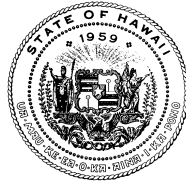


# GM512

**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants, Gubernatorial Nominee, EMILY DONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.

**Report Title:** Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants

**Current Referral:** CPH



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

WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM512**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO  
THE BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATING PERSONNEL IN  
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
EMILY DONG, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2022**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: April 5, 2019

Room Number: CR 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (Department) strongly supports the  
3 Governor's nominee, Ms. Emily Dong, to the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in  
4 Wastewater Treatment Plants (Board). Ms. Dong's confirmation will allow the Board to  
5 continue to operate and perform its duties required under Chapter 11-61, Hawaii Administrative  
6 Rules, entitled, "Mandatory Certification of Wastewater Treatment Personnel in Wastewater  
7 Treatment Plants."

8 Ms. Dong currently works as a professional licensed engineer for Brown and Caldwell.  
9 She has over 8 years of engineering experience with the City and County of Honolulu and Brown  
10 and Caldwell. She has worked with the Board for over 7 years as part of the Hawaii Water  
11 Environment Association. She has implemented programs to assist with testing requirements  
12 and continuing education credits for wastewater operators. The Department believes that  
13 Ms. Dong will continue to be a great asset to the Board as the representative for the Professional  
14 Engineer in Private Practice.

15 **Offered Amendments:** None.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**GM-512**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 2:22:27 PM

Testimony for CPH on 4/5/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Souza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Emily Dong's confirmation to the Board of Certification in Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants.

She has been a great, positive contribution to the Board since she joined the ranks last year.

I look forward to continued work with her.

Robert Souza,

Acting District Supervisor  
City and County of Honolulu

**GM-512**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 3:13:08 PM

Testimony for CPH on 4/5/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Nakamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To Whom,

I am in support of Ms. Emily Dong's confirmation to the 'Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants' (BOC). I have worked with Ms. Dong as Committee members on the BoC. She has shown to be a person of great integrity and professionalism. Her background as an Engineer with Wastewater Treatment knowledge, makes her a valuable asset to the Board of Certification.

Respectfully,

Kevin Nakamura

**GM-512**

Submitted on: 4/4/2019 7:09:17 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/5/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Corey Allen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Emily Dong is clearly fit to continue her service as a member of the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel. As a waste water engineer for the past 8 years, not only has Emily shown her will to build her experience as an expert on the waste water systems of Hawaii, but has put her experience to task in order to better these systems. Emily's extensive education on environmental engineering, management of various city and county pump station projects, and dedication as the president of the Hawaii Water Environment Association are all evidence of to her ability to continue her membership on the board. Waste water operators would clearly be set to high standards by a member such as Emily as she holds high standards for herself. Please renew Emily's membership for it will greatly benefit Hawaii.

**From:** [Andrea Cheung](#)  
**To:** [baker4 - Alisha](#)  
**Cc:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM512 Testimony  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:53:17 AM

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Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this letter in support of the consideration and confirmation of Ms. Emily Dong for the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants. I have worked closely with Emily for the last two years that she has been at Brown and Caldwell and have gained a deep insight into her work ethic and capabilities.

To start, we were joint project team coordinators on a \$160 million upgrades project for the Kailua Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and worked closely with all parties, including Plant operators, throughout construction. I have also worked under her on projects which she has managed, including the Ala Moana Wastewater Pump Station and Pearl City Wastewater Pump Station Upgrades projects. While working with Emily on these projects, her experience working as a City project manager and with the County's numerous plant operators was evident. She fully understands what is necessary to operate and maintain the City's facilities. She has worked for years with operators all over the island, understands their duties and the qualities needed, and knows the ins and outs of how Plant operators are organized for each of the different pump stations and plants.

Second, I have seen Emily behind-the-scenes working and organizing various events as Past President of HWEA and co-chair of the Pacific Water Conference. She takes her duties as a board member on HWEA and PWC seriously, with enthusiasm and thoroughness. When organizing events, she pays attention to every detail, whether it is what food items should be catered to answering the attendees or fellow organizer's questions and also handling large budgets.

Finally, through working with her, watching her as a Board member, and as her friend, I know that Emily has a strong work ethic and integrity that she not only applies to any position that she pursues but also expects others to adhere to. She has high expectations and looks for those qualities in others. Her values are in-line with the Code of Ethics for Wastewater Operators and as a Board of Certification member, she will ensure that all operators who are certified also follow these Code of Ethics.

For these reasons and more, I believe that Emily should be confirmed as a member of the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Cheung

**Andrea Cheung**  
Brown and Caldwell | Honolulu, HI  
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T 808.203.2679

