

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony of Lorrin Kim, Chief, Office of Planning and Policy  
in SUPPORT of GM508  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department  
of Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, KEITH YAMAMOTO, for a term to expire 12-3-  
2018**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: April 1, 2015

Room Number: 414

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A

2 **Department Testimony:** On behalf of the Hawaii Department of Health, Office of Planning  
3 and Policy, I strongly support the nomination of Mr. Keith Yamamoto, MPA for First Deputy  
4 Director of Health. I have worked with Mr. Yamamoto as a colleague for six years, first as  
5 administrator for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division and as First Deputy Director of Health,  
6 and I am pleased at the prospect of his continuing leadership.

7 Mr. Yamamoto's tenure as First Deputy in particular has been marked by significant  
8 achievements that have elevated the business practices of the department through his focus on  
9 process and quality improvement. He has been the executive sponsor of projects yielding real-  
10 world improvements in the time to execute requests for procurement, contracting, and several  
11 other routine but inescapable government transactions.

12 Policy work, particularly the shepherding of the department's biennium budget requests,  
13 has also been Mr. Yamamoto's preoccupation to great success. I have nothing but kind words for  
14 his ability to foster human relationships, focus on process, and provide leadership where and  
15 when it was needed – all performed with modesty and a strong commitment to public  
16 administration. I respectfully urge his swift confirmation. Thank you for the opportunity to  
17 testify in strong support.

18 **Offered Amendments:** N/A



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health  
Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 1:15 P.M.  
Conference Room 414, State Capitol**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 508 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KEITH YAMAMOTO**

Chair Green, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **strongly supports** the confirmation of Mr. Keith Yamamoto as the Deputy Director of the Department of Health.

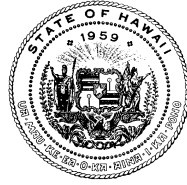
The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Mr. Yamamoto has an extensive work history with the State Departments of Health, Human Services and Labor and Industrial Relations. Mr. Yamamoto has served as the Drug Abuse Administrator as well as the Children and Youth Program Development Officer and as a Program Coordinator for the Kaimuki School-to-Work Transition Center and Career Counselor for McKinley's School-to-Work Transition Center.

Mr. Yamamoto's impressive background and experience in the field makes him an ideal candidate for the position of Deputy Director of the Department of Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony of SUPPORT on GM508**  
**From: Lola H. Irvin, M.Ed.**  
**Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the**  
**Deputy Director of the Department of Health, Gubernatorial Nominee,**  
**KEITH YAMAMOTO, for a term to expire 12-3-2018**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Hearing Date/Time: April 1, 2015/1:15PM  
Room Number: 414

I support the confirmation of Keith Yamamoto as the Deputy Director of the Department of Health. Deputy Yamamoto has many years of experience leading state programs and navigating governmental policies and procedures. Under his leadership, the Department has updated organizational structures, developed policies and procedures for volunteers and interns, and streamlined some of the most time consuming procurement procedures. He is astute in his work with people, and maintains good working relationships.

The Deputy Yamamoto has shouldered tremendous challenges on behalf of the Department and on behalf of the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division we are grateful that he is willing to continue serving. On behalf of the Division, we respectfully request your support in confirming Keith Yamamoto for confirmation as Deputy Director of Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lindaemsipsb@yahoo.com](mailto:lindaemsipsb@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM508 on Apr 1, 2015 13:15PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 01, 2015 9:20:52 AM

---

**GM508**

Submitted on: 4/1/2015

Testimony for HTH on Apr 1, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Rosen	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Phyllis.Shimabukuro-Geiser@hawaii.gov](mailto:Phyllis.Shimabukuro-Geiser@hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM508 on Apr 1, 2015 13:15PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2015 11:04:43 PM

---

**GM508**

Submitted on: 3/31/2015

Testimony for HTH on Apr 1, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Chair Green, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the Committee, I apologize for the late testimony. I strongly support Keith Yamamoto as Deputy Director of the Department of Health. Keith Yamamoto possess a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience for the position. If confirmed, he will be an asset to the Department and provide excellent contributions to the well being of the people of Hawaii. I humbly ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation. Mahalo, Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Wendy K. Nihoa  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96707  
[wknihoa@yahoo.com](mailto:wknihoa@yahoo.com)  
April 1, 2015

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Walker, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Health  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Green and Members of the Committee:

RE: Governor's Message 508, Nomination of KEITH YAMAMOTO for consideration as Deputy Director of the Department of Health

I am pleased to offer written testimony in my own accord to express my strong support of the nomination of Keith Yamamoto as the Deputy Director of the Department of Health.

I am currently employed as the Treatment and Recovery Branch Chief of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD). ADAD is the primary and often sole source of public funds for substance abuse prevention and treatment services. Agency efforts are designed to promote a statewide system of care inclusive of culturally appropriate treatment approaches and clinical best practices. As the Deputy Director of the Department of Health, Keith Yamamoto directs and coordinates the overall administrative staff office activities which provide department-wide services for budget, fiscal/facilities management personnel health information systems and planning/policy development..

Over the many years of his successful career in business, social service and State government, Keith has acquired a wealth of experience, knowledge, and skills necessary for the Deputy Director position. He has developed a strong, working relationships based on integrity and high standards. He is a collaborator, a convener, a mediator, a team player and a leader. Having had the opportunity to know Keith as an employer, supervisor and mentor for a short time, I am confident that he has the knowledge, abilities and skills to lead the Department.

Your favorable consideration in confirming Keith Yamamoto as Deputy Director of Health will ensure the Department has the dedicated, competent leadership necessary to address current and emerging public health issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Wendy K. Nihoa

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dtyoung@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dtyoung@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM508 on Apr 1, 2015 13:15PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 01, 2015 9:07:04 AM

---

**GM508**

Submitted on: 4/1/2015

Testimony for HTH on Apr 1, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darrell Young	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)