



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • VP (808) 204-2466 • Fax (808) 586-8129

NOTICE OF MEETING

Disability and Communication Access Board

Standing Committee on Communication Access Meeting

May 22, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Disability and Communication Access Board will be meeting remotely using interactive conference technology. The public is welcome to participate as follows.

Public In-Person Meeting Location

Kamamalu Building, Room 111A and 111B
1010 Richards Street, Room 118
Honolulu, HI 96813

Participate Virtually via Zoom

Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser window:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87198854761> and enter Meeting ID: 871 9885 4761

To join by phone

Dial 1 669 900 6833 and enter Meeting ID: 871 9885 4761

Public Testimony

Oral Testimony - Members of the public may testify on each agenda item before the Standing Committee on Communication Access deliberates on the same.

Written Testimony - To ensure the public as well as its Committee members receive such testimony in a timely manner, written testimony should be submitted 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time. Any written testimony submitted after such time will be distributed to the members and the public at the meeting. Written testimony may be submitted by one of the methods listed below:

1. By email to: dcab@doh.hawaii.gov
2. By U.S. Postal Mail:
Kirby Shaw, Disability and Communication Access Board, 1010 Richards Street,
Room 118, Honolulu, HI 96813
3. By facsimile to: (808) 586-8129

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call/Introductions
- III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2025 and March 6, 2025.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Report on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) Meeting held on February 15, 2025.
 - B. Report on Hawaii DeafBlind Expo held on May 3, 2025.
 - C. 2025 Communication Access State Conference. Update.
- VI. New Business
 - A. Report on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) Meeting on May 17, 2025.
 - B. Final Evaluation Results Received for One Applicant for the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Test.
 - C. Report on Two New Applicants for the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Test.
- VII. Open Forum
Public comment on issues not on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.
- VIII. Announcement of Next Meeting
- IX. Adjournment

If you require an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Cindy Omura at (808) 586-8121 and email at dcab@doh.hawaii.gov as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

An American Sign Language interpreter and a Real Time Captioner will be provided.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.

The agenda and materials for this meeting are also available for inspection at DCAB's office located at 1010 Richards Street, Room 118, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 and on DCAB's website at: <https://health.hawaii.gov/dcab/dcab-agendas-and-minutes/>.



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MINUTES

Standing Committee on Communication Access Meeting

LOCATION: Virtual via Zoom and In-Person Location
Kamamalu Building
1010 Richards Street, Rm. 111A and 111B
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

DATE: May 22, 2025
TIME: 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Gerald Isobe, Chairperson; Nikki Kepo'o, LisaAnn Tom, Board Members;
Bryan Mick, Kristine Pagano, Justin "Pono" Tokioka, Staff

PUBLIC
PARTICIPANT: Brandon Machida

SIGN LANGUAGE
INTERPRETERS: Keri Lee and Regina Sapko

REAL TIME
CAPTIONERS: April Chandler and Kelly DeCamp

- I. Chairperson Gerald Isobe called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.
- II. Board members, staff, public participant, captioners, and sign language interpreters introduced themselves.

III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted.

No written testimonies were submitted.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2025 and March 6, 2025.

The minutes of the January 23, 2025 and March 6, 2025 meetings were approved as circulated (M/S/P Isobe/Tom).

V. Old Business

A. Report on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) Meeting held on February 15, 2025.

- DCAB staff attended the DHHAB meeting on February 15, 2025.
- The Act 204 report on the shortage of American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters in Hawaii was shared, including recommended solutions.

B. Report on Hawaii DeafBlind Expo held on May 3, 2025.

- DCAB participated as an exhibitor at the Hawaii DeafBlind Expo on May 3, 2025.
- The event was a positive experience, staff networked and educated the community about DCAB's programs and services.
- DCAB also donated a quilt lap blanket for the Expo giveaway.

C. 2025 Communication Access State Conference. Update.

- DCAB is excited to announce the 2025 Communication Access State Conference, "Bridging the Gap: Communication Access for All" on Thursday, June 26, 2025 at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Registration is required. The conference is free and filling up quickly, with the maximum capacity of 150 participants.
- Please feel free to share the conference information with your family and friends. For more information, please contact Justin "Pono" Tokioka, Communication Access Specialist by phone (808) 458-5902 or email, dcab@doh.hawaii.gov.
- Board member LisaAnn Tom inquired about parking availability. Staff confirmed that free parking is available at the venue.
- Board member LisaAnn Tom also asked about the number of workshops; staff responded there will be six workshops in total.
- Chairperson Gerald Isobe asked if exhibitor tables will be available. Staff confirmed that a foyer room will be reserved for vendors.

VI. New Business

A. Report on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) Meeting on May 17, 2025.

- DCAB staff attended the DHHAB meeting on May 17, 2025.
- DCAB announced the upcoming 2025 Communication Access Conference and received a lot of positive feedback.

B. Final Evaluation Results Received for One Applicant for the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Test.

- One applicant passed the HQAS test and received Tier IV credential.
- This is a valuable addition to the interpreting community and benefits the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community in Hawaii.
- Board member LisaAnn Tom asked if the applicant is local or from the mainland. Staff responded that the applicant is from another country, has recently moved to Hawaii, and plans to stay.

C. Report on Two New Applicants for the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Test.

- Two (2) applicants recently took the HQAS test on March 10 and April 24, 2025.
- Currently waiting for the evaluations and will announce the test results by August 2025.

VII. Open Forum

- Social Media Outreach: The group discussed the development of social media platforms to better inform the community about services offered by DCAB and DHHAB. Justin "Pono" Tokioka stated he will review DCAB's social media policy and begin setting up accounts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter/X) after the upcoming Communication Access Conference. Content will be created, approved by administration, and then posted. The importance of including "DCAB Hawaii" in all account names was emphasized.
- Deaf Awareness Day Revival: Board member LisaAnn Tom proposed bringing back Deaf Awareness Day, typically held in the fall (September or October). The event would aim to promote Deaf culture, language, and community visibility. The idea will be added to the next meeting agenda for further planning and possible inclusion in the 2025–2026 Plan of Action. Staff reminded the group that decisions must be finalized before the July 17, 2025 General meeting, which marks the start of the new fiscal year.

VIII. Announcement of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 19, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
JUSTIN TOKIOKA