

Resolution 21-66 Testimony

MISC. COM. 247



**HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
ASSOCIATION**

Testimony of
Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

Honolulu City Council
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Resolution 21-66

Chair Waters and members of the Honolulu City Council, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's largest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers — supports Resolution 21-066 and the nomination of Dr. James Ireland to serve as the City's Director of Emergency Services.

Dr. Ireland is an outstanding physician with a wealth of diverse experience. In 2010, in my capacity as the mayor of Honolulu, I appointed Dr. Ireland as director of the City Department of Emergency Services, a role in which he flourished and more than proved his capabilities as a physician, an administrator, a public servant, and a trusted member of my Cabinet. He handled the role with experience, skill, and poise, and I am confident that he would continue to do so should he be confirmed as director.

More recently, HLTA worked closely with Dr. Ireland in the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic where he consistently demonstrated his aptitude as a public health administrator.

For these reasons, HLTA supports Resolution 21-66.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony.