

GM 690

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Board of Public Accountancy, Gubernatorial Nominee, CARLETON WILLIAMS, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Report Title: State Board of Public Accountancy

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

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

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2017

Friday, April 7, 2017
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 690.

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

My name is Lauren Kai, Executive Officer for the Board of Public Accountancy ("Board"), Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 690, regarding the **reappointment** of Carleton Williams to the Board. The Department supports the confirmation of Mr. Williams' reappointment to the Board.

Licensed as a Certified Public Accountant ("CPA") in Hawaii since October 7, 1977, Mr. Williams has nearly 40 years of professional experience, starting with the Honolulu and Hilo offices of the Big 8 public accounting firm that is now Deloitte & Touche. In July 2008, Mr. Williams founded the CPA firm of CW Associates, CPAs, A Hawaii Certified Public Accounting Corporation, a local company that provides big firm expertise with its five partners and more than 40 professional and administrative

associates. Mr. Williams' CPA license and individual permit to practice are current, active, and in good standing, as is his firm's permit to practice.

Mr. Williams is a reliable Board member and has attended 39 out of 44 meetings since his appointment. He is conscientious in his preparation for the meetings, and by sharing valuable insights and expertise that he has gained over his many years of professional experience, Mr. Williams contributes to the depth and breadth of information that the Board finds invaluable when making its decisions.

The Board recognizes and acknowledges Mr. Williams' expertise and contributions to the profession and to the Board, and has appointed him to key committee positions throughout his first term of service. Mr. Williams' many civic and community contributions range from serving as a current member on the Accounting Advisory Committees of both the Shidler College of Business at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Kapiolani Community College, to holding current leadership positions at various nonprofit organizations, such as The Salvation Army and the U.S.S. Missouri Memorial Association. In all his many endeavors, Mr. Williams has demonstrated his strong commitment to protecting the interests of the consumers of public accounting services, and raising and maintaining professional standards.

The Department believes that Mr. Williams' interest and commitment in serving on the Board, his experience in the profession, and desire to contribute to the community will continue to enhance the effectiveness of the Board, and strongly supports his confirmation to the Board of Public Accountancy. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Terri Fujii
919 Kahena Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

To: Senate Rosalyn Baker

From: Terri Fujii

Date: April 3, 2017

Re: **Letter of Recommendation for GM #690**

Senator Baker,

I am writing today in my capacity as a certified public accountant, licensed in the State of Hawaii to express support for Carl William's nomination to the State Board of Public Accountancy.

I have known Carl for approximately 15 years as a fellow CPA, board member of the Hawaii Society of CPAs, board member of Easter Seals Hawaii, and now as a partner in CW Associates, CPAs. I have always found him to be a very dedicated, loyal, and of high integrity. He truly cares about the accounting profession, now as well as for future generations. His experience with a Big Four public accounting firm, running Deloitte's office in Hilo, and starting and running a successful local firm gives him a range of perspectives with regards to the issues facing the profession. He is also involved on the Advisory Council for the Shidler College of Business, School of Accountancy.

He has shown his support and dedication to the public accounting profession by spending the time to serve on the State Board of Public Accountancy, and willingness to serve a second term. Serving on the Board takes considerable time, and the Board needs a person like Carl to continue to help guide the profession.

Thank you for considering my testimony in support of Carl William's nomination to the State Board of Public Accountancy.

Sincerely,

Terri Fujii



Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
April 3, 2017
Re: Letter of Recommendation for GM #690

To Hawaii State Senators:

Please confirm Carleton L. Williams for another term on the State of Hawaii, Board of Public Accountancy. He is highly qualified, understands and values the honor and responsibilities of the Board and is a trusted, liked and respected member of the community.

I have known Carl in many roles over the years: As an auditor, advisor and accountant for several of the nonprofit organizations with which I am or have been involved such as Hawaii Nature Center; as a fellow board member and my selected treasurer during my 2016 term as president of The Pacific Club; as the chair of the Finance Committee at The Pacific Club; and as a mentor, client, and friend.

What I most value in Carl is his wisdom and discretion. He evaluates questions and situations clearly, pointing out and understanding wider implications, and offers viable solutions. He is measured in his responses, adding kindness and humor to his interactions. He genuinely cares about our community, giving freely of his time and assistance.

Please contact me if you need additional information. I strongly support Carl for another term on the State of Hawaii, Board of Public Accountancy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lia M. Perren".

President
Pineapple Tweed PR & Marketing



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William Booth
Founder

André Cox
General

James Knaggs
Territorial Commander

John Chamness
Lani Chamness
Divisional Leaders

The Salvation Army

Hawaiian & Pacific Islands Division

April 3, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:
Subject: Letter of Recommendation for GM #690
Regarding: Mr. Carleton L. Williams

Please find this letter in support of Mr. Carleton L. Williams, Founding Partner of CW Associates, CPSs, for another term on the State of Hawaii, Board of Public Accountancy.

Carleton is a board member of The Salvation Army Honolulu Advisory Board and chairs our Fund-Raising Committee. He also sits on our Finance and Property Committees where he lends his valuable support to The Salvation Army here in Hawaii.

Carleton is tireless in his efforts in supports of others in our community and at the same time he is a leader in his industry upholding the values of public accountancy. I trust this letter will lend itself to the value that Carleton brings to our community.

Sincerely,

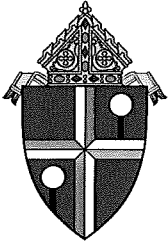
John M. Chamness, Major
Divisional Commander
The Salvation Army Hawaiian & Pacific Islands Division



Aloha United Way
Hawaii Island United Way
Kaua'i United Way
Maui United Way

Our AUW Designation
Number is 96450

P.O. Box 620 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0620 • Tel: (808) 988-2136 • Fax: (808) 988-5285
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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

April 1, 2017

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for GM #690

***IN SUPPORT OF CARLETON L. WILLIAMS
CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY***

This letter is in support of your approval of Carleton L. Williams as a member of the State of Hawaii, Board of Public Accountancy. I have known Carl Williams for over eight years in my capacity as the Diocesan Finance Officer for the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii. During the time I have known Carl, I have come to appreciate his honesty and integrity. Carl practices his profession ethically and with the highest degree of professionalism.

I believe Carl excels in the qualities needed for this very important position – he is a proven leader, a consummate professional of the highest moral character, and has extensive experience in the regulatory matters that impact our profession. Carl will continue to bring a fresh perspective to the Board.

Therefore, I humbly request that the Senate approve the nomination of Carleton L. Williams, candidate for the State of Hawaii, Board of Public Accountancy.

Sincerely,

Lisa Sakamoto
Diocesan Finance Officer

From: [HSCPA Communication](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 690 - Testimony in Support of Carleton L. Williams
Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 2:33:03 PM
Attachments: [image002.emz](#)
[image003.png](#)

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

GM 690

In Support of the Confirmation of Carleton L. Williams, CPA
State Board of Public Accountancy

Friday, April 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Norman Okimoto, President of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants (HSCPA). I am testifying on behalf of the HSCPA Board of Directors in support of the confirmation of **Carleton L. Williams** to the Board of Public Accountancy as he seeks a second public service term expiring in 2021.

Mr. Williams has over 34 years of experience in public accounting and advocates issues affecting the profession while focusing on protecting the interest of the public. His proven leadership and professional experience make him qualified to serve the interests of the public and the accounting profession. As a member of the Board of Public Accountancy, he will provide the same leadership and dedication to helping the Board to assume its role as the regulator of Certified Public Accountants in Hawaii.

Mr. Williams is a member in good standing with the HSCPA and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). He has held numerous leadership positions in the HSCPA including President in 2006-2007 and also served (two terms) as a member of the governing Council of the AICPA.

The HSCPA is the only organization in Hawaii comprised of CPAs and CPA candidates. It is our mission to promote high professional standards with the responsibility of preserving a legacy of honor and integrity for future generations of CPAs.

Over the past several years, the Board has been faced with challenges to the current regulations of accountancy. It is the responsibility of the Board to promote high professional standards and to protect the interest of the public. I believe that Mr. Williams will continue to uphold the highest ethical standards while putting the public

interest and the CPA profession's responsibilities first.

For these reasons, we kindly urge you to confirm Mr. Williams' appointment to the Board of Public Accountancy. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Okimoto
President
Hawaii Society of CPAs

Kathy Castillo
Executive Director



HSCPA

P.O. Box 1754 Honolulu, HI 96806
808-537-9475

Rodney M. Harano
2326 Star Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

To: Senate Rosalyn Baker

From: Rodney M. Harano

Date: April 3, 2017

Re: **Letter of Recommendation for GM #690**

Senator Baker,

My name is Rodney Harano and I am a partner in the local firm, CW Associates, CPAs. I support the confirmation of Carleton L. Williams, Gubernatorial Nominee to the State Board of Public Accountancy, as its regular member.

I have known the nominee personally and professionally for nearly 25 years as a fellow youth baseball coach, a CPA, a board member of the Hawaii Society of CPAs, and now as one of his partners in CW Associates, CPAs. In addition, Carl and I served together on the Governing Council of the American Institute of CPAs, and are past presidents of the Hawaii Society of CPAs.

Carl is passionate about accounting and the accounting profession, and in doing what is right for all parties involved. He understands and is concerned about the issues practitioners and the profession face on a day-to-day basis and in the future.

Carl is dedicated, objective, and of high integrity. He possesses the personal characteristics and accounting acumen required to be a contributing and continuing member on the Board of Public Accountancy. I ask for your support in confirming his nomination to the Board of Public Accountancy.

Thank you for considering my testimony in support of Carl William's nomination to the State Board of Public Accountancy.

Sincerely,



Rodney M. Harano, CPA

GM690

Carleton Williams: State Board of Public Accountancy

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

I am humbly requesting to continue on the Board of Public Accountancy for another four year term. My service has included various standing and special committees, and projects, both individually and in collaboration with fellow Board members, to improve our monitoring of the profession locally and enhance our understanding of our connection with the rest of the country and world. For example, I am currently working on a project to enhance the Board's understanding of the role of micro education sessions, on-line learning, and the accreditation of on-line degrees to aid in determining that such options fulfill the requirements mandated by Hawaii laws and rules. I want to continue to be a member of the Board because I believe I have much to offer the Board in protecting the public interest.

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

The primary role and responsibility of a member of the Board of Public Accountancy is to protect the public interest. Designing rules that implement underlying legislation is the primary tool available to Board members. An experienced professional member such as myself has the responsibility to assist the regulatory body (DCCA) in applying the nuances of technical issues to fulfill the primary role and responsibility of protecting the public interest.

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

My current and prior experience in public accounting on all Islands over more than 30 years provides me an understanding of the challenges impacting the consumer and the accountant, as well as with an understanding of the resources available in the various local communities. I believe that this experience provides unique insight into helping protect the consumer.

(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.

Having achieved nearly 40 years of public accounting experience in Hawaii in both large and small firms since graduating from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in May 1977, together with unique experiences such assisting in the design and implementation of the peer review program in Hawaii for AICPA and HSCPA, managing the Hilo office of a large international firm in Hilo in the early 1980s, obtaining the first Certificates of Achievement in Financial Reporting for

the City and County of Honolulu, County of Hawaii, and County of Kauai in the 1980s, serving as a member, officer, and board chair of numerous nonprofit organizations, founding a local CPA firm in the late 1980s with one partner and one staff that has now grown to become the 8th largest firm in Hawaii with more than 45 professionals, serving as an educator and speaker on various accounting topics, and many more experiences provide me with unique qualifications to serve as a member of the Board.

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

I hope to accomplish the implementation of an effective peer review system during my final term of service, a project that has been underway for many years. In addition, if possible, I would like to overhaul the Hawaii Revised Statutes and related rules for the profession of public accountancy – there seems to be general consensus that such an overhaul is needed due to changes in the manner of delivery of accounting services and changes in accounting standards.

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

Integrity, perseverance, and a commitment to principles are three qualities that best describe me. These qualities result in an honest, unbiased assessment of matters requiring action by the Board, which benefits the Board in fulfilling its mission. In addition, because of those qualities, I am not afraid to provide a different perspective even if it is in variance to the others with strong opinions.

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

The Board is in the process of implementing peer review in accordance with new state statutes. Participating in the design and implementation of the peer review program for AICPA and HSCPA members in Hawaii around 20 years ago with Isaac Choy and Rodney Harano, and serving as a reviewer since then (until joining the Board of Public Accountancy four years ago) is one previous personal experience that has already proved beneficial to 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?

Possible conflicts of interest could arise during my service on the Board from familiarity with people, entities, or matters requiring action by the Board. I have demonstrated an ability to recuse myself from such matters during my first term on the Board.