



The Senate Ka 'Aha Kenekoa

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 18th, 2025

Aloha Marilyn Seely:

Congratulations on your nomination to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. To assist the Hawaii State Senate with its confirmation process, we request that you submit the following information to our office no later than February 21st, 2025, to ensure that we proceed in a timely manner:

1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.

I have served under five governors on behalf of the aged beginning in 1986 with Governor Arioshi til today under Governor Green. I spent 20 years on staff at the Executive Office on Aging and the last 20 as a member of PABEA.

2. What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. Our stated purpose is to advise the Director of EOA on programs and policies and issues regarding older adults and their families. i

3. Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities as a member of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the board.

Please see my resumes Listing my education and 40 + years of experience which includes long term care planning and 8 years as the director of EOA.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service? I hope to inspire members to develop advocacy skills, share past experience, research new approaches to elder care and provide assistance to EOA staff as needed.
5. Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. My experience, my persistence in an uphill battle to

provide the resources needed to care for this and my own personal experience with caregiving and now an understanding of what it is like to be 80+ years old.

6. Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a member.

Caring for my parents and now my husband.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

No conflicts of interest. If there were any I would recuse myself from Decisions.

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

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**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM578
Consideration and Confirmation for the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs,
Gubernatorial Nominee Marilyn Seely, 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: Monday, February 24, 2025, 1:05 P.M., Conference Room 225

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

HRS 349-4 established PABEA to advise the EOA on issues, approaches to solutions, development of position statements, advocacy, legislative actions, program development and operations. Ms. Seely has extensive knowledge and experience in the aging field. She has served on PABEA from 2011-2018 and 2019-2023 and has been a member of the Kupuna Caucus since 2003. She had a successful professional career serving as the Long-Term Care Planner for EOA from 1986-1995 and then Director from 1995 till her retirement in 2003. To stay current on aging issues, she seeks best practices on aging programs and services and often shares this information during PABEA meetings.

During her extensive time on PABEA she has chaired the Recognition Committee, and served on the legislative committee and the plans, projects, and review committee.

Ms. Seely brings immense knowledge, skills, and experience to PABEA and is an asset to the EOA. For these reasons, EOA strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Seely.

GM-578

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 2:32:00 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/24/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katrina Fenner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, Members of the committee

I'm writing in support of GM578 which would confirm Marilyn Seely as part of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. Marilyn Seely has the experience necessary for the position, she has her masters in public health and has served time on the Kokua council. She has been an advocate for the elderly community and I believe her commitment to elder and community care qualifies her for this position. PLEASE SUPPORT!

Mahalo for listening to my testimony,

Katrina Fenner (UHM 2027)

February 11, 2025

2025 Hawai'i Legislature
Regular Session
Committee on Health and Human Services (HHS)

RE: GM 578, Letter of Support for Marilyn Seely for the State of Hawai'i Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs

It is my sincere pleasure to submit this letter of support for the nomination of Ms. Marilyn Seely to the State of Hawai'i Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs (PABEA). Ms. Seely is the former director of the State Executive Office on Aging, and I have worked with her in varying capacities for the past 30 years. She is an extraordinary elder advocate, a committed gerontologist and public health leader.

Ms. Seely is extremely knowledgeable in social policy issues and affairs and understands quite well the role of citizen advocacy in promoting the health and well-being of our elders. She has taken courageous stands in issues that continue to challenge our state; for example, the funding of long term and ensuring that elders rights are protected via appropriate rules, regulations and laws.

She is a clear thinker, is diplomatic in all communication, and able to use her knowledge and persuasion to move our agenda forward to make Hawai'i a model for the implementation of an age-friendly community. She has served on numerous community and state boards and task forces to share her knowledge to benefit our state.

She has my unwavering support. Should you have the need for any additional information, I will be happy to answer any questions at cbrowne@hawaii.edu.

Cordially,



Colette V. Browne
Emerita Takasaki Endowed Professor in Social Policy
Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

GM-578

Submitted on: 2/21/2025 10:51:29 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/24/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raelene Tenno	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support GM578

For the consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARILYN SEELY, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

She has been and will be an assest to PABEA as our aging population in Hawaii grows.

Thank you for allowing the submission of testimony.

Raelene Tenno, as an individual and Board Member and Education Chair for Hawaii Council of Community Associations.

GM-578

Submitted on: 2/21/2025 11:19:47 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/24/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
GARY SIMON	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Marilyn Seely has been a passionate member of PABEA. She is committed to the well-being of kupuna and has the ability to think in terms of systems and context and to see the big picture. I support her confirmation to PABEA. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Beverly Ann Gotelli
6286 Opaekaa Road
Kapaa, HI, 96746

Senate Committee on Health and Human Resources
Monday, February 24, 2025
1:05 PM
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

GM 578

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 578 the appointment of Maily Seely to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.

I've known Marilyn since my appointment to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs in 2020. Marilyn has contributed the background information that we need at times. She brings a wealth of knowledge and is willing to groom our new members.

It is an asset to have Marilyn on our Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of GM 578

Beverly Ann Gotelli

Hearing Scheduled for
Monday, February 24, 2025 at 1:05 pm
Before the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol

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

FROM: Marilyn A. Matsunaga

SUBJECT: **GM 578 Marilyn Seeley** to the
Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

I'm writing to share my **wholehearted support** for Marilyn Seeley's confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA). I've had the pleasure of knowing Marilyn for years, both as a colleague and a dear friend, and I genuinely believe she will be amazing on PABEA!

Marilyn has this incredible way of connecting with people and bringing together organizations. She brings warmth, compassion, and real-world know-how to every conversation and project she takes on. Whether it's advocating for elder services or brainstorming ways to make life better for Hawaii's seniors, Marilyn leads with her heart and backs it up with wisdom, practical solutions, and a track record of nationally respected accomplishments.

Her expertise in elderly affairs speaks for itself having served Hawaii as the former Executive Director of EOA. Marilyn has an incredible depth of knowledge about elderly affairs at the local, state, and national levels. She is an acknowledged expert in the field and colleagues across the country seek her advice. She's strategized and developed solutions with local and national organizations, healthcare providers, and families to create real, positive change. I know that with her on PABEA, we'll see thoughtful, effective initiatives that genuinely improve the lives of our elders.

Thank you in advance for your confirmation of Marilyn Seeley to serve our community as a member of PABEA!