

GM 800

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, RALPH YAWATA, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Report Title: Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

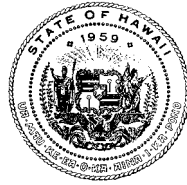
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM799, GM800
NOMINEES TO THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

SENATOR ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: Wed, April 12, 2017 10am Room Number: 229

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

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the following appointments to the
3 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC).

4 Dr. Ronald Kuroda (GM799) is a board certified emergency medicine physician
5 practicing at The Queen's Medical Center. He is an Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of
6 Surgery, John A. Burns School of Medicine. Dr. Kuroda is the Associate Medical Director,
7 Kapiolani Community College Department of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) where he is
8 actively involved in the education and training of EMS students. He brings valuable experience
9 and perspectives to his role on the committee. He has served on this committee since 2014.

10 Mr. Ralph Yawata (GM800) is the retired Assistant Chief, Support Services Division,
11 Hawaii County Fire Department. During his tenure he held the position of EMS Bureau Chief.
12 As part of his duties, he attended EMS Advisory Committee meetings therefore, he understands
13 EMS and EMSAC. With more than 25 years of service, he brings a wealth of knowledge,
14 experience, and expertise to EMS. He has served on this committee since July 2012.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

From: [Terrence Jones MD](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 800
Date: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:19:50 PM

Aloha,

I am writing to recommend Ralph Yawata for the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee. Ralph is coming up for renewal of his Hawaii Island position. I have known Ralph for many years in my role as an emergency physician and District Medical Officer for EMS as I worked with him, first as a paramedic, then as Assistant Chief for EMS of the Hawaii Fire Department. His knowledge and passion for EMS was always evident. After retirement he has continued his involvement through his representation on the EMSAC as well as his medical education efforts at the resorts and within the community.

Ralph has a strong commitment to EMS deliver systems and years of first hand experience. He is precisely the type of member that is necessary for the EMSAC to provide guidance to the others with other backgrounds. His insight provides valuable asset on the EMSAC and his representation benefits us on the Big Island. With your approval I look forward to continue to working with Ralph on the EMSAC.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Terrence L. Jones M.D., F.A.C.E.P.
Medical Control Officer for EMS, Hawai`i District
Emergency Medical Service and Injury Prevention Services Branch
Department of Health, State of Hawai`i
P.O. Box 44369
Kamuela, HI 96743
terrence.jones@doh.hawaii.gov
(808) 896-0190

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:46 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: speedy_bailey@amr-ems.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM800 on Apr 12, 2017 10:00AM*

GM800

Submitted on: 4/10/2017

Testimony for CPH on Apr 12, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Speedy Bailey	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.

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Lance Uchida
Battalion Chief
Hawaii Fire Department
EMS Bureau
Lance.Uchida@hawaiicounty.gov
808 - 961 - 8319

April 5, 2017

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair of the Health Committee

Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing to recommend Mr. Ralph Yawata (**GM800**) to continue his position on the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC) Board. I've professionally known Mr. Yawata as an EMS provider, EMS Bureau Commander and longtime CPR advocate for Hawaii Island for the past 23 years. Mr. Yawata is well versed in the EMS needs of our community from the bystander lay person perspective all the way up the First Responder and EMS chain, inclusive of upper management. His 35 plus years of experience in EMS will help the EMSAC Board make sound decisions in the best interest of the residence and visitors of Hawaii Island and the State of Hawaii. I have no doubt that Mr. Yawata will provide valuable, unbiased input and will serve as an asset to the EMSAC Board. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email address or office number.

Sincerely,
Lance Uchida

GM800

Ralph Yawata: Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

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

After serving over 30 years in government and presently in the private sector as an employee and community member, I want to continue my involvement in Public Safety as a citizen/volunteer.

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

Attend and actively participate as a board member providing input and suggestions through my previous work experiences and present situation.

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

Being a previous “Service Provider” and now as a regular community member, I will be able to relate to the different scenarios that are presented to 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.

As a community member on Hawaii Island and previous job experience with the Fire Department, I feel my role on this committee will be that of someone with experience on both sides of the table – previously representing a service provider and now as a community /consumer member.

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

To get a better grasp as my role as a board member serving the island/community with a better understanding of the challenges we face daily.

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

Experienced – have a working understanding of the present EMS System and the projected goals.

Patient – able to work with the interested parties involved in the pre-hospital system.

Organized – able to set priorities and set up a plan in achieving objectives & goals.

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

With over 35 years' experience and involvement in Public Safety/First Responder, I have the knowledge and history of our EMS system of the past, present and hope to have a role in its future direction.

- (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?**

None foreseen. If one should arise, will discuss with the rest of the board members and chairperson.