



STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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Senate Committee on Health

GM 681, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Kauai County Subarea Health Planning Council

Testimony of Darryl Shutter Acting SHPDA Administrator

Friday, April 8, 2022
1:00 p.m.

1 **Agency's Position:** The State Health Planning and Development Agency supports the
2 nomination and confirmation of Jennie Chahanovich to the Kauai County Subarea Health
3 Planning Council.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** None

5 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation to the
6 Kauai County Subarea Health Planning Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jennie Chahanovich.

7 Ms. Chahanovich has served as a member of the Kauai County Subarea Health
8 Planning Council since 2016.

9 Ms. Chahanovich is an accomplished healthcare executive with a strong record of
10 success in hospital administration. She is currently President and CEO of Wilcox Memorial
11 Hospital, Hawaii Pacific Health, and CEO of Kauai Medical Clinic. Prior to her current position,
12 she was CEO of Pali Momi Medical Center, Hawaii Pacific Health; Director of Respiratory Care
13 and Rehabilitation Services at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children; and Director of
14 Paradise Valley Hospital of Triad Hospitals, Inc. in Dallas, Texas.

15

1 Ms. Chahanovich holds a Master of Business Administration degree in International
2 Marketing and a Bachelor of Science degree in Allied Health Sciences/Health Care
3 Administration. She has certifications and licensures in executive management and long-term
4 care administration and is a fellow of the American Association in Respiratory Care and the
5 American College of Health Care Executives.

6 Ms. Chahanovich is currently a board member of the Kauai Chamber of Commerce and
7 the Fire Commission for Kauai County. She was past chair of the American Health
8 Association, past board chair of Hospice Hawaii, past president of the Hawaii Pacific Chapter
9 of the American College of Health Care Executives, and past vice chair of AccesSurf Hawaii.

10 Ms. Chahanovich brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the Council. We ask
11 for your support on the confirmation of Ms. Chahanovich to enable her to continue her service
12 to the Kauai County Subarea Health Planning Council.

Friday, April 8, 2022 at 1:00 PM
Conference Room 225 and Via Video Conference

Senate Committee on Health

To: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

From: Ray Vara
President & CEO

Re: **GM 681 – Testimony in Support
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Health Planning
Council, Kaua'i Subarea, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jennie Chahanovich, for a
term to expire 06-30-2024.**

My name is Ray Vara and I am the President and CEO of Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox - and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I am writing in SUPPORT of GM 681 which submits for consideration and confirmation Jennie Chahanovich to the Health Planning Council Kaua'i Subarea, for a term to expire on 06/30/2024.

As part of the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), the six subarea councils are statutorily charged with reviewing, seeking public input and making recommendations relating to health planning for the particular geographical subarea they serve. Encompassed in this crucial function is the duty to advise SHPDA on the highest priorities for health services and resources development. With her extensive background and history in the healthcare industry, Ms. Chahanovich is imminently qualified to assume a position on the Kaua'i Subarea Council.

Ms. Chahanovich is the chief executive officer of Wilcox Medical Center, a not-for-profit hospital founded in 1938, and the largest medical facility on Kaua'i. She oversees the operations of Wilcox as well as a staff of more than 200 physicians. It has been Ms. Chahanovich's mission to provide the Kaua'i community and its visitors with accessible, quality healthcare.

In her previous tenure as the chief operating officer of Pali Momi Medical Center on Oahu, Ms. Chahanovich transformed the West Oahu hospital into one of the country's state-of-

the-art medical models. Under her leadership, Pali Momi Medical Center grew into a well-respected regional facility serving the needs of the West Oahu communities.

Ms. Chahanovich understands the healthcare needs of the communities she serves and is able to translate that understanding into meaningful applications to meet the healthcare demands of its residents. She is an ideal candidate to hold a position on the Kaua'i Subarea Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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Lance K. Segawa
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Kauai Region
P.O. Box 337
Waimea, Hawaii 96796

April 5, 2022

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Members of the Senate Health Committee
415 South Beretania Street, Room 222
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: Gubernatorial Nominee to the Kauai Subarea Health Planning Council (SAC) – GM681

Dear Senator Keohokalole:

I am honored to recommend Jennie Chahanovich as Gubernatorial Nominee to the Kauai Subarea Health Planning Council for the State Health Planning and Development Agency. Ms. Chahanovich is currently the Chief Executive Officer for Wilcox Medical Center. She is an accomplished healthcare leader and understands the challenges of rural healthcare on the island of Kauai. Her comprehensive perspective as a hospital CEO is critical for evaluating and assessing complex issues around access and quality in the healthcare industry. Ms. Chahanovich's confirmation will continue to enhance the required expertise on the Council.

Without reservation, I strongly support the confirmation of Jennie Chahanovich.

Sincerely,


Lance K. Segawa
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Kauai Region



April 8, 2022 at 1:00 pm
Via Videoconference

LATE

Senate Committee on Health

To: Chair Jarrett Keohokalole
Vice Chair Rosalyn H. Baker

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
GM 681, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Health Planning Council, Kauai Subarea, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIE CHAHANOVICH, for a term to expire 06-30-2024

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **strong support** on the nomination of Jen Chahanovich to serve on the Health Planning Council for the Kauai Subarea. Ms. Chahanovich has extensive experience and deep knowledge that will be an invaluable asset as this council meets and makes recommendations on important healthcare access and planning decisions. She also has many years as a key stakeholder on Kauai, which faces many unique challenges in its healthcare service planning and will represent the community well.

Beyond her clear qualifications to serve on the council, Ms. Chahanovich is a pleasure to work with in a professional capacity. She served as the Chair of the Neighbor Island Committee at HAH for many years, where she communicated and helped set priorities for facilities located on the neighbor islands. She was also a key leader in the COVID response on Kauai, providing regular updates and insights that were invaluable for planning and response purposes.

Without reservation, we ask for your support of Ms. Chahanovich's appointment to the Health Planning Council for the Kauai Subarea. Thank you for your consideration of our comments in support.