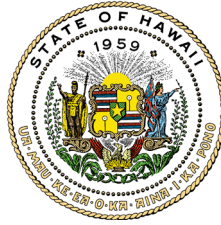


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



CAROLINE CADIRAO
DIRECTOR

Telephone
(808) 586-0100

Fax
(808) 586-0185

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM 704
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs,
Gubernatorial Nominee: Dr. Kealohaku'ualohaku'upoki'i Balaz

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALO, CHAIR
SENATOR ROSALYN BAKER, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: April 5, 2021
1:00 p.m.

Via Videoconference

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
- 2 of Health, is in strong support of the nomination of Dr. Kealohaku'ualohaku'upoki'i Balaz to the
- 3 Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).
- 4 **Comments:** Dr. Kealohaku'ualohaku'upoki'i Balaz is being considered as a nominee to the
- 5 PABEA for a term to expire 6-30-2024. She is a highly respected and active member of the
- 6 Aging Network. She has Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Nursing and a Doctor of
- 7 Nursing Practice. She also holds an Executive Master's degree of Business Education. She is
- 8 currently the Interim Executive Director at the Lunalilo Nursing Home and the Grace Project
- 9 Coordinator for Kokua Kalihi Valley Health Center. She is an adjunct faculty at Chaminade
- 10 University, facilitates the Resources Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH)
- 11 program, and is a master trainer for the Savvy Caregiver program for caregivers.

1 Dr. Balaz was also featured on KHON's Kupuna Life sharing her story of caregiving for her
2 father who is in the late stage of dementia. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in
3 the field and will be an asset and strong advocate for kupuna.
4 For these reasons, EOA strongly supports the confirmation of Dr. Kealohaku'ualohaku'upoki'i
5 Balaz for PABEA.
6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-704

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 6:36:18 PM

Testimony for HTH on 4/5/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Testifying for Aloha ‘Aina Party	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of the Aloha ‘Aina Party, its organization and membership, we hereby express our support for Kauka Balaz to take this position. Kauka Balaz has the experience and the right mindset to address the needs of Hawai‘i’s elderly population.