

GM772

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board Of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALICIA MALUAFITI, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

Report Title: Board Of Veterinary Examiners

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR
JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2016
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
9:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 772**, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO **THE BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS**, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **ALICIA MALUAFITI**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 772, nominating Ms. Alicia Maluafiti for membership on the Board of Veterinary Examiners ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

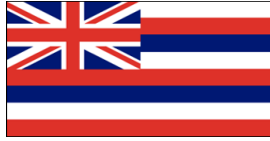
Ms. Maluafiti has more than 20 years of experience in community and government relations and a passion for protecting pets. A few of her notable past clients include the

Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, the Hawaii Community Development Association ("HCDA"), and HMSA.

Ms. Maluafiti also founded Poi Dogs & Popoki, a non-profit dedicated to improving the quality of life for dogs and cats by providing nurturing environments that are safer and healthier for the animals and community. Some of the services provided include installing fences or providing shelter, and offering free or low cost veterinary services. She also has past experience serving on different boards, including on HCDA representing Kalaeloa. She understands her responsibility to attend and prepare for the Board's monthly meetings.

Given Ms. Maluafiti's experience and genuine care for animals, the Department believes that she is in a good position to positively contribute to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of Ms. Maluafiti's nomination to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.



CAPITOL CONSULTANTS OF HAWAII, LLP
222 South Vineyard Street Suite 401, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Office: (808) 531-4551 Fax: (808) 533-4601
Website: www.808cch.com

April 13, 2016

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Consumer Protection and Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 229
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Support for GM772, ALICIA MALUAFITI, Board of Veterinary Examiners

Dear Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Kidani and Committee Members -

I write in strong support of the Governor's Message 772 seeking confirmation of Alicia Maluafiti to serve on the Board of Veterinary Examiners (Board) for a term to expire on June 30, 2018.

I have know Ms. Maluafiti for several years during my time as a legislator, but also having worked more closely with her on a Board of Directors for Poi Dogs and Popoki.

While she is known for her advocacy and government relations work in the legislative and government arena, it is her passion and commitment to the care of pets and animals that I find most compelling and admirable. I have seen first-hand her pure love and aloha for her pets and for others pets to ensure that receive the best care possible. She takes care of and takes on the burden of animals that most would choose to discard or destroy. She provides them a loving and stable environment where they often grow and prosper and get to feel what is like to be live in a home.

I think that her perspective is why a public position was created on the Board. But, she will also bring her board level of private, non-profit, and government interaction experience to the Board that I believe they will find to be beneficial.

Thus, I hope that you will look favorably upon her appointment to this position. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Blake Oshiro
Executive Vice President

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: brian@hfbf.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM*
Date: Sunday, April 10, 2016 12:51:24 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/10/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Cabral	Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

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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Date: April 6, 2016

Tails of Hawaii
686 Ahua St
Honolulu HI 96819
(808)676-9663

Testimony from Heather Manuel

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Heather Manuel and I am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

I have been in the business of pet care since 2006. I operate two daycare and boarding facilities on the island of Oahu. Prior to this I was intermittently employed as a veterinary technician since 1994. I have worked with many non-profit, pet focused foundations over the years. I believe Alicia has the most well balanced approach to animal welfare. Her passion for animals ensures her heart is in the right place and her sensibility and intellect deliver thought driven solutions to the overwhelming need for animal advocacy in Hawaii. I believe the veterinary board as well as pet owners will greatly benefit from her unbiased perspective and ability to get things done.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Mahalo,

Heather Manuel

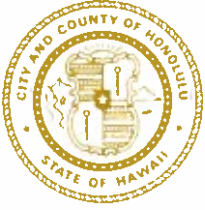
Owner

808-381-4586

heather@tailsofhawaii.com



Cc: Heather Manuel



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 - 3065

ERNEST Y. MARTIN
CHAIR and PRESIDING OFFICER
HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 2
TELEPHONE: (808)768-5002
FAX: (808) 768-1222
EMAIL: emartin@honolulu.gov

Testimony from Honolulu City Council Chair Ernest Y. Martin

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

I stand in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

I have known Alicia Maluafiti, the founder and executive director of Poi Dogs & Popoki (PDP), since 2009 when I served as the city's Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services and she was the founder and President of the Oahu Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Recognizing a gap in animal welfare services, Ms. Maluafiti created PDP to provide traditional rescue and shelter services as well as support for pet owners who need the most assistance. My office has referred constituents to Ms. Maluafiti and PDP, who have contacted the office with praise for Ms. Maluafiti and the work she does.

I am continually impressed with Ms. Maluafiti's passion and dedication to improving the welfare of animals and their owners. Her work ethic and leadership abilities are the reason that PDP has successfully grown over the years and continues to help provide our most underserved communities with affordable animal care. Under her leadership, PDP has contributed viable solutions to address our city's pet overpopulation issue in the most humane and effective way possible. Advocating for a healthier, happier and more compassionate community for our animals, Ms. Maluafiti would be an invaluable addition to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Mahalo.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM*
Date: Monday, April 04, 2016 6:52:55 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/4/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: alan.takemoto@monsanto.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM
Date: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 3:51:16 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/6/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Takemoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee, My name is Alan Takemoto and I am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772). I've known Alicia Maluafiti for many years as one of the most passionate and committed individual for animal welfare. Alicia's extensive background with the Hawaiian Humane Society, OSPCA, and now Poi Dogs & Popoki provides a wealth of experience and knowledge. She is well qualified and will be an asset to the State of Hawaii. Please approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Mahalo, Alan Takemoto

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From: applevet@aol.com
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony inn strong support of GM772
Date: Thursday, April 07, 2016 4:40:30 PM

Testimony from Anne M Apple

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

I am a small animal veterinarian licensed in the state of Hawaii. I am writing to you in support of Alicia Malafuiti's nomination to the Board of Veterinary Examiners for the State of Hawaii.

I practiced small animal medicine for twenty years, owned my own practice and, in the past few years have developed expertise in the area of shelter and rescue medicine. I became acquainted with people involved in animal rescue on O'ahu while studying for my shelter medicine certificate. Of all the people I got to know during that time, Alicia Malafuiti stood out as someone who not only spoke the mission, but actually carried out the mission. She has incredible drive and dedication—as I have said to more than one person, she is truly a force of nature. The welfare of animals is not a passing cause with her. She has been at this a long time. While others might talk a good game or just look good on paper, Alicia has been getting things done. She works with intelligence and awareness of the needs not only of the animals she serves, but awareness of the people she works with. This is a person who puts the whole picture together and comes out with a positive result.

Alicia's work spans the entire island of O'ahu. Between her cat sanctuary and dog/cat adoption activities, community outreach projects, and of course, the Big Fix, Alicia has accomplished things that other organizations have not, regardless of size or funding.

I was delighted to learn of her nomination by Governor Ige to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, and wholeheartedly urge you to approve her appointment.

Sincerely,

Anne M Apple DVM MA

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: drapriltx@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM
Date: Monday, April 11, 2016 10:12:20 AM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/11/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
april campbell	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate: I am Dr. April Campbell, a veterinarian who is licensed and resides in Hawaii. I am testifying in opposition to Alicia Maluafiti's nomination to the HI State Board of Veterinary Examiners. From October 2014 until November 2015, I was employed by her as a contract veterinary surgeon at Poi Dogs and Popoki. I witnessed her poor communication skills with other employees, other veterinarians, volunteers and even clients of Poi Dogs and Popoki in that she was very harsh (yelling) and abrasive with them in front of clients. Alicia Maluafiti claims to be very concerned about animal welfare, but she is a known hoarder of 100 cats and 12 dogs in her own home. I have had to treat or euthanize some of her cats on the mobile van. They were all in terrible condition: emaciated, extremely lethargic, and flea-ridden. Finally, Ms. Maluafiti still owes me my last paycheck for the whole month of November 2015. She had threatened me with lawsuit and complaint to the HI vet board for breach of contract (for quitting job). I had given a six week resignation notice since I was moving from Honolulu to Big Island. However, I terminated my contract service two weeks earlier than expected when gross negligence occurred on the mobile van that resulted in a pet cat's death (was placed in a borrowed Poi Dog's old carrier that collapsed in parking lot and cat got run over). Currently I am pursuing legal channels to get my pay. I urge you not to confirm Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Her confirmation would be detrimental to the Hawaiian veterinary profession as a whole. Sincerely, April Campbell, DVM PO Box 190672 Hawi, HI 96719 210-789-3353 (c)

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: brian@hfbf.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM*
Date: Sunday, April 10, 2016 12:50:32 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/10/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Miyamoto	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Testimony from Celeste Kato

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Celeste Kato and I am testifying in very strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

I know Alicia through her non-profit organization Poi Dogs and Popoki and The Big Fix, its mobile spay/neuter clinic. Alicia is the most passionate animal advocate that you will ever meet and she is tireless when it comes to the protection and welfare of the animals; she loves them all – young, old, cute, ugly, sick and healthy. She puts into action what most people only talk about doing. And she will always do what is right for the animals. Always.

If appointed to the Board, I know that Alicia will be fair, but firm. She does not let her attention to detail prevent her from seeing the big picture. Alicia is very organized and has an amazing ability to motivate and inspire others, myself included. You would be lucky to have her as part of your organization.

I really appreciate your consideration and humbly ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Mahalo.

Testimony of Christopher Teves

April 13, 2016

9:30 a.m.

GM 772

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

I am writing to support Alicia Maluafiti for the board of veterinary examiners.

I know her better as “Aunty Alicia.” Starting when I was 9 years old, Aunty Alicia inspired me to volunteer to help cats, dogs and other animals. I volunteer with the Poi Dogs & Popoki mobile clinic because of her. I’ve helped with pet adoptions, checked cats into the clinic, worked at a community pet walk and helped at a golf tournament. I organized a pet photo contest in my school to raise money for Poi Dogs & Popoki. The contest got a lot of students thinking about how they could help animals too.

Aunty Alicia rescues animals that no one else will help. You can tell that she really cares. She is a hard worker, a good teacher and a good leader. I know she would do a good job on the board of veterinary examiners.

Please support her.

TESTIMONY FROM DEAN J. OKIMOTO

In strong support of GM772— submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire:
06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Rm 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Dean J. Okimoto, and i am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM772)

I own Nalo Farms, Inc. and was former President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, at which I had the pleasure and opportunity to work with Alicia, on many matters at the the legislature. In getting to know Alicia, you cannot help but see her passion for animals and their welfare in our world today. I saw her start Poi Dogs and Popoki, a non profit to help homeless animals, and i know she has a few dozen animals that she personally cares for at her own home. She was also able to raise money to buy a mobile animal spaying and neutering truck to go to neighborhoods, and try to control the burgeoning population of homeless animals. She cares greatly about people and animals and I believe she would be a great advocate to veterinary oversight for this board.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Mahalo,
Dean J. Okimoto

Testimony from Elizabeth Purcell

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Elizabeth Purcell, and I would like to testify in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

Since moving to Oahu in 2014, I have worked closely with Alicia as a volunteer for Poi Dogs and Popoki. My family and I have served as fosters for several families of cats/kittens. I have gotten to know Alicia during this time, and her commitment to animal welfare is unwavering. She goes over and above for every animal she comes across – no matter is too insignificant for her attention. Alicia's knowledge of veterinary care, combined with her in depth understanding of the local and state government makes her an ideal candidate for the Board of Veterinary Examiners. She is deeply, deeply committed to resolving the persistent animal issues of our island. Alicia gives herself heart and soul to animal welfare in Hawaii, and the Board would be most fortunate to have her serve our community in this way.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Mahalo.

Elizabeth Purcell

95-250 Kapanoe Place

Mililani, HI 96789

From: helene711@live.com on behalf of [Helene Navaro](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: in strong support of GM 772 -Alicia Maluafiti
Date: Sunday, April 10, 2016 8:10:31 PM

Testimony from Helene P Navaro

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Helene P Navaro and I am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

My very first cat rescue was 19 years ago and I continue to help the voiceless animals. As President of Hawaii Happy Cats, we dedicate our resource towards spay, neuter and cat adoptions. Our goal is to lessen the number of cats living on the street. I met Alicia Maluafiti many years ago and I find Alicia is straightforward to the point person and she always gets the job done. She is dedicated and committed to help all animals on her path. Animal welfare is her upmost priority which I find that is a requirement for this position. Her dedication and focus on spay neuter (Poi Dogs & Popoki 's The Big Fix) are commendable. Her skills and knowledge are also her biggest assets. Alicia Maluafiti has the qualifications for this position and her love for the animals make Alicia Maluafiti the perfect candidate.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Helene Navaro
President
Hawaii Happy Cats
808-291-6109

Testimony from J.N. Musto, Ph.D.

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is J.N. Musto. My wife, Linda, and I are testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

I have known Alicia Maluafiti for eight years, through her work at the state legislature and in her fundraising for **Poi Dogs and Popoki**, an advocacy group for animals of the islands she founded in 2007. My wife and I had been long-time supporters of the Hawaiian Humane Society, but we became personally involved with Alicia and her efforts on our behalf to place dogs and cats in permanent homes, thus avoid euthanasia. She spends countless hours contacting numerous people in her efforts to place animals in “forever homes.” Alicia’s requirements are exemplary in that she visits prospective sites for appropriateness, sets up an interview with prospective adopters, and insists that animal locator chips reflect her address, so adopted animals will always be returned to her provenance.

We are also aware of her continuing advocacy for animals other than the dogs and cats she champions, in one case rescuing numerous guinea pigs from a difficult situation in which their well-beings were threatened and placing them in happy homes. Her knowledge of animal behavior is extensive, her tenacity in seeking replacements for settings that have failed to be supportive exceptional, and her empathetic and generous heart unmatched. Animals fortunate enough to enjoy her energetic zeal on behalf of their well-being are indeed blessed. Her knowledge and understanding of both people and animals makes her not-for-profit **Poi Dogs and Popoki** our preferred donation site in support of animal welfare.

In addition to being a latter-day St. Francis of Assisi, Alicia is also a people-person who manages to cultivate and encourage benefactors to support the causes she espouses. In our opinion and we hope yours, her extensive experience over the course of many years of personal involvement in animal-related issues in the State, her unwavering commitment, and her engaging and amiable interpersonal relations make her an ideal candidate for this appointment.

We would appreciate your favorable consideration and approval of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Mahalo.

Testimony from Dr. John Purcell

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Dr. John Purcell, and I would like to testify in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

Since moving to Oahu in 2014, I have worked closely with Alicia in her capacity leading Poi Dogs and Popoli and in her professional role supporting agriculture in the state. My family and I have served as fosters for several families of cats/kittens and it is clear that Alicia's commitment to animal welfare is unwavering. She goes above and beyond for every animal she comes across – no matter is too insignificant for her attention. Alicia gives her heart and soul to animal welfare in Hawaii. She is deeply committed to resolving the persistent animal issues of our islands. I also work with Alicia professionally in her role supporting agriculture in Hawaii and she brings the same passion to her efforts in this domain as well as a great knowledge of state and county government. She is also a great collaborator and works through difficult situations very well. Her skills and knowledge will serve as huge assets in this role on the Board.

Alicia's knowledge of veterinary care, combined with her in depth understanding of the local and state government makes her an ideal candidate for the Board of Veterinary Examiners. I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Mahalo

Dr. John P. Purcell

95-250 Kapanoe Place

Mililani, HI 96789

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM
Date: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 3:30:19 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/6/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Alicia is a perfect candidate to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Her devotion to animals and understanding of the humane care of them will add value to this Board. Please support her nomination. thank you.

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To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: lho@hawaiipublicpolicy.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM
Date: Monday, April 04, 2016 9:07:41 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/4/2016

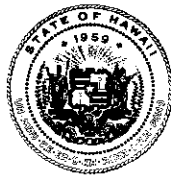
Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Pavlicek	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to support the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the board of veterinary examiners. I have known Ms. Maluafiti for more than 10 years and have worked closely with her as a volunteer and collaborated with her on numerous community service projects. She is truly dedicated to community service and is a role model not just for others in the community but also personally for my own teenager who was inspired to community service because of Alicia. She is a tireless advocate for animals. I am confident that she will do an outstanding job for the people of the state of Hawaii. Please confirm her appointment.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 12, 2016

Testimony of Rep. Clift Tsuji

Before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 a.m. State Capitol, Room 229

RE: GM772

Aloha Chair Baker and Committee Members:

Please accept my support for Alicia Maluafiti's nomination to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. With her extensive work history and fond love for animals, I believe Ms. Maluafiti is someone who will bring significant benefit to this Board.

I have known Alicia for over ten years. Ms. Maluafiti established Loihi Communications in 2005, a community and government relations agency that provides nonprofits, associations, businesses and government entities with strategic support in communications, public affairs, outreach and education, and grassroots organizing.

Ms. Maluafiti also works with the Ala Moana Building Tenants Association, the Biotechnology Industry Association, CropLife America, the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, the Community Association Institute, Associa Hawaii, and the Honolulu Board of Realtors.

Prior, she also worked at or with Hawaii Pacific University, Kahoomiki—Hawaii's Council on Physical Activity, the Hawaii Community Development Authority, HMSA, the Hawaiian Humane Society, and AARP.

With this appointment to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Ms. Maluafiti will focus on improving services for veterinarians and making a difference in the State of Hawaii.

This individual has distinguished herself in her profession and community. The prospect of what she could further accomplish serving on the Board is a point worthy of consideration. I humbly ask that you give positive consideration to Ms. Maluafiti's nomination.

Sincerely,

CLIFT TSUJI

Representative Clift Tsuji

District 2: Keaukaha, parts of Hilo, Panaeoa and Waiakea

State Capitol, Room 402 Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 586-8480 Toll-free from Hawaii Island 974-4000, ext. 68480 Fax: 586-8484

Email: reptsuji@capitol.hawaii.gov

April 7, 2016

Testimony from Richard B. Emery, Vice President of Government Affairs, Associa

I am in strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

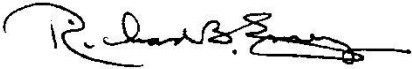
Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Richard Emery and I am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

I am a long standing supporter of pet welfare and a director of Poi Dogs & Popoki. I personally know of Alicia's strong personal commitment in Hawaii for decades for animal welfare. She will be a great asset to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard B. Emery". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Testimony from Shay Sunderland, Ph.D.

In strong support of GM 772 – submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 9:30 am, Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee,

My name is Dr. Shay Sunderland and I am testifying in strong support of the appointment of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners (GM 772).

I know Alicia through both her support of agriculture and through her tireless efforts with the pet rescue organization, Poi Dogs & Popoki. Alicia is very passionate about everything she does, especially when it comes to the welfare of all animals. As a member of the Board of Veterinary Examiners she would serve the interest of the board and the community with equal passion and fervor.

I appreciate your consideration and ask that you approve the appointment of Alicia to the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Mahalo.

TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM

2265 ʻAuliʻi Street, Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96817-1530

tylerdst@gmail.com
(808) 348-8885

April 6, 2016

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
and members
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaiʻi State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

RE: Strong Support for GM772, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board Of Veterinary Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alicia Maluafiti, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members:

My name is Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, and I write to strongly support the nomination of Alicia Maluafiti to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

My family includes two German Shepherd dogs, four cats, and a cockatiel. As a result, we are frequent consumers of veterinary services. We are happy that we have a good, caring family veterinarian whom we visit on a regular basis.

Every Hawaiʻi pet owner deserves to know that her or his veterinarian is educated, experienced, and qualified to provide high-quality services for pets of all shapes and sizes. That's why the Board is so important: they are empowered to grant licenses, as well as investigate veterinarians who violate the law and harm animals.

Alicia has a lifetime of experience in caring for animals, and I can think of no one more qualified to be a public member of the Board of Veterinary Examiners. She served as Director of Community Relations at the Hawaiian Humane Society, founded the Oahu SPCA and Poi Dogs & Popoki, and works very closely with a number of veterinarians and clinics on spay/neuter clinics. I have taken several feral cats from my neighborhood to Alicia's "Big Fix" mobile clinics, and have seen first-hand how dedicated she is to providing needed services to support Hawaiʻi's animals.

Therefore, I strongly urge your committee to recommend that the Senate consent to Alicia's nomination to the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Mahalo,



Tyler Dos Santos-Tam

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM772 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM*
Date: Saturday, April 09, 2016 6:30:18 PM

GM772

Submitted on: 4/9/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

(1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

I have spent more than 20 years rescuing animals and feel my insight and perspective can be a strong asset to the discussion about veterinary licensing and the laws that ensure public and pet health and safety. I work closely with a number of vets as well as vet clinics so I am familiar with many of the challenges they face (along with pet owners). My commitment and passion for animals is unconditional. I volunteer my time and resources to support animals and the important work of Poi Dogs & Popoki. Becoming a member of the Board of Veterinary Examiners is an extension of my commitment to service pet and their people.

(2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

I believe my role is to ensure the health and safety of animals and the people caring for them. To do this, the Board needs to ensure that a qualified pool of veterinarians is available in the state and that the highest standards of care are being provided responsibly and affordably. The board should be an advocate of policies and laws that support the work of the veterinary community and the people and pets that they serve, and advise on licensing requirements to ensure that vets are capable and competent.

(3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

Since I am not a licensed veterinarian, I believe that I am an unbiased voice for the consumer – not just pet owners but people seeking veterinary support services including caregivers and rescue groups. As the board discusses licensing requirements, I believe consumers require a balanced approach to regulation to ensure that the veterinarians and the services that they provide are appropriate and guided by best practices. Veterinarian roles are changing with shared responsibilities amongst other staff, so the consumer needs to feel comfortable in knowing that qualified professionals are available and affordable.

(4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I have spent a considerable amount of my life engaged in animal welfare. I served as the Director of Community Relations at the Hawaiian Humane Society in 2007, founded the Oahu SPCA in 2008, and Poi Dogs & Popoki in 2009. I work very closely with a number of veterinarians and veterinary clinics to not only support The Big Fix, our mobile spay/neuter clinic, but to provide direct care to the many animals that we rescue and care for including 400 cats at a sanctuary in Nanakuli. On a daily basis, I personally care for 12 rescue dogs and over 100 cats, and have continued to provide temporary foster care for new rescues. I am very familiar with the challenges facing pet owners with respect to access to affordable veterinary care. And I have seen first-hand the issues that veterinarians and their staff experience as they balance the needs of the animal with the burden on the pet owner. I feel confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the board and one that very few of the current board members have experienced.

(5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I would also like to discuss standards of care for high volume spay/neuter clinics. There are a number of these types of clinics starting up – many of them “MASH” style - to help reduce pet overpopulation and we do need them. Some have a weaker commitment to quality of care and concerns have been raised about paying vets by the animal which has created an incentive to work faster but risk the health of the animal. It might be time to adopt some standards of care to protect the animal and the owners paying for the services.

I would like to revisit the Veterinary Technician proposal that has been advocated by the Windward Community College Vet Tech program. I think Hawaii has unique challenges with cost and affordability related to unnecessary restrictions. I have read the auditor’s report and believe there are some issues that need to be resolved.

Cost is one of the greatest drivers in animal welfare. Some pet owners are looking for the cheapest price and are willing to cut corners. While some vets are more concerned with profit and overprescribe. I would like to see an elevated discussion around the ethics of veterinary care.

(6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

Passionate: I am in this for all the right reasons – because I care. The Board will get an opinion from me when necessary – to at least make sure that we remember who we are supposed to be serving.

Analytical: I believe in taking a logical and scientific approach to issues and challenges. I embrace the opportunity to absorb information to help make informed decisions.

Consensus Builder: I think everyone’s input is valuable and we all bring our different experiences, education, and knowledge to the table. Finding common ground is always key to moving any agenda forward.

(7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I have served on a number of nonprofit boards as well as a state board (HCDA), but my greatest experience is bringing a high volume, high quality, low cost mobile spay and neuter clinic to Oahu. We experienced a number of challenges that I think many private practice vets will appreciate the work that we do and its applicability to the work of the Board.

(8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

I am not paid staff for Poi Dogs & Popoki (a 501c3 nonprofit) nor do I profit in any way from the volunteer animal welfare work that I do for PDP. I don’t believe I would have any conflicts of interest but if there were one, I would identify the potential conflict and ask the board chair for a decision about recusing myself from any vote.