



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in SUPPORT of GM 523
NOMINEE TO THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOPE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: 2/18/2021

Room Number: Via Videoconference

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Air travel and transportation costs to attend meetings.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the appointment of Max Matias to
- 3 the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC).
- 4 Mr. Max Matias is an administrator for operational oversight of the Kona airport fire response and
- 5 the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighter Regional Training Center on the island of Hawaii. His
- 6 occupational background includes 20+ years serving as both a firefighter and Emergency
- 7 Medical Technician on the island of Kauai. Mr. Matias will bring to EMSAC first responder
- 8 organizational leadership, team building experiences, and disaster organizational skill sets.
- 9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1463, AFL-CIO

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THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022
February 18, 2022

Committee on Health

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

Gov. Msg. No. 523

Nomination of Max Matias
To the Emergency Services Advisory Committee

HTH

The Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA), Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO, represents more than 1,900 professional active-duty fire fighters throughout the State. The HFFA, on behalf of all of our members, **strongly supports Governor's Message 523** nominating Max Matias to the Emergency Services Advisory Committee.

Chief Max Matias has been with the Airport Rescue Fire Fighting Unit (ARFF) of the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation (ARFF) for the past 22 years and currently oversees the fire personnel and facility at the Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport, Keāhole, Hawaii. Prior to joining ARFF in 2000, he served as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) with American Medical Response (AMR) and with the Barking Sands Fire Department on Kauai. In addition to his regular duties, Chief Matias is the ARFF EMS program manager and a lecturer at Hawaii Community College in Fire Science.

Chief Matias' professional and educational background will be an asset to the Emergency Services Advisory Committee. We appreciate your favorable action on Governor's Message 523.

GM-523

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 1:07:00 PM

Testimony for HTH on 2/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
William Bailey	Testifying for AMR	Support	No

Comments:

In support.

GM-523

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 9:02:23 PM

Testimony for HTH on 2/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ralph Yawata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm submitting this testimony on behalf of my support of Chief Max Matias for EMSAC member Hawaii County Allied Health position. I have worked with Chief Matias in my previous employment as Assistant Fire Chief of the Hawaii Fire Dept. retired since August of 2011. Presently I'm co-instructing the Emergency Medical Technician training at Palamanui Community College at HCC in the Fire Science program. Over the years, I have seen his leadership strengths and organizational skill set. I have previously served as a member on the EMSAC committee and can attest that Chief Matias will be integral part of it.

Respectfully submitted

Ralph M. Yawata

GM-523

Submitted on: 2/18/2022 8:52:37 AM

Testimony for HTH on 2/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jillian Kelekoma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of Max Matias appointment to EMSAC. He will be a valuable asset to the group.