



# STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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

### GM 553, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council

#### Testimony of Serafin Colmenares, Jr. Acting SHPDA Administrator

Tuesday, May 12, 2020  
9:30 a.m.

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

4 **Fiscal Implications:** None

5 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation to the  
6 SHCC, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dr. Chad Walton.

7 Dr. Walton is currently Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research at the University  
8 of Hawaii at Manoa. He was formerly Assistant Professor of Medicine and Surgery at the UH  
9 John Burns School of Medicine, Director of Trauma Research at UCERA, and Research  
10 Program Officer at the UH Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research.

11 Dr. Walton obtained his B.Sc. degree from Northern Arizona University, his Master's  
12 degree in Biomedical Technology from the University of Calgary, and his Ph.D. in Molecular  
13 Biosciences and Bioengineering from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He is a member of  
14 several professional organizations, among them the New York Academy of Science, the  
15 American Heart Association, and the NORDP. He is editor of Manoa Horizons and has been  
16 active in rendering professional and community service.

1           Given his background and experience, Dr. Walton will be a welcome addition to the  
2 Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

3           We ask for your support on the confirmation of Dr. Chad Walton to the Statewide Health  
4 Coordinating Council.



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

To: Chair Rosalyn H. Baker  
Vice Chair Stanley Chang

From:

**Re: Testimony on GM553 (Relating to Confirmation of Chad Walton)**

I support the nomination of Chad Walton to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council ("SHCC") for a term to expire on June 30, 2023, and urge your committee's confirmation of his appointment.

I am familiar with Mr. Walton's background and expertise as I had the pleasure of working with him on the Hawaii Trauma Advisory Council while he served as the Director of Trauma Research for the Hawaii Trauma System. While serving on that committee he demonstrated a keen ability to work with diverse stakeholders and has the skills needed to effectively fulfil the functions of this role.

Additionally, while a colleague of his within the Department of Surgery at JABSOM, I appreciated Mr. Walton's leadership on research aspects associated with health care issues in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration of Mr. Walton's nomination and I hope your committee considers him favorably.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Steinemann".

Susan Steinemann, MD, FACS  
Professor of Surgery

Aloha Senator Baker and Members the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of GM 553, CHAD WALTON**, gubernatorial nominee for the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. In my former position at the Department of Health administering the Statewide Trauma System, I had the opportunity to observe Dr. Walton's admired work as Director of Trauma Research and while he was a Research Program Officer with the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Most recently, he serves as an Interim Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Research with the University of Hawaii. In each of these professional roles, Dr. Walton has been charged with developing and implementing large system strategies for growth and improvement. These skills compliment the Statewide Health Coordinating Council's tasks to provide review and analysis of the overall healthcare system in Hawaii through the Certificate of Need process.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter,

Dr. Linda Rosen, MD, MPH

**GM-553**

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 12:14:42 PM

Testimony for CPH on 5/12/2020 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia Espinda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator Baker and Members the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of GM 553, CHAD WALTON**, gubernatorial nominee for the Statewide Health Coordinating Council. In my former position at the Department of Health administering the Statewide Trauma System, I had the opportunity to observe Dr. Walton's admired work as Director of Trauma Research and while he was a Research Program Officer with the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Most recently, he serves as an Interim Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Research with the University of Hawaii. In each of these professional roles, Dr. Walton has been charged with developing and implementing large system strategies for growth and improvement. These skills compliment the Statewide Health Coordinating Council's tasks to provide review and analysis of the overall healthcare system in Hawaii through the Certificate of Need process.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter,

Dr. Linda Rosen, MD, MPH

February 12, 2020

Office of Senator Rosalyn Baker  
415 South Beretania St., 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
808-586-6070 (Phone)  
808-586-6071 (Fax)

**GM: 553**

**Chad Walton: Statewide Health Coordinating Council**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with responses to the following questions.

**(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council?**

I believe that citizen participation is essential in order to fulfill the mission of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC). I am passionate about giving back to my community by volunteering and offering my personal expertise and insight to this important council.

**(2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council?**

Members of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) primarily assist with the mission of the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) in the review of the State's health needs, specifically in the areas of supporting the of certificates of need (CON) review process, and with the preparation of the Health Services and Facilities Plan.

**(3) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Statewide Health Coordinating Council member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.**

My qualifications to be a member of the SHCC include my two years' experience serving as the Director of Trauma Research on the Hawai'i Trauma Advisory Council (HTAC), where I also oversaw the Hawai'i Trauma Advisory Committee Research Subcouncil. The role of the subcouncil was to assist in identifying and organizing support for statewide interdisciplinary Trauma-related research and that experience provided me with a skill set that will aid me as member of the SHCC. Additionally, my academic training in basic and translational biomedical research has provided me with a unique perspective which I believe will be valuable as a member of the SHCC.

**(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

My primary goal is to be a consistent and conscientious participant in all SHCC discussions. Specifically, I hope to contribute my unique perspective to the review of certificates of need (CON), with the goal of enhancing the health care system in Hawai`i for all stakeholders.

**(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.**

Creativity; will be key in promoting progressive and thought-provoking discussions while serving on the SHCC.

Professionalism; even in a volunteer setting, professionalism is essential as a member of the SHCC where the accountability is to the people of the State of Hawai`i.

Fairness; promotion of a fair and balanced discussion on the SHCC will allow everyone to freely express their opinions.

**(6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Statewide Health Coordinating Council member.**

Having a family member go through a cardiac medical emergency brought me full circle as far as my interactions with the healthcare system. First, my academic training taught me basic foundations in biomedical research, but I was far removed from the patient perspective. Then, my progression into translation research allowed me to reflect on the needs of the patient and see advances in services firsthand. Finally, I was a helpless family member only able to witness the clinical interventions employed to save a family member. These experiences have provided me a holistic perspective when looking at the healthcare system, which I believe will be of benefit to the SHCC.

**(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?**

A possible conflict of interest could arise in my role as a managing employee of Behavior Analysis No Ka Oi Inc., which provides applied behavioral analysis services in the State of Hawai`i. I would immediately inform SHPDA and the Ethics Commission. I would recuse myself from the conflicted issue.