

**GM542**

**TESTIMONY**



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

In reply, please refer to  
File:

**Senate Committee on Health**

**GM 541, GM 542, GM 543, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEES TO THE  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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

**Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 1:30 p.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports the appointments of Ms. Dian  
2 Gruber, Dr. Elizabeth Char, and Mr. Ralph Yawata, to the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory  
3 Committee.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** Air travel and transportation costs to attend meetings.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** Ms. Dian Gruber (GM 541) is a registered nurse and is the Manager of  
6 Ambulatory Surgery, Recovery Room, and Endoscopy at Maui Memorial Medical Center. She has been  
7 an interim appointment to this Committee since July 2012. Her past working experiences in the  
8 emergency room and trauma are beneficial to this Committee.

9 Dr. Elizabeth Char (GM 542) is an emergency physician practicing at Straub Clinic and Hospital,  
10 is the medical director for American Medical Response on Oahu, and has also been an interim  
11 appointment to this Committee since July 2012. Her knowledge, clinical, and administrative  
12 experiences are an asset to this Committee.

13 Mr. Ralph Yawata (GM543) is the retired Assistant Chief, Support Services Division, and  
14 previously the EMS Bureau Chief of the Hawaii Fire Department. He has attended these EMS Advisory

1 Committee meetings in his previous capacity. He has been an interim appointment to this Committee  
2 since July 2012. With more than 25 years of service, he brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and  
3 expertise.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of these Gubernatorial nominees to the State  
5 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM542 on Feb 27, 2013 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 25, 2013 7:15:32 AM

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GM542

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 27, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt S. Morimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dr. Char continues to be actively involved with EMS issues statewide. Please confirm her as a member of the EMSAC. Thank you!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Senate Committee on Health  
GM 542

Re: Confirmation to the EMS advisory Committee for Elizabeth Char

25 February 2013

Thank you for the nomination to serve on the state Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC). This committee is a vital component of the EMS community and is a mechanism to aid in moving EMS forward as the role and structure of healthcare changes. I am excited about participating as I have a unique perspective on EMS from serving in many of the facets of the EMS community in Hawaii.

My introduction to EMS comes via years of experience as a board certified Emergency Physician, during which I also served as the state district medical director for Oahu in the state EMS system. Following this, I provided administrative and medical oversight for the city and county of Honolulu EMS and medical direction in the private sector as well. Kapiolani Community college, the training arm for EMS in the state has allowed me to connect with the paramedics, EMT's and students and provide occasional lectures or assist in training courses.

It is an honor to serve on the state EMSAC committee and I will do my best to represent the people in our communities and encourage communication across all stakeholders in order to provide the best possible care we can for the people of the 50th state.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth A. Char', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elizabeth A Char MD  
Assistant Clinical Professor  
John A Burns School of Medicine