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Legislature appoints ethics chief Les Kondo as state auditor

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Les Kondo, executive director of the Hawaii Ethics Commission, talks about his accomplishments during the public portion of a commission meeting on May 27.

The Hawaii Legislature has appointed Les Kondo, head of the state's Ethics Commission, to serve as state auditor.

That means Kondo will be working for the Legislature to watch over the executive

branch, instead of monitoring the ethics of the Legislature.

Kondo was criticized last year by House Speaker Joe Souki because of the new rules Kondo put in place, which included reining in gifts to lawmakers. Souki says his disagreements with Kondo are all in the past.

The House and Senate voted to approve that and other appointments today.