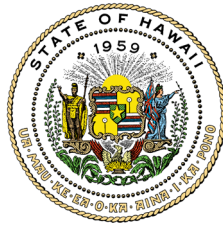


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831**

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM537
Consideration and Confirmation for the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs,
Gubernatorial Nominee Charlene Taketa, for a term to expire 06-30-2028**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATOR HENRY J.C. AQUINO, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing: Friday, February 28, 2025, 1:00 P.M., Conference Room 225

EOA's Position: EOA supports the nomination of Ms. Charlene Taketa to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).

Comments: HRS 349-4 established PABEA to advise the Director on issues, approaches to solutions, development of position statements, advocacy, legislative actions, program development and operations. With over 30 years of personal and professional experience working in the community Ms. Charlene Taketa has shown commitment and dedication to improve the quality of life for individuals and families in Hawai'i island. Currently, she has been assisting families in Kona to navigate community resources to address their health and social and economic needs. She is also a member of the Kona Task Force, which aims to address the needs of the kūpuna in Kona.

Ms. Taketa's experience and knowledge working in the community will provide EOA

with valuable insight and guidance to better understand the needs and opportunities of older adults and individuals with disabilities, particularly on Hawai'i Island. For these reasons, EOA strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Charlene Taketa to PABEA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-537

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:51:06 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/28/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
GARY SIMON	Testifying for Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am Gary Simon, a member of the board of the Hawai‘i Family Caregiver Coalition, whose mission is to improve the quality of life of those who give and receive care by increasing community awareness of caregiver issues through continuing advocacy, education, and training. I am testifying as an individual who has worked in healthcare for over thirty-five years, and I am offering testimony on behalf of the Hawai‘i Family Caregiver Coalition.

The Hawai‘i Family Caregiver Coalition supports the nomination of Charlene Taketa to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).

Ms. Taketa’s extensive experience as Kahu at Lanakila Congregational Church and patient navigator at West Hawaii Community Health Center will be valuable to PABEA and the Hawaii Executive Office on Aging and its mission of *optimizing the health, safety and independence of Hawaii’s older adults and people with disabilities and supporting kupuna and their caregivers through planning, development, advocacy, and coordination of policies, programs, and services.*

We urge you to support Ms. Taketa’s nomination, and we urge you to recommend her confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Gary Simon

Hawai‘i Family Caregiver Coalition

Beverly Ann Gotelli
6286 Opaekaa Road
Kapaa, HI, 96746

Senate Committee on Health and Human Resources
Friday, February 28, 2025
1:00 PM
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

GM 537 Support

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair and members of the Committee:

I'm Beverly Gotelli, writing in strong support of GM 537 the appointment of Charlene Taketa to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. (PABEA)

I've had the opportunity to meet Charlene upon her appointment to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs within the last few years. Charlene comes from Kona on Hawaii Island. She is very compassionate and brings a new perspective to the PABEA.

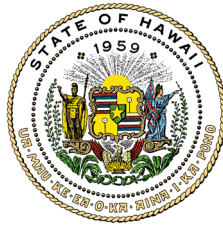
She is very knowledgeable about issues regarding the Kupuna in Kona and shares this with the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of GM 537, the appointment of Charlene Taketa to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.

Beverly Ann Gotelli

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.