

# GM673

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLETTE MASUNAGA, for a term to expire 06-30-2022.

Report Title: Statewide Health Coordinating Council

Current Referral: CPH



# STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
ROMALA SUE RADCLIFFE, B.A., M.A.  
ADMINISTRATOR

1177 Alakea St., #402, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 587-0788 Fax: 587-0783 www.shpda.org

## Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

### GM 673, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council

#### Testimony of Romala Sue Radcliffe SHPDA Administrator

Friday, April 5, 2019  
9:30 a.m.

1 **Agency's Position:** The State Health Planning and Development Agency supports the  
2 nomination and confirmation of Ms. Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating  
3 Council (SHCC).

4 **Fiscal Implications:** None

5 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation of SHCC  
6 Gubernatorial Nominee, Ms. Colette Masunaga.

7 Ms. Masunaga is currently Manager of Legislative Affairs with the Queen's Health  
8 Systems, Government Relations and External Affairs. Prior to her current employment, she  
9 served as staff for the late Congressman Mark Takai. She also served as staff for former  
10 Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa.

11 Ms. Masunaga is working towards her Master in Business Administration from the  
12 Shidler College of Business, University of Hawaii at Manoa. In addition to her studies, she  
13 serves as the President of the Graduate Business Student Association and the Executive Vice  
14 President of the Shidler Graduate Women in Business. Ms. Masunaga also has a Bachelor of  
15 Arts in International Relations: Global Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. Finally,

1 she is originally from Hawaii Island and graduated Magna cum laude from Konawaena High  
2 School.

3 We ask for your support on the confirmation of Ms. Colette Masunaga to the Statewide  
4 Health Coordinating Council.



## THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

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To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
*Muler J*

From: Paula Yoshioka, Vice President, Government Relations and External Affairs, The  
Queen's Health Systems

Date: April 2, 2019

Hrg: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Hearing; Friday,  
April 5, 2019 at 9:30 AM in Room 229

Re: Support for GM 673 Gubernatorial Nominee Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health  
Coordinating Council

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The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's) is a not-for-profit corporation that provides expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Basin. Since the founding of the first Queen's hospital in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, it has been our mission to provide quality health care services in perpetuity for Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i. Over the years, the organization has grown to four hospitals, 66 health care centers and labs, and more than 1,600 physicians statewide. As the preeminent health care system in Hawai'i, Queen's strives to provide superior patient care that is constantly advancing through education and research.

Queen's appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Ms. Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. In her role as Manager, Colette must conduct policy analysis and evaluation of healthcare issues, legislation and government matters that impact the system. She manages federal policy issues and has state policy responsibility for health care issues that impacts the Queen's system. Colette has been responsible for managing the internal Certificate of Need (CON) project review process and submitting projects that meet the requirements of the CON application process for the State Health Planning and Development Agency. She worked for former Congressman Mark Takai (deceased) and Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa as well as for the Office of Presidential Personnel bringing valuable federal experience and perspective back to Hawaii.

We strongly support her gubernatorial nomination.

*The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.*



**April 5, 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 673, Submitting for consideration and confirmation Ms. Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.**

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 Ms. Colette Masunaga to serve as a member of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC). Ms. Masunaga has been an active participant in the Association's activities relating to healthcare policy and analysis, and her education and background will be an undeniable asset on the SHCC. She has also demonstrated her commitment to public service in her past roles in Washington, D.C. and in her continued willingness to serving in volunteer positions while in graduate school.

We are thankful to have the privilege of working with Ms. Masunaga and believe she will be of great service to the state on the SHCC. Without reservation, we support her nomination and hope she will be reported favorably from this committee.

Thank you for your consideration of our support.

Friday, April 5, 2019 at 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 229

**Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health**

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson  
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: Testimony in Support of GM 673**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLETTE MASUNAGA, for a term to expire 06-30-2022

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My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I write in strong support of the nomination of Colette Masunaga to serve on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. I have known Colette through her participation in the Healthcare Association of Hawai'i's government relations committee which I currently chair. Colette is very diligent and thorough in her work. Based upon her experience at Queen's Medical Center managing federal and state health policy issues, I believe she will be a great asset to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, and would bring a wealth of knowledge to the Council.

I strongly support Colette's nomination and urge this Committee to recommend her for confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

**SUSAN M. KIM**  
**82-1075 Kinue Road**  
**Captain Cook, HI 96704**  
**(808) 938-9726**  
**susanmkim@hawaii.rr.com**

April 3, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: GM673 – Nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Colette Masunaga**

Dear Senator Baker:

It is my pleasure to recommend Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. I've known this young woman personally as she grew up alongside my children at school and through the 4-H program. She excelled in her studies and developed leadership skills which have followed her until today. As reflected in her stellar resume, Colette consistently strives to expand her horizons and apply herself to whatever job or task at hand. She represents a generation of young adults, eager to play an active role in shaping our beautiful Aloha State. She brings a wealth of experience which will undoubtedly be an asset to this Council.

With confidence I can say Colette will serve our State well and ask that you support her nomination.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Kim



# THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

1301 Punchbowl Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • Phone (808) 691-5900

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM673 – Nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Colette Masunaga

Dear Senator Baker:

This letter is written in support of the nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

I have worked with Ms. Masunaga, in her capacity as Manager, Legislative Affairs, the Queen's Health Systems (Queens), during the past three years. Ms. Masunaga has strong knowledge and experience in the healthcare industry here in Hawaii. Additionally, she is intimately involved in all legislative matters that may have an impact on Queens.

I support Ms. Masunaga's nomination. I believe that her three years of healthcare experience in Hawaii and six years of legislative experience, combined with her passion to serve the community will be an asset to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton Yee

Corporate Controller

The Queen's Health Systems



To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

From: Alena Grace Kangas Auyoung

Date: April 3, 2019

Hrg: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Hearing: Friday,  
April 5, 2019 at 9:30 AM in Room 229

Re: Support for GM673 Gubernational Nominee Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health  
Coordinating Council

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Aloha Senator Baker,

Please accept my support for the nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Ms. Masunaga is more than qualified to lead Hawai'i through this Council, leveraging years of progressive and impressive experience in the healthcare industry, government, and other civic engagements at local, state, and federal levels.

Her intelligence and combined passion for healthcare access and advocacy would make her input on matters concerning the Council highly valuable and influential.

She is extremely successful at and committed to making wise decisions after carefully considering various factors, hearing every voice, and working with her peers.

Her rise at The Queen's Health Systems is evident of her growing expertise and strong belief in healthcare access, and Hawai'i's potential to be an exemplary example of how government policies can ensure that every person is cared for.

The Council would be privileged to have Ms. Masunaga join its members to experience greater success and impact across the state regarding healthcare.

Mahalo,

Alena Grace Kangas Auyoung

Juanita C. Hernandez  
7523 Lamoyne Court  
Alexandria, VA 22315  
703-795-9995  
Hernandezjc1@verizon.net

April 4, 2019

Hon. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Hon. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Re: GM 673, Nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council Hearing on 4/5/19 at 9:30 A.M., Rm. 229

Dear Senators:

I am writing to highly recommend that you vote for the nomination of Colette Mira Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (GM 673). I have known Colette since she was a young girl and am friends with her family. I have seen her develop into an enthusiastic leader, effective community organizer and talented young professional and business school student.

I was Colette's mentor and "aunty" in Washington, DC when she was a Senate Page in 2008 (she was age 16 and from Konawaena High School) and later in 2013-2015, when she was a White House intern for President Obama, and worked in Congress. As her mentor, I would also take her to events in the Washington, D.C. area to meet people and expose her to a variety of cultural and political situations. In Washington, Colette had a number of experiences during which she had to adapt to new circumstances and cultures. I was impressed with how rapidly and fluidly she handled those situations.

Colette returned to Hawaii to work for the Queen's Health System in 2015, and she has worked extremely hard to be promoted as Manager of Government Relations and External Affairs. As member of the Queen's Health System, Colette is now well-versed in the national, statewide, and rural issues affecting healthcare. Her background would be an ideal fit for your group.

As a member of the Hawaii Statewide Health Coordinating Council (GM 673), I am confident that Colette will thrive and continue to build upon her proven leadership skills and her commitment to public service. I believe that her background, personal passion and work experiences coupled with her proven ability to excel in a fast-paced work environment make Colette an ideal candidate for the GM 673. I have no doubt that Colette Masunaga would make an outstanding addition to the GM 673 and then its alumni.

Please vote yes to confirm Governor Ige's nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Juanita C. Hernández

**Wynette Y. Kitajima, M.D.**

Diplomate, American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Sports, Occupational, and Electrodiagnostic Medicine  
Certified Independent Medical Examiner

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April 4, 2019

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

RE: GM 673 Nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Dear Senator Baker and Committee Members:

Thank you for the privilege to express my strong support for Colette Masunaga's nomination by Gov. Ige to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. I have known Colette for over 10 years. In my interactions with her, I recognize her outstanding ability to collaborate in a respectful way to accomplish goals. She is open to hearing other people's opinions and exhibits sound judgment in analyzing problems and coming up with solutions. Her wealth of experience from working on healthcare policy issues in Washington, D.C. with the late Congressman Mark Takai will bring strength to the Council in guiding healthcare decisions in Hawaii from both a national and state perspective. Her work with The Queens Medical Center and her background growing up in the Kona area puts her in the unique position of understanding both rural and urban Hawaii healthcare challenges. It is for these reasons that I ask for the Committee to seriously consider Colette's nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. I have no doubt that she will serve my community and my state well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Wynette Y. Kitajima, M.D.*

Wynette Y. Kitajima, MD

A Professional Corporation  
P.O. Box 10, Kealahou, HI 96750  
Phone: (808)322-8831 Fax: (808)322-6443

April 4, 2019

The Honorable Rosalyn H Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice-Chair  
Members, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Subject: GM637 – Nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council,  
Colette Masunaga

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Ms. Masunaga is extremely intelligent and has the leadership and visionary skills that will be a valuable asset to the Council. I have worked closely with her on team projects in our ongoing pursuit of a MBA and she has at every turn demonstrated she possesses keen ability to problem solve. Under her leadership as the current President of the Graduate Business Student Association, there have been more community related activities and services promoted and participated in.

I believe that her passion to care for the community and the persistence to improve herself and those around her will be a worthy addition to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. I fully support Ms. Masunaga's nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hae-Dong Lee', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hae-Dong Lee



The Honorable Rosalyn H Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice-Chair  
Members, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capital  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM673 – Nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Colette Masunaga

This letter is written in full support of the nomination of Colette Masunaga to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Ms. Masunaga and I have worked very closely on various projects, both academic and community-based, during our time at the Shidler College of Business. As President of the Graduate Business Student Association and Executive Vice President of Operations of the Shidler Graduate Women in Business organization, Ms. Masunaga has demonstrated an innate desire to improve her community.

Ms. Masunaga is not only well-versed in both legislative affairs and the healthcare industry, she is also highly intelligent and possesses strong leadership skills that would add immense value to the council.

I strongly support Ms. Masunaga's nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council and appreciate the opportunity to present this testimony.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristen Konishi".

Kristen Konishi  
Executive Vice President - Operations