

GM777

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOANNE H. KEALOHA, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Report Title: Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector

Description:

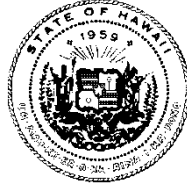
Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
4/9/2015	S	Received.
4/9/2015	S	Referred to CPN.
4/16/2015	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 04-22-15 8:30AM in conference room 016.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 21, 2015

TO: The Honorable Rosalyn H Baker, Chair
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: **GM 777** - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOANNE H. KEALOHA, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

**Hearing: Wednesday, April 22, 2015; 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol**

I am writing in **support** of the confirmation of Joanne H. Kealoha to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector (HHC). The addition of new directors will increase governance capacity for the organization.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) provides empowering programs, services, and benefits to those in our community who are vulnerable with the goals of expanding their capacity for self-sufficiency, self-determination, independence, healthy choices, quality of life, and personal dignity. The well-being of our children, families, and *kupuna* is directly connected to the social determinants of health: education, transportation, access to healthcare, housing, job opportunities, environment, jobs, and access to quality healthcare. The Hawai'i Health Connector's efforts are directly connected to our work at DHS, and we are glad to partner with it in this shared work.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. Please do not hesitate to contact me for additional information.



The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President, Hawaii State Senate

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Re: Hawaii Health Connector Board support for confirmation of Joanne Kealoha.

Hearing scheduled for April 22, at 8:30 p.m. in Conference Room 016

Senate President Kim, Chair Baker, and honorable members of the Senate,

My name is Jeff Kissel, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Health Connector (the "Connector"), speaking on behalf of the Connector and its Board of Directors ("Board"). We have reviewed Ms. Kealoha's qualifications and are familiar with her contributions to the community.

In 2014, the Board engaged in a process to identify potential nominees and provide recommendations to the State. The Board referenced Act 233 (Hawaii Revised Statutes § 435H-C(1) through (9)) to ensure "geographic diversity and the diverse interests of stakeholders."

The Connector's Board identified Joanna Kealoha as having experience on a labor-management committee organization (HRS § 435H-4(c)(5)) and supports her nomination to the Board.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
April 22, 2015

**GM 777 – FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HEALTH
CONNECTOR – JOANNE KEALOHA**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the confirmation of Joanne Kealoha to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector. Ms. Kealoha has extensive professional and community involvement that makes her an excellent choice to serve in this capacity. She understands the importance of providing health insurance to Hawaii's people and preserving the Prepaid Health Care Act of 1974.

The Hawaii Health Connector currently faces many significant challenges that could potentially adversely affect thousands of Hawaii residents. Therefore, it is essential to make sure we have well qualified members on the Board of Directors such as Ms. Kealoha.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of Ms. Kealoha.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director



Randy Perreira
President

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

345 Queen Street, Suite 500 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Telephone: (808) 597-1441
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Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO
April 22, 2015

G.M. 777 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HEALTH CONNECTOR

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Joanne H. Kealoha to be a Board of Director for the Hawaii Health Connector.

Ms. Kealoha is one the hardest-working and selfless individuals I know. She always goes above and beyond what is asked of her and is eager to learn new topics and participate in a number of community and work related activities. Ms. Kealoha is always willing to lend a hand and her passion for helping others and desire to improve Hawaii is an inspiration to us all.

In addition, Ms. Kealoha is highly qualified to be a Board of Director for the Hawaii Health Connector. She earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and her Master of Social Work (MSW) from the University of California at Los Angeles. Furthermore, Ms. Kealoha has worked at the ILWU for nearly 30 years as a Social Services Coordinator, including past employment with the Hawaii Medical Services Association (HMSA), the East-West Center, and the State Department of Social Services and Housing. Ms. Kealoha has the passion and community and work experiences to excel as a Board of Director for the Hawaii Health Connector.

I respectfully urge the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection to recommend a favorable confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
President

The Twenty-Eighth Legislatures
Regular Session of 2015

THE SENATE

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Wednesday, April 22, 2015; 8:30 a.m.

STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON G.M. 777
JOANNE H. KEALOHA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAWAI'I HEALTH CONNECTOR

The ILWU Local 142 supports the confirmation of Joanne H. Kealoha to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector.

The ILWU Local 142 is the largest private sector union in Hawaii and represents over 20,000 members and retirees statewide. Joanne Kealoha has been the Social Services Coordinator of the ILWU Local 142 for some 30 years. As the Union's social worker, she has assisted members, retirees and their families in understanding their medical coverage. She is very familiar and knowledgeable about health care in Hawaii and the history of how our intricate and unique health care system evolved.

She currently serves on the Boards of Directors for Hawaii Meals on Wheels, the Oahu Workforce Investment Board and the Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, and is an advisor to the Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans. She has served on the boards of the Aloha United Way (AUW), Catholic Charities and People Attentive to Children (PATCH). Her record of public service includes past service on the State Health Coordinating Council, the State Civil Service Commission and the Honolulu Planning Commission.

Joanne Kealoha is well qualified, bringing a wealth of experience to the Board of the Hawai'i Health Connector. The ILWU Local 142 strongly supports her confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

/csp
howu



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

LOCAL UNION NO. 1186 • Affiliated with AFL-CIO

1935 HAU STREET, ROOM 401 • HONOLULU, HI 96819-5003
TELEPHONE (808) 847-5341 • FAX (808) 847-2224

April 21, 2015

TO: SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

For Hearing on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at 8:30 a.m., in Room 016

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM777

Honorable Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Committee Members,

The **International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186** represents over 3,400 members working in electrical construction, telecommunications, and with Oceanic Cable. Our members include civil service employees at Pearl Harbor, Hickam, Kaneohe, and military facilities throughout Hawaii. IBEW Local 1186 also represents over 110 signatory electrical contracting companies that perform most of the electrical work in our state.

We support GM 777 and the Governor's nomination of Joanne Kealoha to the Hawaii Health Connector Board of Directors. Ms. Kealoha has the education, experience, and background to provide balance to the Hawaii Health Connector. Her long history of serving the community and the disadvantaged gives her insight into the needs of Hawaii's local and working class people.

For these reasons, IBEW Local Union 1186 supports GM 777 and ask you to confirm the nomination of Ms. Joanne Kealoha. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to offer our testimony.

Mahalo and aloha,

Damien Kim
Business Manager – Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers, Local Union 1186

GM777

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Swindell	IOMM&P	Support	No

Comments: The International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots strongly supports the nomination of Joanne Kealoha to the Board of Director to the Hawaii Health Connector.

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.

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GM777

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arnold	Ironworkers Stabilization	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support Joanne. And believe she will be a great addition to the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Health Connector.

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GM777

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
luke kaili	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (AFL-CIO), supports Joanne Kealoha to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector. She has a boat load of experience to offer.

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Aloha,

The Sailors Union of the Pacific strongly supports Joanne Kealoha for the position of Board of Director for the Hawaii Health Connector. She is well qualified, involved in the local community, and someone we need at the Hawaii Health Connector.

Sincerely,

Michael Dirksen
Honolulu Branch Agent
Sailors Union of the Pacific
707 Alakea St.
Rm. 101
Honolulu, Hi. 96813
808-533-2777
suphono@suphono.com

Chair Roz Baker and Members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee,

I am writing in support of the nomination of Joanne H. Kealoha to serve on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector, GM777. Over the many years that I have known and worked with Joanne on community issues of mutual interests, including health issues, I have found her to be a person of high integrity, and truly committed to the causes that she supports. I know that her word is good and she has demonstrated her willingness to devote her time and energy to collaborate with others in working to achieve the purposes of her causes. She is someone whose judgment and advice I can trust.

Please confirm the appointment of Joanne to the Board of the Hawaii Health Connector so that she can help the Connector achieve its purposes.

Mahalo and Aloha,

AL Hamai

To: Committee on Consumer Protection
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

From: Anthony Lenzer, PhD

Re: Support for Nominee Joanne Kealoha (GM 777) - Hawaii Health Connector Board

Hearing: April 22, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 016

I am writing to offer strong support for the nomination of Joanne Kealoha to the board of the Hawaii Health Connector. I have known and worked with Ms. Kealoha for a number of years, both as a member of the board of the Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) and as chair of the legislative committee of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA). She serves as an Advisor to HARA, and has always provided valuable counsel to members of the Board. As a member of the PABEA legislative committee, Ms. Kealoha proved to be a persuasive supporter of PABEA's priority legislative issues. She was personally familiar with many of the legislators, and was able to get our message across in an effective manner.

Ms. Kealoha is very familiar with issues relating to aging and programs on behalf of older people. In addition, her social work background as well as her responsibilities with the ILWU should give her an excellent understanding of the issues facing the Hawaii Health Connector. I know that she will be a strong advocate for the people the Connector serves.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Joanne Kealoha for this position.



The Senate
The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2015

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Re: GM 777
Wednesday, April 22, 2015
8:30 a.m., Conference Room 016
State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania Street

Aloha, my name is Brenda Ching, Executive Director for SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local. I am submitting testimony on behalf of Joanne H. Kealoha's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector.

I've known Joanne H. Kealoha for many years; working with her and the ILWU, at the legislature and in the community. She is an excellent choice and she would serve us well.

Thank you for your consideration of Joanne H. Kealoha's nomination.

Brenda Ching, Executive Director
brenda.ching@sagaftra.org • SAGAFTRA.org • 808.596.0388 / 808.593.2636
SCREEN ACTORS GUILD - AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TELEVISION AND RADIO ARTISTS
949 KAPIOLANI BLVD., SUITE 105, HONOLULU, HI 96814
Associated Actors & Artistes of America / AFL-CIO

DENNIS W. S. CHANG

Attorney at Law, A Limited Liability Law Corporation

WORKER'S RIGHTS - LABOR LAW
WORKER'S COMPENSATION
SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
LABOR UNION REPRESENTATION
EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BODILY INJURIES

April 21, 2015

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee Commerce and
Consumer Protection

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2015
Time: 8:30 am
Place: Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

GM 777: Strong Support of Joanne H. Kealoha Confirmation

I am writing in **strong support** of Joanne H. Kealoha's confirmation as a Board of Director of the Hawai'i Health Connector.

As a practicing labor attorney, I initially and indirectly knew Joanne and eventually have known her as a friend and professional colleague. Together, we have worked on seminars, served as board directors, and simultaneously continue to service mutual clients. More important, we continue to work on portions of an overall agenda to advance social justice for all, particularly, the most needy.

Though she is not trained as a lawyer, Joanne has a vast experience and knowledge of the beneficent law and statutes. As the ILWU's social services coordinator and her unselfish volunteer for the larger community, she is a quick study understanding the interplay of the essential statutes. Like the ILWU's legendary social worker Ah Quon McElrath during tumultuous times, Joanne is a true believer with a never give up mantra. She retains an objective perspective in striving to preserve the social policies for what is best for all of our citizenry. That alone should speak volumes of her ongoing distinguished career.

I sincerely verify that she innately has unique analytical and organizational skills to distill and to professionally articulate complicated issues into simple terms. Simultaneously, she does so

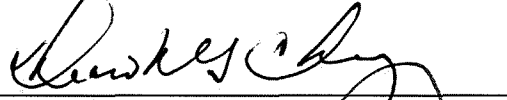
DILLINGHAM TRANSPORTATION BUILDING

735 BISHOP STREET ● SUITE 320 ● HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 ● TELEPHONE: (808) 521-4005

after exercising compassion, respect, and restraint for everyone's opinion. She possesses the vision to view the larger aspects and impact on our community. If she has a "flaw," it is her undue patience, uncompromising principle, and the countless hours she puts in to improve what is perceived hopeless.

Joanne is a role model with a wealth of experience and knowledge. Her sparse *curriculum vitae* fails to reveal her unquestionable qualifications to serve as a board member of the troubled Hawai'i Health Connector. Without hesitation, **I strongly embrace her confirmation.**

Very truly yours,



Dennis W. S. Chang
Labor and Workers' Compensation Lawyer .

GM777

Submitted on: 4/21/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha: Hard working Ms. Kealoha would be an asset to this important entity.

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George M. Waialeale
910 Kapahulu Avenue #703
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
(808) 383-0436
Email: GEEDUBBYOU@AOL.COM

April 22, 2015
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Notice of Hearing
Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2015
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 016

Governor's Message 777 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector, Gubernatorial Nominee. JOANNE H. KEALOHA, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Aloha, Senator Baker, Senator Brian Taniguchi and fellow members of the committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

I am submitting the strong support for Joanne H. Kealoha for the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector. I believe that Ms. Kealoha will be a positive support as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector.

I ask for your consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Health Connector.

Aloha and Mahalo,

George M. Waialeale

GM777

Submitted on: 4/21/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
laurie hamano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPN Testimony](#)
Cc: standamanmasui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM777 on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2015 11:34:28 AM

GM777

Submitted on: 4/19/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 22, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanford H. Masui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: JOANNE KEALOHA HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF SOCIAL ADVOCACY AND SERVICE TO THE WORKERS OF HAWAII, AND THE SOCIETY AS A WHOLE. SHE WILL BE A CREDIT TO THE BOARD OF THE HAWAII HEALTH CONNECTOR, AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THE COMMITTEE TO APPROVE HER NOMINATION BY THE GOVERNOR

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Aloha,

I am honored to have this opportunity to submit testimony in support of GM 777, nominee Joanne Kealoha as a Board of Director for the Hawaii health Connector. Joanne's past and present experience working with the Hawaii Medical Service Association, State Department of Social Services and Housing and presently as ILWU's social service coordinator is paramount in understanding and providing health insurance programs that meet the needs of our employees in Hawaii's public and private business world of today.

Joanne's commitment and caring of our community is evident in her multitude of community and public service as a volunteer on the Hawaii Meals on Wheels board, advisor to the Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans, member of the Labor's Community Service Committee of Oahu and much more. As a member of the Labor's Community Service Committee of Oahu, I have come to know Joanne and admire her ability to follow through with her commitments no matter how daunting the task may be and to always be there to support and help her members and anyone in need.

Her character, integrity, fairness, and impartiality are what I see is essential as a member of this Board. For these reasons I support Joanne Kealoha's nomination and I hope appointment as a Director to the Hawaii Health Connector Board.

Sincerely,
Susan Bitler

*Susan Bitler, Interim Deputy Executive Director
Hawaii State teachers Association
Phone (808) 840-2259
Fax (808) 834-7109
sbitler@hsta.org*

WAYNE H. MUKAIDA

Attorney at Law

888 MILILANI STREET, PH 2
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TEL & FAX: (808) 531-8899

April 18, 2015

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Re: G.M. No. 777
Hearing: Wednesday, April 22, 2015, 8:30 a.m.

Chairmen, and members of the Committees, I am attorney Wayne Mukaida. I have been in practice since 1978. Since 1989, I have devoted a substantial portion of my legal practice to representing injured workers. I strongly support the nomination of Joanne H. Kealoha to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Connector

I worked together with Ms Kealoha as a fellow volunteer with the Hawai'i Injured Workers Association ("HIWA") for years since its inception, and with its predecessor organization. Ms Kealoha was instrumental in the leadership and formation of HIWA and in obtaining its non-profit status. She provided strong leadership, attention to detail, and tireless energy when "boots on the ground" were needed.

As demonstrated by her yearly presence testifying before the Legislature, she is intelligent, studies hard and can be a strong advocate. She is honorable, resourceful and fair. Her background and training in social work make a valuable resource. She is an excellent choice to become a Board Member of the Hawai'i Health Connector.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

WAYNE H. MUKAIDA

Joanne H. Kealoha
451 Atkinson Drive
Honolulu, HI 96814

April 17, 2015

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce
and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: G.M. 777

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

My name is Joanne Kealoha, and I am requesting your committee's consideration of my nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Connector.

I am the social worker for the ILWU Local 142, the largest private sector union in Hawaii with more than 20,000 members and pensioners statewide. I have been in this position for almost 30 years. Prior to that, I worked for three years at Hawaii Medical Service Association and seven years with the State Department of Human Services. I have a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a master's degree in Social Welfare from the University of California at Los Angeles.

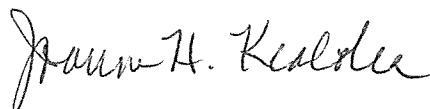
Since its inception, the Hawaii Health Connector has been through many challenges. Funding is in question, enrollment is not as projected, and Hawaii's exchange may be taken over by the federal government. These are serious issues confronting the Connector Board.

Yet I am seeking to serve because I believe that all Hawaii residents should have access to quality, affordable health care. However, many residents do not have the health care they need because they do not have coverage. Through the Hawaii Health Connector, everyone can be covered for health care, which will, in turn, help to bring down the cost of health care. Preventive care and early detection of illness can reduce or avoid costly medical interventions. Access to medications and the appropriate use of the emergency room are other ways to reduce health care costs.

I also seek to ensure that Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act is not jeopardized. Hawaii is farther ahead than other states in achieving universal coverage primarily because of the foundation laid by the Prepaid Health Care Act. However, if the federal government steps in to assume responsibility for the exchange, there is uncertainty, but without the Act, the number of uninsured residents in Hawaii and health care costs will rise dramatically.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination.

Sincerely,



Joanne H. Kealoha