

**GM 507**

**STEVEN M. SHIRAKI**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances, Gubernatorial Nominee, STEVEN M. SHIRAKI, for a term to expire 6-30-2013.

Testimony for the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and  
Controlled Substances Confirmation Hearing  
Presented Before the Senate Committee on Health

Steven M. Shiraki, Ph.D.  
April 2009

Chair Ige, members of the Senate Committee on Health, thank you very much for the opportunity to present background about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances (HACDACS).

I was born and raised in Hawaii, a third generation American of Japanese Ancestry. I grew up in lower Nuuanu and graduated from McKinley High School and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I have a Bachelor of Education in Secondary English Education, a Master of Education in Educational Administration, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Education, with a specialization in Educational Administration and Educational Policy. My research interests include leadership processes, teacher leadership and the preparation of educational leaders.

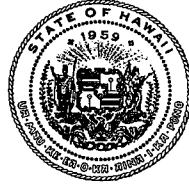
Although I am, by preparation and training, a secondary English teacher, I'm a certified special education teacher with 14 years of classroom experience. I also have four years of experience mentoring and supervising beginning special education teachers in an alternative certification program. I've served as a vice principal at three elementary schools and a district level educational specialist for special education and student support services.

In my current position, I'm an Administrator in the Student Support Services Branch in the Department of Education. Our section is responsible for all of the student support programs in the Department's Comprehensive Student Support System, including School-Based Behavioral Health (SBBH). I've held this position since December 2004. We've also worked closely with the Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) in the ongoing implementation of school-based substance abuse clinics in our secondary schools, as well as any other related issues with impact our youth and their families.

A position on the HACDACS would provide me with a unique opportunity to link our work in the Department of Education with the larger framework of supports for all individuals with substance abuses needs. In essence, for both children and adults, we share a common foundation of goals and outcomes. If we

are able to work collectively to provide children, adolescents, and adults with appropriate access to appropriate supports and services in a proactive manner, then I believe we will have enhanced the quality of life for all the residents in the state of Hawaii. In my professional and personal estimation, there is much more work to be done in linking children, families and adults with appropriate community-based supports/services.

While there will always be many challenges to confront and overcome in this arena, I believe that I am poised to make a contribution in this area, along with the other members of the council. My education, background, experience, and personality provide me with a strong foundation to make a contribution. I humbly ask for your support in confirming my nomination to the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances. Thank you very much for the opportunity to share this statement with you.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**Senate Committee on Health**

**G.M. 503, G.M. 504, G.M. 506, and G.M. 507, Nomination for Consideration and Confirmation for Commissioners of the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances**

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.  
Director of Health  
April 15, 2009**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports confirmation of Billie Gabriel  
2 (G.M. 503), Louis M. Kealoha (G.M. 504), Michele S. Scofield (G.M. 506) and Steven M. Shiraki  
3 (G.M. 507) to serve on the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances  
4 (HACDACS) for terms to expire on June 30, 2013.

5 **Fiscal Implications:** Not applicable.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** To confirm the appointment of Billie Gabriel, Louis M. Kealoha, Michele  
7 S. Scofield and Steven M. Shiraki to serve on HACDACS.

8 HACDACS appointees represent a cross-section of the community, including, but not limited to  
9 pharmacological, medical, community and business affairs, youth action, educational, legal defense,  
10 enforcement and corrections segments of the community.

11 **Billie Gabriel** is a self-employed consultant who is engaged in public relations, marketing,  
12 advertising, event planning and fundraising. Her 30-year career has also involved managing  
13 comprehensive development, media relations, brand imaging, sponsor recruitment, donor relations and  
14 legislative lobbying. During 2007 and 2008, Ms. Gabrielle provided management support to the  
15 producer of the 11-day Hawaii Romance Festival held on Oahu. As Vice-President of Development

1 with Easter Seals Hawaii between 1993 and 2007, she developed a comprehensive strategy, marketing  
2 and media plan to create greater awareness of the organization and its programs and services. Between  
3 1979 and 1992, Ms. Gabriel served as Director of Community Relations for Kapiolani Medical Center  
4 with responsibilities for managing fundraising events such as the Children's Miracle Network Telethon.

5 **Louis M. Kealoha** is a Captain with the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), Juvenile Services  
6 Division. He is currently on special assignment to the Narcotics/Vice Division. Prior to his current  
7 assignments, Captain Kealoha's service with HPD has included: Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer,  
8 Patrol Sergeant, Training Sergeant, Recruit Class Supervisor, Training/Administrative Lieutenant, and  
9 Captain within the Criminal Investigation Division. In addition to his work with the Honolulu Police  
10 Department, Captain Kealoha is an Adjunct Professor and Lecturer in courses on criminal law,  
11 criminology and the criminal justice system at Chaminade University of Honolulu. He holds dual  
12 baccalaureate degrees (in human services and occupational education), a Master's of Science in  
13 Criminal Justice Administration, and a Doctor of Education degree.

14 **Michele S. Scofield** is a Practicum Instructor/Project Junior Specialist with the University of  
15 Hawaii at Manoa, School of Social Work, Pulama I Ke Ola Social Work Master's Program Training  
16 Project. In addition to academic credentials in the field of social work, she is a licensed social worker  
17 and certified substance abuse counselor. Ms. Scofield's experiences in programs that address behavioral  
18 health include: classroom experience with special education students at Wheeler Elementary School,  
19 Nimitz Elementary School, Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School and Hickam Elementary School; public  
20 and consumer education with the Department of Health, Adult Mental Health Division and Mental  
21 Health Association; and clinical experience in the field of substance abuse at Hina Mauka.

22 **Steven M. Shiraki** is the Administrator/Educational Specialist with the Department of Education  
23 (DOE) Student Support Section of the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support, Student  
24 Support Services Branch. He has an extensive academic and professional background in the field of

1 Education. His areas of specialization are Special Education and Legal Issues for Administrators,  
2 Supervision and Teacher Development, and Curriculum/Instructional Leadership. He began his  
3 professional work with the DOE in 1993 as a Special Education teacher at Kawanānakoā Intermediate  
4 School and served as Vice Principal at various elementary schools before serving as a District and State  
5 Educational Specialist. In addition to his work with the DOE, Dr. Shiraki has taught college courses and  
6 has given numerous scholarly and professional presentations. As the HACDACS member jointly  
7 appointed (pursuant to Sections 329-2 and 334-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes) to the State Council on  
8 Mental Health, Dr. Shiraki is knowledgeable about the community and the relationships between mental  
9 health, mental illness and substance abuse.

10 We respectfully request your expeditious and favorable consideration in confirming  
11 Billie Gabriel, Louis M. Kealoha, Michele S. Scofield and Steven M. Shiraki to serve on HACDACS.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of these volunteers whose  
13 appointments add to the cross-section of community interests represented on the Commission.

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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT SUPPORT

April 9, 2009

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Ige:

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Dr. Steven Shiraki, who is Governor Linda Lingle's nominee to serve on the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances. Upon your committee's confirmation, Dr. Shiraki would serve on the Council from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2013.

I have had the pleasure to work with Dr. Shiraki for the past seven years in various capacities. I first met Dr. Shiraki when he served as the District Educational Specialist for the South Central Complex. As the District Educational Specialist, Dr. Shiraki was responsible for ensuring that students with disabilities within the Aiea, Radford, and Moanalua school complexes received a free appropriate public education, including the provision of school-based behavioral and mental health services as determined by the student's Individualized Education Program. Dr. Shiraki subsequently moved to the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support (OCISS) to become the Educational Specialist for Section 504 and Home-Hospital Instruction. In this position, Dr. Shiraki provided the statewide leadership and direction to ensure that students with disabilities, identified under Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973, received necessary supports in order to benefit from general education. In February 2005, Dr. Shiraki assumed the responsibilities of the Administrator for the Student Support Section in the Special Education and Student Support Services Branch of OCISS. As the Administrator for the Student Support Section, Dr. Shiraki provides the leadership, direction, and oversight to a number of primary and early intervention services, including school-based behavioral and mental health, section 504, counseling, positive behavior supports, comprehensive student support system, etc.

The Honorable David Y. Ige  
April 9, 2009  
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Without reservation, I know Dr. Shiraki will be an invaluable member of and an asset to the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances. He brings with him a depth and breadth of expertise, experiences and knowledge as a former classroom teacher, state office resource teacher, school administrator, and state level leader. Dr. Shiraki is an effective communicator, an excellent facilitator, and outstanding member of a team.

If you have any questions regarding this letter of recommendation, please feel free to contact me at 733-4400. Your favorable consideration of Dr. Shiraki's nomination is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul K. Ban". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "B" at the end.

Paul K. Ban, Ph.D.  
Director  
Special Education and Student Support Services Branch

PB:ar

c: Superintendent  
Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support





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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Farmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debra Farmer  
Administrator  
Special Education Section

DF:ar

c: Superintendent  
Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support