

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3985

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 29 2026

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 735

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. 735, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATING PERSONNEL IN WASTEWATER
TREATMENT PLANTS

G.M. No. 735 TAO YAN
for a term to expire 06-30-2030,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Tao Yan for service on the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Tao Yan from the Department of Health.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Dr. Yan's background and dedication to serving the public qualify him to be appointed to the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants as a member who is a member of the engineering (environmental or sanitary) faculty of a university or college in the State. Your Committee notes that Dr. Yan has nearly three decades of research experience in engineering and environmental science, including eighteen years as an engineering educator, and currently works as the Director of the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) Water Resources Research

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Center, where he promotes and facilitates research collaboration related to water resources sustainability and community resilience across the University and the State. At the same time, Dr. Yan is a professor in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering at the UHM, teaching multiple undergraduate and graduate environmental engineering courses related to wastewater. Your Committee further notes that Dr. Yan is an active member in his profession and has contributed extensively to a wide range of peer-reviewed journal publications, academic presentations, and research projects, as reflected in his extensive curriculum vitae, which also includes numerous honors, awards, teaching experience, and affiliations with professional organizations. Your Committee finds that Dr. Yan has a thorough understanding of the role and responsibilities of board members and his extensive experience in engineering research and education will enhance the effectiveness of the Board. Your Committee therefore recommends that Tao Yan be appointed to the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants based on his 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. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS
Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:* 735	Committee Referral: HHS	Date: 3/18/2026		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision.				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (VC)	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
KEOHOKALOPE, Jarrett	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes