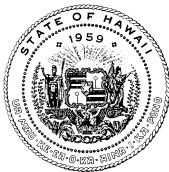


GM523

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHARLOTTE HUANG, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

Report Title: Language Access Advisory Council

Current Referral: CPH



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACCESS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 322
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 2, 2019

To: The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Aphirak Bamrungruan, Executive Director

Subject: **GM 523** - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHARLOTTE HUANG, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

Hearing: Friday, April 5, 2019, 9:30 AM
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Agency's Position: The Office of Language Access (OLA) strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Charlotte Huang to the Language Access Advisory Council (LAAC) to fill the seat of "one bilingual worker who is or has been employed by a state-funded immigrant service agency or program," pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 321C-7(a) (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2019.

Purpose and Justification: The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation of the LAAC Gubernatorial Nominee, Ms. Charlotte Huang.

The mission of OLA is to address the language access needs of Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons and ensure their meaningful access to services, programs, and activities offered by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government, including departments, offices, commissions, boards, and other state-funded agencies. OLA provides oversight, central coordination, and technical assistance to state agencies in their implementation of language access obligations – a civil right under both state and federal law.

The LAAC assists the Executive Director of OLA by providing input on implementation and compliance with Hawaii's language access laws and on the quality of oral and written language services provided under the law. The LAAC also offers feedback on a state agency's or covered entity's training of its employees who are likely to have contact with LEP persons; its

policies and procedures for language services; its competency in working effectively with interpreters and translators; and its understanding of the dynamics of language services between clients, providers, and interpreters.

Ms. Huang is a multi-lingual fluent in Cantonese and Mandarin. Ms. Huang is currently working as a bilingual case manager for the Employment Program for Immigrants and Refugees at Child and Family Service, a state-funded immigrant service agency and program. As a bilingual case manager, Ms. Huang provides case management services to limited and non-English speaking clients. Ms. Huang helps immigrant families and their children to assimilate into the community where they live, assists them with immigration issues, placing them in employment with the right employers and links them to community resources, so they become self-sufficient.

Ms. Huang is uniquely fit for the position given her multi-lingual and multi-cultural background, which are further enriched by her exposure through years of work experience and advocacy for Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals. Ms. Huang's passion, work experience, and advocacy for LEP individuals are assets she will bring to the council.

Therefore, OLA respectfully requests your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of Ms. Huang to the LAAC.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support.

April 2, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair and Members of the Committee on Commerce,
Consumer Protection, and Health,

I am writing in support of Ms. Charlotte Huang's nomination to the Office of Language Access Advisory Council. As a registered court interpreter and language access advocate in the community, I know and believe in the importance of the council's work to provide support, community input, and guidance regarding language access.

I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Huang in many aspects especially due to our work with the immigrant and refugee populations. We both have also been long time members of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant and Refugee services. I see in Ms. Huang a passion in serving people. Her skills in finding resources as well as being a resource herself, allows her a great capacity to help those in need of language access.

The Office of Language Access Advisory Council would definitely benefit from Ms. Huang's nomination. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my words of support on her behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Belinda Fagin', written in a cursive style.

Belinda Fagin (808)478-3872



April 1, 2019

**Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health**

I am writing in support of Ms. Charlotte Huang's nomination to the Office of Language Access Advisory Council. As a former advisory council member I know of the importance of the council to support, provide community input, and guidance to the Department of Health's Office of Language Access office.

I have had an opportunity to work with Ms. Huang on several projects and activities for more than ten plus years related to our membership with the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant and Refugee services. I have found Ms. Huang to have the mission and care in serving the immigrant population in Hawaii. Her skills in working with people and her Chinese speaking language capacity gives her an understanding of the need to promote language access in Hawaii.

I would strongly support Ms. Huang's nomination. The OLA Advisory Council would truly benefit by Ms. Huang's approval to become a member of the council. Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Ms. Huang's nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dominic Inocelda".

**Dominic Inocelda, LCSW
Clinical Supervisor
(808)440-5838, (808) 554-1006 Cell
Dinocelda@susannahwesley.org**