

GM517 Alexander Smith

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the State Board of Public Accountancy?

I have been talking with colleagues about ways to give back to our profession. It was mentioned to me that there are openings on the State Board of Public Accountancy, and I believe I can provide a helpful perspective to the Board.

(2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the State Board of Public Accountancy?

To bring to the Board their professional experience to assist in approving new licenses to the profession, as well to provide guidance to maintain the positive and trusted reputation of the profession in the community.

(3) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a State Board of Public Accountancy member, 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.

I have been a practicing CPA since 1991, and as a sole practitioner, I can bring that perspective to the Board that represents a large number of our profession. I also specialize in working with not-for-profit organizations, which is not a traditional CPA focus, so I would also bring that important point of view to the Board. Additionally, I work with clients on all the islands, with just over half of my clients based on the Big Island. As such, I would also bring to the Board my experience working on the neighbor islands, as well as Oahu.

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

I hope to bring the perspective of my professional experience to the Board and to continue the Board's important role to maintain the positive and trusted reputation of the profession in the community.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the State Board of Public Accountancy.

I am trustworthy, reliable, and knowledgeable in the area of my CPA practice. Similar to working with my clients, I will listen to and research issues brought to the Board, and provide my opinion in discussions and voting on the Board.

(6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a State Board of Public Accountancy member.

I was President of the Shidler College of Business Alumni Association, and of course meet with the Boards of my clients on a regular basis.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the State Board of Public Accountancy? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

I cannot foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during my service on the State Board of Public Accountancy. If a conflict did arise, I would immediately bring it to the attention of the Board, and abstain from any discussion and votes related to the conflict.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Friday, February 18, 2022
9:30 a.m.
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 517, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ALEXANDER SMITH,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2025**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the appointment of Mr. Alexander Smith to the State Board of Public Accountancy (Board) as a licensee member.

Mr. Smith has over 30 years of professional and audit experience. Mr. Smith holds several professional memberships that include the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants, and Hawaii Association of Public Accountants. Over the course of his career, Mr. Smith has worked with many Hawaii nonprofit and for profit organizations across the state of Hawaii.

The Department believes that Mr. Smith's extensive experience and accomplishments in the industry offers a welcomed perspective to the Board. In

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addition, his commitment to actively participate in board meetings will greatly enhance the Board's effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
LT. GOVERNOR



ISAAC W. CHOY
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

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To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair;
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Isaac W. Choy, Director
Department of Taxation

Date: Friday, February 18, 2022
Time: 9:30 AM
Place: Via Videoconference, Hawaii State Capitol

**Re: G.M. 517 Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation
to the State Board of Public Accountancy,
Gubernatorial Nominee Alexander Smith**

I am in support of Mr. Alexander Smith, CPA for a seat on the Hawaii State Board of Public Accountancy.

I have known Mr. Smith for decades. He is active in his trade associations and has been an expert in Not-for-profit accounting throughout his career. He has innovative thoughts on the accounting profession and would add an experienced voice for the small practitioner.

I strongly support his nomination for the Hawaii State Board of Public Accountancy.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of the confirmation of Alexander Smith.



Building strength and stability through shelter

February 16, 2022
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Friday, February 18
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference, 9:30a.m.

GM517– GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ALEXANDER SMITH

Aloha Committee Chair Baker and Vice-Chair Chang;

I am submitting testimony in my capacity as Executive Director of Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association (HHFHA), a nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) and Affiliate Support Organization in partnership with the direct service Habitat for Humanity organizations across the state to **STRONGLY SUPPORT GM517 Gubernatorial Nominee for the State Board of Public Accountancy.**

Mr. Smith has been a long-time partner with Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association, as our Certified Public Accountant, who annually audits our financials. Our organization has changed substantially over the last few years, since we became a certified CDFI and increased our lending capacity to nonprofit low-income homeownership developers and builders. Investments and reporting required a pivotable change in some of the ways we account for funds on our annual report. Mr. Smith has been instrumental in consulting with us in these matters and has continued to be an integral part of our team. With his knowledge in nonprofit accounting and understanding the activities of CDFIs, I believe he will be a valued member on the State Board of Public Accountancy.

Mahalo for your time, leadership and consideration. Please contact me directly at 808.847.7676 or jean@hawaiihabitat.org should you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean Lilley".

Jean Lilley
Executive Director

I am very happy to prepare this email as testimony in support of the nomination of Alexander Smith (GM 517) to serve on the Board of Public Accountancy. Alex and I are both adult leaders in our son's Boy Scout troop, Troop 33 Manoa. We help organize activities and provide a program that nurtures and shape our scouts into young productive members of society, who are physical fit and morally straight. I have known and worked with Alex in this capacity for over 4 years. Alex is a calm and insightful leader who sets a great example for the scouts. I can always count on his reliability and integrity when helping with our troop operations.

I am confident Alex will be a great contributor to your organization and would encourage you to act favorably upon his nomination to the Board of Public Accountancy.

If you have any question, feel free to contact me through my contact information below.

Yours In Scouting,

Grant Tokumi

Troop 33 Scoutmaster

grant@tokumi.net <mailto:grant@tokumi.net>

702-354-4720

LATE

GM-517

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 11:29:43 AM
Testimony for CPN on 2/18/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Laurie Choy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of Alexander Smith's nomination to the Hawaii State Board of Accountancy.

Laurie Choy