

RES24-209

Testimony

MISC. COM. 414
ZONING (ZON)

Neal K. Okabayashi
3054 Maigret Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96816
September 4, 2024

Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
530 South King Street #202
Honolulu, HI 96813

Regarding: Resolution 24-209; Appointment of Ryan M. Toyomura to
The Zoning Board of Appeals (In Support)

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the Council:

I whole heartedly support the appointment Ryan M. Toyomura to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City and County of Honolulu.

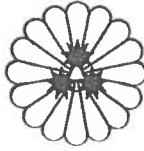
The depth of my knowledge stems from my history with Ryan M. Toyomura's work with legislative work and service at the State Capitol and his move to provide legal service. His graduation from the University of Hawai'i law school demonstrates his thought and challenging work to become an attorney (Summa Cum Laude – class rank of 5 out of 102 graduates). I should also note that he also received a Master of Public Administration from the University of Hawai'i. We talked about his desire to work for a law firm (I am an attorney by background although now retired) and thus, he chose the firm of Ashford & Wriston. His work at that law firm gave him background on matters that are relevant to the Zoning Board of Appeals. He is thoughtful, fair, knowledgeable, and well-spoken in such a manner that his thoughts will be well-meaning to those with whom he speaks. His experience will serve our community and more specifically, the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Zoning Board of Appeals will be blessed by his service.

Overall, he will bring exceptional value and perspective to the City and County of Honolulu and will serve all of us well. I fully support his appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Sincerely,



Neal K. Okabayashi
(808) 227-5116



PALOLO KWANNON TEMPLE

3326 PAALEA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816
PHONE: 737-5177

September 4, 2024

Reverend Irene Eshin Matsumoto
Palolo Kwannon Temple
3326 Paalea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
530 South King Street #202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: Resolution 24-209: Appointment of Ryan M. Toyomura
to the Zoning Board of Appeals**

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council:

My name is Reverend Irene Eshin Matsumoto, resident minister of Palolo Kwannon Temple a Tendai Buddhist temple for the past 29 years.

I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Resolution 24-209 and the appointment of Ryan M. Toyomura to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

I first met Ryan when he came to the temple to ask me to say a “get well prayer” for his very ill grandmother. I learned that he was a senior at Mid Pacific Institute. I was impressed that a young man would come to the temple to ask for special prayer for his grandmother. From that day we connected.

He is a kind, thoughtful and compassionate person. During the recent Virus Pandemic, I received a phone call from Ryan. “Reverend, do you need any toilet paper or paper towel? Costco is selling them today and there is a long line, but if you need them, I will stand in line and get them for you.”

I was touched by his concern. He is a wonderful **PERSON** and I support Ryan’s appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Sincerely,

Irene E. Matsumoto