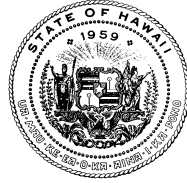


GM515

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH ZERI, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Report Title: Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

Current Referral: CPH



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

Testimony in SUPPORT of G.M. 514 and G.M. 515
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Emergency Medical Services
Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH ZERI

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: March 29, 2019 9:30am Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Air travel and transportation costs to attend meetings.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the appointment of Mr. Ken Zeri
- 3 to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC).
- 4 Mr. Zeri has a vast experience in healthcare. His background in hospice, nursing, emergency medical
- 5 services and fire, are an asset to EMSAC. He brings a wealth of valuable knowledge, experience,
- 6 and unique perspectives to the committee.
- 7 He was appointed as an interim member by the 2018 Legislature, Special Session, and attended
- 8 the October 2018 and January 2019 EMSAC meetings. The appointment expiration date of
- 9 G.M. 514 is June 30, 2019. G.M. 515 extends the appointment term to expire on June 30, 2023.
- 10 The Department supports Mr. Zeri's appointment without reservation.
- 11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



March 29, 2019 at 9:30 AM
Conference Room 229

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

To: Chair Rosalyn H. Baker
Vice Chair Stanley Chang

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Director of Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
GM 514 and GM 515, Submitting for consideration and confirmation Mr. Kenneth Zeri to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support** the nomination of Mr. Kenneth Zeri to serve as a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee. Mr. Zeri is an exceptionally qualified candidate with a wide array of experience in areas such as direct patient care, facility administration, and public education.

Throughout Mr. Zeri's career he has demonstrated a readiness to continuously assist those who may be in need. Beginning his career of service as a firefighter and emergency medical technician, Mr. Zeri transitioned well into the role of a US Naval Nurse Corps Officer and later as President and Chief Professional Officer of Hospice Hawaii. Mr. Zeri has contributed greatly in the development of Hawaii's advanced care planning community, serving as the founding President of the Kokua Mau Board of Directors in 2007.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii has had the privilege of working with Mr. Zeri in his many professional roles within the Hawaii hospice care community and as a former member of the Association's Board of Directors, serving from 2011-2017. We are grateful for the time Mr. Zeri has dedicated to the Association and we would like to offer our strong support of his nomination to serve as a member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee. Thank you for your consideration of our support.

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM 514 and GM 515
Relating to the Consideration and Confirmation to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory
Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, KENNETH ZERI**

**Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**

Friday, March 29, 2019; 9:30 am; Conference Room 229

Respectfully submitted by Keith R. Ridley
Chief, Hawaii Department of Health, Office of Health Care Assurance

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Ken Zeri will be an excellent member of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Committee and I wholeheartedly SUPPORT his nomination and appointment.

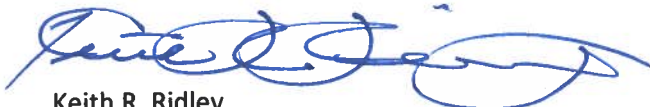
I have known Ken professionally and personally for over a decade. He possesses a solid background as an executive administrator of a major Hawaii healthcare organization, as a local and national healthcare leader, and as an EMT, firefighter, and nurse.

As an executive administrator, he successfully ran Hospice of Hawaii and improved their ability to care for dying patients while improving community outreach and placing Hospice Hawaii on solid business and financial footing. As an EMT, firefighter, and nurse, he will bring the perspectives and understanding of first responders and clinical caregiving to bear on EMS's needs. He also possesses from his local and national leadership experience a unique understanding of the collaborative and interactive requirements needed among multiple stakeholders in order to meet broad and specific objectives that benefit patients and the community. He has a cheerful and positive attitude, works well with others, and is pragmatic.

Ken will use these experiences and expertise as a member of the advisory committee and I believe he will help EMS to have a successful system of providing emergency medical services.

As a result, I SUPPORT GM 514 and GM 515, and ask you and the Committee to support the confirmation of Ken Zeri as a member of the EMS Advisory Committee.

Mahalo.



Keith R. Ridley
Chief, Office of Health Care Assurance

21 March 2019

GM 515 Re: Mr. Ken Zeri to serve on State EMS advisory Committee

Tentative date of Hearing = Friday, 29 March 2019 at 9:30 am

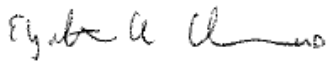
Dear Chair Baker and Members of the CPH Committee,

I am honored to submit testimony in favor of the appointment of Mr. Ken Zeri to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC). I have known Ken for over 15 years, both professionally and personally.

Ken was asked to volunteer to serve on the EMSAC committee because we need good representation by people in our community that can represent the consumer's point of view. His background as an EMT and Firefighter means he has a good grasp of what EMS entails and his career of nursing and Hospice care provide him with a unique perspective of interacting with EMS and first responder services as a provider as well as a customer. His experience and collaborative style will serve the community well as we seek input and comment on issues relating to the future of EMS for the people of Hawaii.

Ken has demonstrated over a long and successful career of helping others, that he brings a positive attitude, rational thought and a collaborative attitude. He will be a wonderful asset on the EMS advisory committee!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elizabeth Char".

Elizabeth Char, MD
Chair, State EMS Advisory Committee