Human resources Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, JAMES NISHIMOTO, for a term to expire 12-3-2018.

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Governor's Message 512 and the nomination of Dr. James Nishimoto as Director of the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) for the State of Hawai'i (State).

Dr. Nishimoto's 39 years of distinguished service to the State is a prime example of his dedication to public service and the betterment of our communities. He has served in a number of key roles at the University of Hawai'i (UH), to include Director of Academic Personnel Administration and Associate Director of Human Resources and Executive Assistant to two previous UH System Presidents. Through his hard work and dedication within these positions and combined with the foundation he built upon through his experiences in DHRD and the Department of Education, Dr. Nishimoto has developed a deep understanding of public employment laws and policy in Hawai'i and built a strong network of relationships across public agencies and employee unions. He is a quiet problem-solver, adept at bringing people together to find common ground and resolve challenging issues. Dr. Nishimoto's knowledge and understanding of human resources and employee relations issues have been an asset to me and to other UH leaders throughout his years of service here.

I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with "Nish" in a number of roles and projects over the years and know that he has both the substantive expertise and broad perspective to be an outstanding leader for the Department of Human Resources Development for the State of Hawai'i and our communities. I strongly support his nomination and look forward to continuing to work with him in his new role.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Governor's Message 512 and your consideration and confirmation of Dr. James Nishimoto.