

TESTIMONY

GM690

**HTH
Committee Hearing
03-07-2012**

Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Health

March 7, 2012

Clarysse Kami Nunokawa
Board of Health

Chair Green, Vice Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Health plays a pivotal role in the health of all residents in the State of Hawai'i. I am honored to be nominated to the Board of Health and I hope my contributions will benefit my fellow citizens across our great state. I am unable to personally attend the Senate Committee on Health hearing and therefore thank you for the opportunity to present written background about myself for your consideration.

I was born and raised on Hawai'i Island and I also lived on O'ahu for many years working as a social worker and health educator in the health and human service fields. In 2003, I returned home to Hawai'i Island to manage the Statewide Meth Initiative for the Hawai'i Community Foundation. Through this experience I became acquainted with key stakeholders on all islands and gained both a local and statewide perspective on this critical health issue. These experiences allowed me to understand the health needs in both our rural and urban communities.

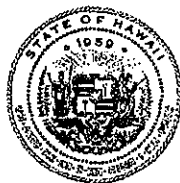
I believe that the knowledge and experience I gained as a social worker and public health educator combined with a deep knowledge of Hawai'i Island provides me with a unique perspective and will enhance my contributions to the Board of Health. I hope to assist in developing strong relationships and build bridges with those within and outside the Department of Health. I believe that with a focus on collaboration we can find positive solutions to the health challenges facing our state.

I look forward to being of service to my State and the Board of Health. I am happy to respond to any questions you may have. Please feel free to call me at 808.345-7760. Thank you.

Clarysse Kami Nunokawa, MSW
14 Koula Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
PH: 808.345-7760

GM690

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Health

March 3, 2012

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

G.M. 690, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawaii Board of Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, Clarysse Nunokawa, for a term to expire 6-30-2016

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports confirmation of Clarysse
2 Nunokawa to serve on the Hawaii Board of Health for a term to expire on June 30, 2016.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None

4 **Purpose and Justification:** To confirm the appointment of Clarysse Nunokawa to serve on the Board
5 of Health. Ms. Nunokawa is currently a grants manager and compliance coordinator for the County of
6 Hawaii. Her primary focus is on coordinating community efforts to prevent under-age drinking. Prior to
7 this position, Ms. Nunokawa worked as the Program Office for Health with the Hawaii Community
8 foundation. At the Hawaii Community Foundation, Ms. Nunokawa helped coordinate programs on
9 alcohol, drug and tobacco control, and childhood development.

10
11 Ms. Nunokawa has been on the Board of Health since 2008 and has helped assure representation for
12 Hawaii County. We believe that Ms. Nunokawa professional experience in public health and
13 community programs is an asset to the Board. We respectfully request your expeditious and favorable
14 consideration in reconfirming Clarysse Nunokawa to serve on the Board of Health.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this appointment.