

# GM 510

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Health Planning Council, Hawai'i County Subarea, Gubernatorial Nominee, MOMI FERNANDEZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Health Planning Council, Hawai'i County Subarea

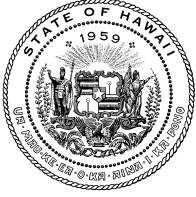
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



# STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

ROMALA SUE RADCLIFFE, B.A., M.A.  
ADMINISTRATOR

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## Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

### GM 510, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaii County Subarea Health Planning Council

#### Testimony of Romala Sue Radcliffe SHPDA Administrator

Friday, March 10, 2017  
9:30 a.m.

1 **Agency's Position:** The State Health Planning and Development Agency supports the  
2 nomination and confirmation of Ms. Momi Fernandez to the Hawaii County Subarea Health  
3 Planning Council (HCSAC).

4 **Fiscal Implications:** None

5 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation of HCSAC  
6 Gubernatorial Nominee, Ms. Momi Fernandez.

7 Ms. Fernandez is formerly the Director of the Census Information Center (CIC) of Papa  
8 Ola Lokahi. While at Papa Ola Lokahi, she was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation for  
9 Outstanding Achievement/CIC Program in 2016 and the Certificate of Appreciation/  
10 Outstanding CIC in 2010. In addition to these duties, she also served as the Project Manager  
11 for several initiatives by the U.S. Census Bureau, the National Library of Medicine, and the  
12 Asian Americans Advancing Justice such as the "Native Voices" Traveling Exhibit, Native  
13 Hawaiian Health and Healing Project, and the report, "Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and  
14 Pacific Islanders in the West 2016."

15 She is very active in the community. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for  
16 Hoomau Ke Ola and the Advisory Board for the Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program.

1 She volunteered and also continues to volunteer on environmental cleanups and cultural  
2 restoration on Maui, Oahu, Hawaii, Molokai and Kahoolawe.

3 Presently, Ms. Fernandez is an interim appointment to HCSAC and is serving as its  
4 Vice-Chair.

5 We ask for your support on the confirmation of Ms. Momi Fernandez to the Hawaii  
6 County Subarea Health Planning Council.

Rena Mae N. Takushi  
99-124 Kohomua Street, #15C  
Aiea, Hawai'i 96701

March 1, 2017

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
415 South Beretania Street, #231  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Letter of Recommendation to the Hawaii Count Subarea Health Planning Council -  
Momi Fernandez

Dear Senator Rosalyn H. Baker,

I would like to strongly recommend Ms. Momi Fernandez to the Hawaii County Subarea Health Planning Council (HCSHPC). I have known Ms. Fernandez for 18 years and her strengths include strong project management skills, trained by esteemed cultural practitioners, highly knowledgeable on land and natural systems from a native perspective, and data gatherer from the U.S. Census, the nation's largest data system on people.

Since I have known Ms. Fernandez, she has always advocated for healthcare systems to improve access and quality to the people of Hawaii through her work at Papa Ola Lokahi. In addition, Ms. Fernandez has extensive indigenous knowledge on working with the 'āina (land) through the Kaho'olawe Restoration Project and Lapakahi, and leads by example on the ways to integrate strong connections to 'āina and health. I strongly recommend Ms. Fernandez to the HCSHPC.

Sincerely,

*Rena Takushi*

Rena Mae N. Takushi, LCSW  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker of the Department of Veterans Affairs  
Member of Heavenly Star, LLC  
Board Member of the Hawaii Island Rural Health Association  
Co-Chair of the World Indigenous Nations University

## **GM 510**

**Momi Fernandez**

### **1. Why do you want to be a member of the Board?**

Becoming a member of the Hawaii County Sub Area Health Council (HCSAHC, Council) would allow me to continue making an impact towards health and wellness at the county and community level. My experience has allowed me to recognize gaps in health services, population mobility, trends and needs in rural areas, especially. If I can be part of a team to bring needed health services, to advocate through revised legislation, or to update a health designation that would provide health professionals and increase partnerships as a Council member.

### **2. What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?**

The Council's responsibilities are to review the Certificate-of-Need (CON) from health facilities that are constructing, expanding, eliminating, initiating, or modifying health services. The CON is one step in a process for approval that includes multiple state agencies. The Council provides recommendations after review and forwards the CON for review to the next review panel. The Council identifies the highest priorities for health services and resource development; advises the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) on CON applications in their County; and provides other functions as agreed upon by SHPDA and other sub area councils. The Council may participate in a project or partner with other councils to accomplish a common goal.

### **3. In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?**

The Council reviews data that provides costs for health services from counties within the state of Hawai'i. The Council can compare and work towards providing quality health care at the lowest cost to the consumer. By visiting various health facilities in Hawai'i County, the Council can confirm that the highest quality of health service is delivered; can encourage partnership when more than one health facility is providing the same health service within a specific geography; can work toward consistent geographic boundaries concerning geography; can work towards consistent geographic boundaries concerning HRSA funding for needed services in rural areas, example: Ka'u, Hawai'i. The Council is interested in securing federal designations that would enhance the delivery of health professionals in medically underserved areas and medically underserved populations.

### **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.**

Experienced in managing a variety of federal grants and delivering enhanced electronic capabilities that improve internal and external communications; co-sponsor and trainer for Census and health data workshops across the state for 16 years for a Native Hawaiian health non-profit – I am intimately knowledgeable in data resources, geographies and their inconsistent definitions by state and federal agencies; experienced in community partnerships, funding

mechanisms, and the delivery of health services from federal, state, private, and non-profit organizations. Familiar with common gap areas that exist in health services shortage of health professionals especially to vulnerable populations, rural areas and federally designated medically underserved areas and populations (MUA and MUP). Culturally trained and knowledgeable in the cultural sensitivities within the health delivery system.

**5. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

The Council could work with health partners in re-securing a federal HPSA (Health Professional Shortage Area) designation for dental/oral health care; and encourage recruitment and scholarship for much needed physical therapists, especially those that serve post-op heart and cancer patients and youth. The Council is also aware of the lack of quality, certified patients and youth. The Council is also aware of the lack of quality, certified adult day care and affordable long-term care of adults in the state. Data reveals the increased need for adult care as "baby-boomers" age and retire.

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

1. Thorough- review all perspectives to get the best view needed to make an informed decision that includes most current data;
2. Team Player- works well with others and respects different opinions and learned experiences;
3. Spiritual- my view also considers cultural insights from a practitioner perspective.

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

Experienced in legislative process and presenting legislative committees and federal agencies. Have held leadership positions on the federal level and currently serve on volunteer councils and two boards.

**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?**

Currently, I am not employed and can not see any conflicts at this time. If a conflict of interest should arise, I would seek counsel from the SHPDA facilitator and fellow council members and rescue myself immediately from the issue if needed.