

**GM-753**

Submitted on: 4/14/2026 12:27:24 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/16/2026 3:20:00 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 Valerie Rose to the Language Access Advisory Council (LAAC).

I have known Ms. Rose September of 2025, when we began working with Olelo Community Media on a caregiver workshop in celebration and recognition of National Family Caregivers Month. Ms. Rose is thoughtfully deliberative and asks meaningful, incisive questions. Her robust work experience with the Hawaii Department of Health will contribute to LAAC's assistance to the Executive Director of the Office of Language Access.

We urge you to support Ms. Rose's nomination, and we urge you to recommend her confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Gary Simon

Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition

Honolulu, Hawaii

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM753  
Language Access Advisory Council  
Gubernatorial Nominee, VALERIE ROSE**

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

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee,

I testify in strong support for this nomination of Valerie Rose to the Language Access Advisory Council. Mrs. Rose has extensive experience in public health, bilingual access coordination, and nutrition services. She is very well connected with various community stakeholders and statewide initiatives.

Mrs. Rose will be an asset to the Language Access Advisory Council. She brings a variety of experiences and diverse perspectives. She is humble, down-to-earth, caring, hard working and honest. I'm grateful to partner with her and learn from her. She is a joy to work with! Mrs. Rose is an excellent candidate for the Language Access Advisory Council and she will serve the people of Hawai'i well in this capacity. Please approve this excellent nomination of Valerie Rose to the Language Access Advisory Council.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

*Tani K. Salazar*

**Tani Kalei Salazar, LSW, MSW**