



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

In reply, please refer to
File:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

G.M. 560, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ERIC A. OKAZAKI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2017

Testimony of Gary L. Gill
Deputy Director for Environmental Health

February 24, 2014, 1:30 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Eric A.
2 Okazaki to the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None

4 **Purpose and Justification:** Mr. Okazaki has thirty-three years of overall experience in the water
5 industry and is currently the Vice President of Operations at Pural Water Specialty Company, Inc. where
6 he has over fifteen years of experience in the management of operations of private water systems. Prior
7 to his current position, Mr. Okazaki was the Water System Manager for 10 years at the County of Maui,
8 Department of Water Supply where he was responsible for managing all potable water from wells and
9 surface water sources.

10 In addition, to his extensive public and private potable water experience, Mr. Okazaki possesses
11 both a Distribution System Operator and a Water Treatment Plant Operator certification, both at the
12 highest grade level 4. Therefore, he understands the value of a certification program. His knowledge
13 will bring valuable insight to the Board, and his willingness to serve demonstrates his commitment to his
14 profession and the certification of drinking water system operators.