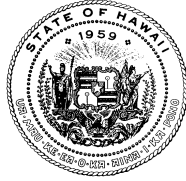


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Testimony in SUPPORT of GM0739
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder
Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, BARBARA SERVICE, for a term to expire 06-30-2023

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG, VICE CHAIR

Testimony of Caroline Cadirao
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: May 13, 2020
9:30 a.m.

Room Number: 229

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) strongly supports the nomination of
- 2 Ms. Barbara Service to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).
- 3 **Comments:** Ms. Barbara Service brings a strong passion and an abundance of experience to her
- 4 role on PABEA. Throughout her professional experience, Barbara has been a strong advocate for
- 5 vulnerable populations. She spent 43 years in public social services, most of those years in the
- 6 Child Welfare System.
- 7 Since her retirement from the Department of Human Services her interests have shifted and
- 8 transitioned to advocating for the needs and concerns of older adults. Her activities and services
- 9 include current President of AARP 60 of Honolulu, Treasurer of Kokua Council, member of the
- 10 Legislative Committee of PABEA, Director of the Hawai'i Alliance of Retired Americans

1 Board, participant in the Hawaii State Legislature's Kupuna Caucus, and an active committee
2 member of the Elks Honolulu Lodge #616.
3 Ms. Barbara Service has a keen interest in improving the lives for our kupuna and helping them
4 to age in place. For these reasons, EOA supports the confirmation of Ms. Barbara Service for
5 PABEA.
6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-739

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 7:59:14 AM

Testimony for CPH on 5/13/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Yuan	Testifying for Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs	Support	No

Comments:

The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Barbara Service to the PABEA for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Ms. Barbara Service is currently serving on PABEA's Legislative Committee and has made significant contributions to the discussion of policies concerning the safety and well-being of our senior citizens. Since retiring from the State as a social worker, Ms. Service has become an avid advocate for kupuna. She has been participating in Kupuna Caucus at the legislature and generously volunteered her time and experience for non-profit and community organizations to promote positive aging and aging-in-place.

We believe that Ms. Service's expertise and commitment will contribute greatly to PABEA's cause. We, therefore, ask you to support Ms. Service's appointment as a PABEA member.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

1. Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

I have been active in AARP and Kokua Council for more than 10 years. Through that involvement, I developed an interest in legislative advocacy and learned about PABEA. I have attended the monthly meetings for about five years, as a community member and figure it's time to be a participating member.

2. What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

The role of a PABEA member is to join with others to advise the Executive Director of the Executive Office on Aging. Through collection of information from the Area Agencies on Aging and others, such as DOH, board members are apprised of the needs of seniors and can help EOA plan to meet those needs.

3. In what ways do you feel that you can protect the consumer?

By being aware of the deficiencies in the overall system of services to seniors, I can and will press the EOA to make the appropriate corrections.

4. Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe 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.

Though almost all my professional life was in Child Welfare, I was briefly an Adult Services social worker in 1968, when the federal government split services from eligibility functions in public welfare. As a social worker, I learned how to gather information, evaluate and then suggest solutions. Over the past few years, I have attended many seminars on the process of aging and needs of seniors. I am especially interested in caregiving in general and in the needs of Kupuna in out-of-home care.

5. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I would like to see the Kupuna Caregiver program sufficiently "reworked" so that it serves the most needy, as it was originally designed to do.

6, Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board?

I ask questions, I listen and I do my homework.

7. Name a previous experience you've had that you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I was a back-up caregiver for my mother who, for eight years, had been bedridden, non-communicative and tube-fed, following a stroke. Even though I only did this for six days, I was completely overwhelmed and have true admiration and sympathy for those who care for their loved ones for years and years.

8. Can you foresee any possible conflict of interest that could arise during your service on The Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

At this time, I cannot foresee any conflicts of interest. That said, I would resolve the conflict by immediately recusing myself from any involvement in discussion or decision-making.

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