



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

**KENNETH FINK, MD, MGA, MPH**  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

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

**CAROLINE CADIRAO**  
DIRECTOR  
Executive Office on Aging

Telephone  
(808) 586-0100

Fax  
(808) 586-0185

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM781  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder  
Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, STEPHEN LUNG, for a term to expire 06-30-2029**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

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

Hearing: Monday, April 6, 2026 at 1:00 P.M

Conference Room: 225

- 1 **EOA Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of
- 2 Health (DOH), is in strong support of the nomination of Mr. Stephen Lung to the Policy
- 3 Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).
- 4 **Comments and Recommendation:**
- 5 Mr. Stephen Lung is being considered for reappointment to PABEA for a term ending June 30,
- 6 2029. He brings more than 37 years of experience in the healthcare insurance industry and has
- 7 demonstrated dedication to serving Hawai'i's older adults. Since 2018, Mr. Lung has
- 8 volunteered with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), where he educates and
- 9 assists Medicare beneficiaries. He also volunteers weekly with Hawai'i Meals on Wheels,
- 10 delivering meals to older adults across the community.

1 Mr. Lung currently serves on PABEA and is a member of the Legislative Committee. His  
2 extensive healthcare background, along with his sustained commitment to EOA's SHIP program,  
3 makes him an invaluable contributor to the work of the Executive Office on Aging. As Director,  
4 I strongly support his confirmation to PABEA.  
5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Beverly Ann Gotelli  
6286 Opaekaa Road  
Kapaa, HI 96746

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Monday, April 6, 2026  
1:00 PM  
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Strong Support: GM 781  
Appointment of Stephen Lung  
Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair and members of the Committee,

I'm Beverly Ann Gotelli. Chair of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA), and strongly support the appointment of Stephen Lung to the Policy Advisory for Elder Affairs.

Steven, is an advocate for Kupuna in many ways. His strength is volunteering for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and has an outstanding background in health insurance as noted in his resume. He is committed to helping our Kupuna be safe through these difficult times.

Stephen is a compassionate person who seeks to assure that Kupuna know the options they have in selecting an insurance plan.

I strongly urge the Committee to approve GM 781 for consideration and confirmation of Stephen Lung to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.



April 6, 2026

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: GM 781 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, STEPHEN LUNG, for a term to expire 06-30-2029

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee:

HMSA appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of GM 781, which requests the Senate's advice and consent for the appointment of Stephen Lung to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs for a term expiring June 30, 2029.

The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) plays a critical role in shaping policies that impact Hawai'i's kūpuna and in ensuring that their voices are meaningfully represented in state decision-making. As a governor-appointed advisory body to the Executive Office on Aging, PABEA helps identify emerging issues, inform legislative priorities, and strengthen coordination across state and county systems serving older adults.

At a time when Hawai'i's population is aging rapidly, and challenges such as caregiver support, housing stability, healthcare access, and long-term services are becoming increasingly urgent, the work of the board has never been more important. Through both his professional and volunteer experience, Mr. Lung brings valuable perspective that will strengthen PABEA's capacity to provide informed, community-grounded guidance to the Executive Office on Aging.

For these reasons, HMSA respectfully supports Mr. Lung's confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs and is confident that he will serve thoughtfully, with care, and with a deep commitment to advancing the well-being of Hawai'i's kūpuna.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman  
Senior Vice President

**GM-781**

Submitted on: 4/3/2026 1:16:39 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/6/2026 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, 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 strongly supports the nomination of Stephen Lung to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).

I have known Mr. Lung since 2021. His robust leadership experience in healthcare administration and management has contributed to PABEA's guidance to the Executive Office on Aging and its Director in the development of policies and programs which enhance the active aging, care, and wellness of our kūpuna here in Hawai'i.

We urge you to support Mr. Lung's nomination, and we urge you to recommend his confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Gary Simon

Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition

Honolulu, Hawaii

**GM-781**

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 5:33:15 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/6/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sara Lenzer Medeiros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I enthusiastically support Stephen Lung for the PABEA board. he always has knowledgeable and thoughtful contributions. In addition his advice, commentary and wisdom, contributes greatly to our decisions the board makes!

**LATE**

**GM-781**

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:39:41 AM

Testimony for HHS on 4/6/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara J. Service	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I am writing in strong support of Stephen Lung for reappointment to the Policy Board of Elder Affairs. As a member of the Board, I know that Stephen has been a capable and involved member and has offered his insights as to Board matters.**

**Please confirm the reappointment of Stephen Lung to the PABEA board.**

**Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.**

**Barbara J. Service. MSW**

**Member, PABEA board**

**Child Welfare Supervisor (ret.)**

**Passionate Kupuna advocate**

