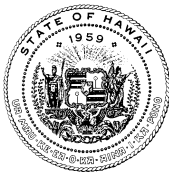


# GM526

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHIRLEY SCHUMACHER, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

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

March 27, 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 526** - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHIRLEY SCHUMACHER, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Hearing: Friday, March 29, 2019, 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

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**Agency's Position:** The Office of Language Access (OLA) strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Shirley Schumacher to the Language Access Advisory Council (LAAC) to fill the seat of "one representative residing in the county of Maui who has shown interest in language access," pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 321C-7(a) (12) for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

**Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation of the LAAC Gubernatorial Nominee, Ms. Shirley Schumacher.

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. Schumacher became acquainted with OLA in her current capacity as an admitting Department/Patient Access II Senior at the Maui Memorial Medical Center. As a hospital staff, Ms. Schumacher consistently advocates for patients and family members needing quality language services, both interpretation and translation. She has collaborated with OLA in providing training opportunities and ongoing education for the community.

As a Maui resident, Ms. Schumacher would also bring to the council much needed neighbor-island representation and advocacy. The needs of LEP individuals on the neighbor-islands present distinct challenges in language access.

Given Ms. Schumacher's experience and demonstrated commitment to language access, her insights and contributions will be immensely valuable to the LAAC. Her unique perspective will inform our office on how we can best assist our county agencies in their compliance efforts.

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

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

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hearing on Friday, March 29, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

From: Cari Uesugi  
State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services, LEP Project  
Manager/Coordinator

Date: March 27, 2019

Re: GM526 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Shirley Schumacher to represent the county of Maui

I am writing this Letter of Endorsement for Ms. Schumacher, who has been nominated to serve on the Language Access Advisory Council, representing the county of Maui.

I have worked closely with Ms. Schumacher while in my capacity as a Patient Relations Advocate for the Maui Region of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. In her current position as an admitting clerk at Maui Memorial Hospital, she has been instrumental in meeting LEP patients' need for language access in a health care setting. Being bilingual, Ms. Schumacher understands the LEP individual's perspective on receiving health services.

As a Maui resident, she would also bring to the council necessary neighbor-island representation, as the needs of LEP individuals in these locations present distinct challenges in language access. Her passion for language access is demonstrated by her ongoing efforts in creating awareness about Maui's LEP community.

Given Ms. Schumacher's commitment to language access, I believe her insights will be valuable to the Language Access Advisory Council. I strongly support Ms. Schumacher's appointment and confirmation.

**LATE**

**GM-526**

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 7:36:37 PM  
Testimony for CPH on 3/29/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nanea Schutte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Nanea Schutte. I've known and worked with Shirley Schumacher since 2004. I support her nomination to the Language Access Advisory Council.

Working at Maui's only hospital, enables us to serve people from around the world. Language access not only helps us to communicate, but it saves lives.

A snapshot into Shirl's character reveals that she has, for many years, advocated for others on a variety of different matters. Language access then is no surprise to be a concern that Shirl is extremely passionate about. Her care for others clearly drives her passion. She will represent Maui well.

Please support her nomination to the LAA council.

Mahalo Nui,

Nanea Schutte



**Ho'omau Ke Ola**

*"to perpetuate life as it was meant to be"*

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From The Desk of:

**Garriss Akiona, LSW, CSAC**

Substance Abuse Manager/Counselor

Email: [g.akiona@hoomaukeola.com](mailto:g.akiona@hoomaukeola.com)

Phone: 808-380-6856

Fax: 808-696-3661

Date: 03/22/2019

**To: Mental Health & Substance Abuse, O'ahu Service Area Board**

**ATTN: To Whom It May Concern**

**RE: Dr. Shirley Davenport**

Aloha e,

I have known Dr. Shirley for nearly 11 years and first met her at the River of Life Mission where she worked with guest and staff personnel. She has a passion to reach the less fortunate population through love and kindness and has wisdom to speak truth and life that has brought long lasting change in individuals. Dr. Shirley walks in her calling and is a bright light in the darkest areas of our communities. I appreciate the knowledge that she freely pours fourth into the lives of those who desire change and long for hope.

I have worked daily with Dr. Shirley at Ho'omau Ke Ola for the past year and have enjoyed her commitment to bring positive change to our agency. She is a team player who is not afraid to jump right in, wise in bringing creative ideas to the table, and determined to find solutions to long standing problems. She is open and willing to learning and teaching cultural protocols, empathetic to community needs, and effective in addressing mental illnesses and substance abuse problems of the population we serve. Dr. Shirley would be a valuable asset and reliable resource on any team.

If you have any questions or need more information please feel free to call me at the number listed above.

Mahalo nui loa,

Garriss Akiona, LSW, CSAC

Substance Abuse Manager/Counselor

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