

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3947

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 29 2026

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 557

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred Governor's Message No. 557, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

STATEWIDE HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL

G.M. No. 557 HANNAH PRESTON-PITA
for a term to expire 06-30-2029,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Hannah Preston-Pita for service on the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Hannah Preston-Pita from the State Health Planning and Development Agency, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center, and two individuals.

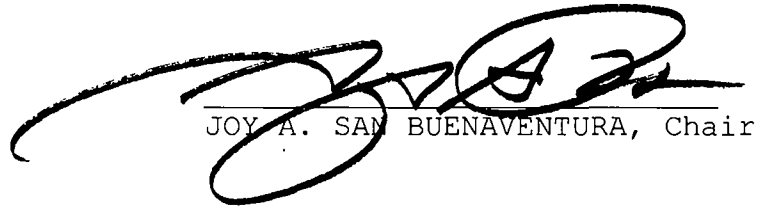
Your Committee finds that Dr. Preston-Pita's background and dedication to serving the public qualify her to be appointed to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council as a member who is a health care provider representing the Health Planning Council, Hawaii County Subarea. Your Committee notes that Dr. Preston-Pita has been a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in the State since 2008 and is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Big Island Substance Abuse Council, where she oversees organizational operations and supervises more than sixty-five employees. Previously, she served as a licensed clinical psychologist in



community health centers, private practice, and integrated behavioral health settings. Your Committee further notes Dr. Preston-Pita's significant contributions to professional research, authorship, and statewide behavioral health initiatives, as well as her past service on multiple health-focused boards and councils. Your Committee finds that Dr. Preston-Pita has a thorough understanding of the role and responsibilities of council members and her extensive experience in clinical psychology, leadership, and community-based behavioral health services will enhance the effectiveness of the Council. Your Committee therefore recommends that Hannah Preston-Pita be appointed to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council based on her knowledge, background, and dedication to public service.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health and Human
Services,



JOY A. SAM BUENAVENTURA, Chair



