

GM674

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, HILARY OKUMURA, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

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

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Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

GM 674, 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. Hilary Okumura 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. Hilary Okumura.

7 Ms. Okumura has served in the long-term care industry for the past eight years. She is
8 currently the Administrator for Nuuanu Hale. Previously, she was the Administrator for Arcadia
9 Home Health Services. She has a variety of work experiences that range from Director of
10 Operations for Moxie3Innovations to serving as a Criminalist for the Scientific Investigation
11 Section of the Honolulu Police Department.

12 Ms. Okumura is active in the community. She is President and a Coach for Leahi
13 Soccer Club. She also volunteered with the Hawaii State Office of Health Care Assurance,
14 Kidney Health and Diabetes Management Program, and Kapiolani Medical Center for Women
15 and Children.

16

1 Ms. Okumura has a Master in Science in Chemistry from the University of Hawaii at
2 Manoa and a Bachelor in Science in Chemistry from Creighton University.

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

GM-674

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:05:36 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Cooper	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SHIRLEY N. SOUZA
9704 SANDY TURTLE AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89149

April 3, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker
415 South Beretania Street, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR MS. HILARY OKUMURA FOR HER NOMINATION
TO THE STATEWIDE HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing this letter attesting to Ms. Okumura's good moral character and professionalism, who has been nominated to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC).

During my work as a registered nurse and unit supervisor at the Department of Health (DOH), Office of Health Care Assurance, State Licensing Section (SLS), I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Okumura. Prior to 2008, Ms. Okumura assisted our office as a volunteer upon her graduation from Creighton University. She is a self-starter with assignments, able to deal with the general public, providers, and staff while assisting in the SLS office.

Ms. Okumura's duties which included formatting and typing Statement of Deficiencies, licenses, answering the telephone and other clerical duties. She possesses excellent computer skills. She was able to maintain the confidentiality of all issues, even as a volunteer. She was and continues to be knowledgeable in learning and interpreting the state regulations of the SLS programs (i.e. Adult Residential Care Homes (ARCH), Expanded Care ARCHs', Special Treatment Facilities, Therapeutic Living Facilities, Developmental Disability Domiciliary Homes, and Assisted Living Facilities).

After obtaining her Master's Degree in Chemistry at the University of Hawaii, Ms. Okumura worked with the Crime Lab at the Honolulu Police Department, as a Criminalist. During this time period, she was responsible for the analysis of various drug items confiscated by the police, required to write reports on findings and appear in numerous criminal court cases as an expert witness.

After my retirement, as a Nurse Surveyor, from the DOH Medicare Certification Section in 2011, I have continued to maintain a relationship with Ms. Okumura and her family. She has continued to explore new endeavors such as training as an Administrator in Training to obtain certification and licensure as a Nursing Home Administrator (NHA) at the Craigsides Retirement Residence. Once she

completed her training, she provided oversight for the Arcadia Community Based Programs, which included an Adult Day Health and Day Care, Home Health and Home Care Programs, and Intermediate and Skilled Nursing Facilities (ICF/SNF) Programs. She also is the current NHA for the Nuuanu Lani Nursing Facility which provides care for patients who require ICF/SNF levels of care. These programs requires Ms. Okumura to have the knowledge, interpret, and maintain compliance to the State of Hawaii rules and regulations and the Federal Medicare Guidelines as they pertain to providing the adequate care of the clients, residents, and patients residing and or participating in these programs.

Ms Okumura fhas shown maturity beyond her years, continues to have excellent work ethics, maintains her self-confidence, use of critical thinking, supervising coworkers and staff, including being a team player with members of the SHCC staff with professional objectvity. I am sure that she will be an asset to the SHCC and will work to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the residents entrusted in her care, as well as maintaining the health and welfare issues regarding health care in the community to address the improvement of health care for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity in recommending Ms. Okumura to the SHCC. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 808.358.1221.

Sincerely,

SHIRLEY N. SOUZA, R.N.

P. O. Box 558
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

April 2, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker
415 South Beretania Street, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Hilary Okumura Re-Nomination to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council

Dear Senator Baker:

I am honored to submit a letter of support for Hilary Okumura, who has been nominated to serve on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. Ms. Okumura was also re-nominated to serve on the Honolulu Subarea Health Planning Council and has been an asset to this Council as well in this position. She has had a variety of positions and experiences, primarily related to health and elder care on Oahu. Currently, Ms. Okumura is the Administrator of Nuuanu Hale, a 75-bed long-term care facility, located on Pali Highway.

Her experience in elder care and long-term care issues had its beginning while she was a student and as she began her nursing home training as Administrator in Training as a Nursing Home Administrator at Craigsides Retirement Residence and subsequently provided oversight for community-based programs under the Arcadia Family of Companies upon completion of the training. She supervised staff and programs ranging from adult day care and adult day health to home care and home health and skilled nursing. She has coordinated long term care programs in rural areas, such as Molokai and Lanai, especially for the day care and day health program on Molokai and the home care and home health programs on Lanai for a Native Hawaiian health care-based system. She also did not hesitate to volunteer at several agencies to enhance her health management and community-based health programs knowledge, including assisting a community chronic disease program on Molokai. While on Molokai, she was a research volunteer and created a database for patients with chronic kidney disease and diabetes as well as analyze program efficacy based on patient outcome and patient satisfaction. She also volunteered at Kapiolani Medical Center and assisted in infant care and monitoring. She was able to use her knowledge in infection control and provide feedback to nurses and other personnel regarding environmental health in the newborn nursery. These experiences have enhanced her current role as Nursing Home Administrator and in her position on the Honolulu Subarea State Health Planning Council and now with the opportunity to serve on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

I've known Ms. Okumura for most of her life and have seen her develop into the health care professional she is today. She is diligent and motivated in whatever role she is in and has focused on what is best for the program and those who would benefit from her initiative. She will be an asset for the Statewide Health Coordinating Council as it advises the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) through duties, including reviewing CON applications and preparing the Health Services and Facilities Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to recommend Ms. Hilary Okumura to continue serving on the State Health Planning Council, Honolulu Subarea.


Sincerely,

Judith Mikami, RN, MPH

*Alicia Damien Lau, osf, RN, MSN, MPH
Damien Healthcare Consultants, LLC
2715 Pamoia Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

March 25, 2019

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senate District 6
Hawaii State Capitol #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96913

Dear Senator Baker:

It is my pleasure and honor to submit this letter of recommendation on behalf of Hilary Okumura who is asking to renew her membership to the Honolulu Subarea Health Planning Council.

For the past year, I have had the privilege to work with Ms. Okumura on the HONSAC Council. The information and insight she shares, has been a great asset to the group. Her back ground in caring for our kupuna and her knowledge with the DOH regulation as proven to be very valuable to the group.

I firmly believe in her current position, as Administrator at Nuuanu Hale, has given her a broader understanding of the needs facing healthcare, fiscal issues of Medicaid and Medicare, and the family needs and concerns which faces our society today.

For the past 7 years, I have been and am currently still on the Honolulu Subarea Health Planning Council. I feel that we could continue to use Ms Okumura's expertise and knowledge as we continue to look at issues how to support our kupuna and their families.

Mahalo for your support.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Alicia Damien Lau".

Sister Alicia Damien Lau, osf, RN, MSN, MPH