



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

February 22, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi and Speaker Saiki:

I am sending this letter to wholeheartedly endorse Kristen Ross Sakamoto as Deputy Director of the Hawai'i Department of Taxation (DOTAX).

Most recently, Kristen served as a Deputy Corporation Counsel for the City and County of Honolulu, advising the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, Office of Economic Revitalization, and City Council on tax law and finance-related matters, including the general excise tax, real property tax, and public service company tax, and was tasked with assisting with the establishment of the county transient accommodations tax.

She has also served as an Administrative Rules Specialist for DOTAX and Deputy Attorney General in the Tax and Charities division. In these roles, she helped produce sound tax policies, procedures, and strategies to develop best practices. Prior to that, Kristen was a litigator in the private sector.

Kristen earned a J.D. from the University of California Hastings College of the Law and a B.B.A. in Management Information Systems from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

I have every confidence that Kristen will serve the state well in her capacity as Deputy Director of DOTAX.

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i