

The Senate
Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

March 19, 2024

Dear Senator Joy,

Thank you for your letter and for considering my nomination to the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators. I am honored and excited about the opportunity to serve in this important capacity.

In response to your request, I am providing the following information:

Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators?

Serving on the board would allow me to contribute directly to maintaining high standards for water quality and safety. The State of Hawaii is in need of more Certified Water Operators. I believe in the importance of certified operators who can make informed decisions to protect public health.

How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators?

As a board member, I see my role as overseeing the certification process for water system operators and ensuring compliance with regulations. I will collaborate with the other Board Members to evaluate applicants, conduct examinations, and maintain the integrity of the certification program.

Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators.

I currently serve as the President of Pural Water Specialty Co., Inc., overseeing our operations of Public Water Systems across the State of Hawaii. Our company employs Distribution System and Water Treatment Plant Operators. Holding a Distributions System Operator 3 and Water Treatment Plant 2 License myself, I understand the experience necessary for Operators to thrive.

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

During my term of service, I aim to promote continuing education by encouraging operators to stay updated on industry standards. By collaborating with the Board Members and other water utilities I would like to raise awareness and educate the public about the importance of certified operators.

Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators?

Collaboration: I believe in teamwork and will actively engage with fellow board members.

Integrity: The certification process for water system operators will require honesty and fairness in the review process.

Competency: I have a good foundation in the Water Industry. If I don't know the answer I will do my research. This will help the Board make informed decisions.

Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators?

I am involved with the operations of multiple Public Water Systems. I have been able to work with the State Regulators to keep those systems in compliance. The diverse systems that Pural operates gives me a wide range of experience that would benefit the Board.

Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

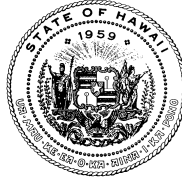
While serving on the board, I am committed to my roles and responsibilities. I will work with the Board to schedule days and times that work will all members.

Sincerely,



Ian Ichimura

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII



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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM0673
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, IAN ICHIMURA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028**

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: 4/3/2024

Room Number: 225 & Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports the nomination of Mr. Ian Ichimura to the
3 Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators (Board).

4 Mr. Ichimura has over 11 years of operational experience in drinking water distribution systems
5 and water treatment plants. He is currently the Vice President, Finance & Operations Manager
6 for Pural Water Specialty Co. Inc. where he is responsible for the operation and maintenance of
7 over 20 potable and non-potable water systems.

8 In addition to his extensive experience, Mr. Ichimura possesses a Grade 3 Distribution System
9 Operator and a Grade 2 Water Treatment Plant Operator certification. Therefore, he understands
10 the value of a certification program. His knowledge will bring valuable insight to the Board
11 from both an operator's and small business owner's perspective.

12 **Offered Amendments:** None

13 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.