



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

---

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

By

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep, PhD, RN  
Interim Dean and Professor  
Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing  
(formerly the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene)  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
and  
Michael Bruno, PhD  
Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

GM 650 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Center for Nursing Advisory Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Rhoberta Haley, for a term to expire 06-30-2024

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to give my strong support to the appointment of Dr. Rhoberta Haley to serve on the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing Advisory Board.

Dr. Haley is a colleague and the dean of Chaminade University School of Nursing. As such, she is aware of the issues faced by the nursing profession at this time—nursing faculty and workforce shortages. We are confident that she will be part of the solutions of these issues and will fulfill her roles and responsibilities effectively as a member of the HSCN Advisory Board.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to write in strong support for Dr. Rhoberta Haley to be a member of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing Advisory Board.



**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 3:00 pm  
by  
Laura Reichhardt, MS, AGNP-C, APRN  
Director, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

**Testimony in Support for GM 650**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education. Thank you for hearing this nomination. The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing offers strong support for Dr. Rhoberta Haley to serve as member of our Advisory Board for a term to expire June 30, 2024.

Dr. Rhoberta Haley came to Hawai'i in 2019 as the Dean of Chaminade University School of Nursing. Since this time, she has forged strong relationships in the community, established herself as a leader within her school, the nursing academia community, and at-large. She is able to create healthy workplace environments, create strategies to mitigate challenges and course correct, and is a futurist. To this last point, the ability to lead with an eye on the horizon is deeply needed in our state in these current times. The nursing workforce is shrinking, and the capacity to educate students is challenged with a faculty shortage, pandemic related closures to historical clinical placement locations, and a need to increase student enrollment overall. Being able to course correct in a way that steers us to the desired direction is critical for public safety and ensured access to nursing care. Dr. Haley is expert in these skills, and her experience in clinical care, advanced practice nursing, as well as academia further deepens her value and contributions to this state.

As the Center ventures to address these critical issues in nursing, Dr. Haley's role on the Center for Nursing Advisory Board will facilitate acting in according to current and future need. She will also help us ensure our plans are feasible, realistic, and appropriate, and deepen our relationships with key partners in academia and practice.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to testify in strong support of her consideration and confirmation to our Advisory Board.

*The mission of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is that through collaborative partnerships, the Center provides accurate nursing workforce data for planning, disseminates nursing knowledge to support excellence in practice and leadership development; promotes a diverse workforce; and advocates for sound health policy to serve the changing health care needs of the people of Hawai'i.*



Testimony Presented to the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Thursday, March 31, 2022  
3:00 pm

GM 650 Advise and Consent, Nominee Rhoberta Haley for Hawaii Center for Nursing Advisory Board

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

As Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Chaminade University of Honolulu, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to **provide testimony in strong support of GM 650**.

Specifically, I would like to express my strong support for the nomination of Dr. Rhoberta Haley, Dean for the School of Nursing and Health Professions at Chaminade University of Honolulu, to serve on the Hawaii Center for Nursing Advisory Board. Dr. Haley is a seasoned and well-respected clinician who has dedicated her career to educating nurses in service to the healthcare needs of the community. Dr. Haley brings decades of expertise as both a nurse and nursing education administrator alongside a lifelong legacy of contributions to the professional development of new and in-services nurses.

During her tenure as Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions at Chaminade University, Dr. Haley has been proactive in her outreach to the community and has worked collaboratively across the state to develop sustainable partnerships with local hospitals and health systems as well as local schools and community organizations. These relationships have strengthened our own undergraduate and graduate degree programs in nursing while also helping to support healthcare capacity across the state of Hawaii. I am confident that Dr. Haley would bring similar dedication and a collaborative spirit as an Advisory Board member for the Hawaii State Center for Nursing.

Accordingly, I offer my unequivocal support for Dr. Haley's nomination, and I thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance Askildson", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lance Askildson, Ph.D.  
*Provost & Vice-President for Academic Affairs*

---

Chaminade University of Honolulu  
Office of the Provost  
3140 Waialae Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

(808) 735-4711 | [chaminade.edu](http://chaminade.edu)



**Chaminade**  
**University**  
OF HONOLULU

Testimony Presented to the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Thursday, March 31, 2022  
3:00 pm

GM 650  
Advise and Consent, Nominee Rhoberta Haley for  
Center for Nursing Advisory Board

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I am Lynn Babington, President of Chaminade University. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of GM 650**.

I would like to support the nomination of Dr. Rhoberta Haley, dean for the School of Nursing and Health Professions at Chaminade University of Honolulu, for a position on the Center for Nursing Advisory Board. Dr. Haley is an expert clinician and educator who has spent her career in both nursing practice and education. She has consistently been an active member of professional organizations at both the local and national levels. Dr. Haley will bring this expertise to the work of the Center.

Since moving to Hawaii and assuming her position at Chaminade, Dr. Haley has reached out in the community, developing partnerships with local hospitals and health systems, schools of nursing and many other community groups. These relationships have strengthened Chaminade's nursing program and allowed us to develop and launch a successful Doctorate of Nursing Practice program this fall. It is her deep knowledge and relationships in the nursing community here in Hawaii and throughout the country that will make her an excellent Advisory Board member for the Hawaii State Center for Nursing.

It is without hesitation and with great pleasure that I support Dr. Rhoberta Haley's nomination for this position. Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lynn Babington".

Lynn Babington, PhD  
President



March 28, 2022

Dear Hawaii Senate Committee (re GM650),

I am writing to provide a testimony of support for Dr. Rhoberta Haley for consideration and confirmation to the Center for Nursing Advisory Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, RHOBERTA HALEY, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

I have known Dr. Rhoberta Haley for three years as a professional colleague. We first served on committees and task forces together with the Hawaii State Center for Nursing and then when the COVID pandemic occurred, we collaborated frequently along with the leaders of the other Schools of Nursing in Hawaii to develop solutions for the nursing students and healthcare organizations in Hawaii. In February of 2021, I joined Chaminade University as the Associate Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions and am now working closely with Dr. Haley on a daily basis.

Dr. Haley is a strong leader. She is able to quickly review data and organizational frameworks, and then implement innovative as well as tried-and-true solutions for complex scenarios. With her many years of experience as a nursing administrator, she has strong interpersonal skills and easily collaborates with individuals at many levels of the stakeholder teams such as the President, Provost, clinical partner hospital CEOs, clinicians, faculty, students, parents, and community organizations.

Dr. Haley has served on the boards of Sigma Theta Tau International, Missouri Board of Nursing Nurse Practice Act Task Force, AACN Finance Board, and Nursing Knowledge International. In Hawaii, she has served on multiple task forces and working groups such as Healthcare Association of Hawaii Workforce Planning as well as the leadership group of the Hawaii Palliative Care Coalition Hui Pohala. I have witnessed Dr. Haley's unceasing commitment and substantial intellectual deliverables to these important working groups in Hawaii.

With over 20 years of academic nursing administrative experience, Dr. Haley has an intimate knowledge of Boards of Nursing procedures as well as accreditation procedures and standards. Dr. Haley has maintained a substantial professional collegial network. Through the different professional organizations that she has either been a member of, or worked for, she has maintained friendships and large peer networking groups. This mastered and uncommon skill seemingly comes easily to her. By being a connector of others, her growing networks benefit many, as quality ideas are brainstormed and shared. Dr. Haley's decades of experience as a family nurse practitioner also adds value. She has a tangible understanding of patient

needs, healthcare operations, and the educational needs of students in order to deliver exceptional healthcare.

I do not have any concerns about Dr. Haley's ability to commit to the Hawaii Board of Nursing. She would be a valuable asset to the nursing profession in Hawaii.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,



**Pamela Smith, EdD, APRN-Rx, FNP-BC**  
Associate Dean School of Nursing and Health Professions  
**Chaminade University of Honolulu**  
3140 Waiialae Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816  
[pamela.smith@chaminade.edu](mailto:pamela.smith@chaminade.edu)

