

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Voting Members:

Heidi Tsuneyoshi, Chair; Augie Tulba, Vice-Chair;
Carol Fukunaga, Calvin Say

Committee Meeting Held
April 21, 2021

Honorable Tommy Waters
Council Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Public Safety, to which was referred Resolution 21-66 entitled:

"RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF JAMES H. E. IRELAND, M.D., TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU,"

introduced on March 10, 2021, and transmitted by Mayor's Message 43 (2021), dated March 5, 2021, reports as follows:

The purpose of this Resolution is to confirm the nomination of James H. E. Ireland, M.D., to serve as the Director of Emergency Services of the City and County of Honolulu ("City").

A public hearing on Dr. Ireland's appointment was held on April 14, 2021.

At your Committee's meeting on April 21, 2021, the nominee, Acting Director Ireland, provided a brief overview of the current state of the Department of Emergency Services ("DES") and provided information related to the proposed transfer of fiscal responsibility for emergency medical services on Oahu from the State of Hawaii to the City. Acting Director Ireland explained that the proposed funding provided by the State for operations related to emergency services should be adequate and will allow for more flexibility in operations as well as the ability to address concerns more specifically by district. Assuming the Governor approves, starting in July 2022, the transfer from the

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ADOPTED ON **MAY 5 2021**

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State to the City should be complete and DES will be responsible for billing. Acting Director Ireland also expressed a desire to activate a community paramedic program.

At your Committee's meeting, one individual provided written testimony in support.

Your Committee has reviewed the qualifications and character of Dr. Ireland and finds that he meets the requirements to serve as the Director of Emergency Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee on Public Safety is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution 21-66 and recommends its adoption. (Ayes: Fukunaga, Say, Tsuneyoshi, Tulba - 4; Noes: None.)

Respectfully submitted,


Committee Chair

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