

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



THOMAS WILLIAMS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KANOE MARGOL  
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
**January 10, 2023**

**Dr. Genevieve Gines Ley elected Chair of ERS Board of Trustees**  
**Bennett Yap elected Vice-Chair**

HONOLULU – The Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System elected Genevieve Gines Ley, MD, MPH, FACP, as chair and Bennett Yap as vice-chair during its Jan. 9 meeting.

Dr. Ley and Mr. Yap are state employees who hold positions elected by the ERS membership on the eight-member board.

Ley, elected to the board in 2018, has served as vice-chair since 2022. She replaces Vince Barfield, whose board term ended on Jan. 1, 2023. Barfield, an appointed board member, will remain on the board until Gov. Josh Green, M.D. appoints a successor.

Ley is the branch chief and clinic physician at the Hawaii Department of Health's Lanakila Health Center Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch, supervising 27 employees on Oahu and coordinating clinical responsibilities with the neighbor island public health nurses.

Ley utilizes her medical knowledge when the board conducts HRS Chapter 91 Proceedings (in consideration of applications for service-connected disability or ordinary disability retirement). She also worked for three years in financial services and maintained her interest in investments and financial services.

Yap, elected to the board in 2020, is an IT Manager at the state Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. He previously served four years as treasurer with the Hawaii Government Employees Association and oversaw the employee retirement trust fund, staff pensions, retiree medical and arbitration/emergency reserves.



Ley



Yap



Salaveria



Employees' Retirement System  
of the State of Hawaii

ERS Executive Director Thom Williams said, “I couldn’t be more pleased that trustees Ley and Yap have ascended to these leadership positions. They continue the tradition of strong, effective and experienced board leadership that has benefitted us so greatly.”

State Director of Finance Luis Salaveria has also joined the ERS board as an Ex-Officio member. Salaveria was appointed as director by Gov. Green in December 2022 and became an ERS board member by virtue of his role as Director of Budget and Finance.

The [Board of Trustees](#), the governing body of the ERS, is comprised of eight members, including four elected by the membership: two general employees, a teacher, and a retiree, three appointed by the Governor, and the state Director of Finance.

### **About the ERS**

The Employees’ Retirement System (ERS) of the State of Hawaii was established in 1926 and provides retirement allowances and other benefits to more than 152,000 retirees, beneficiaries, inactive vested members, and active public employees working for the State of Hawaii and the counties of Hawaii. The Board of Trustees is the governing body of the ERS, with certain areas of administrative control vested in the State Department of Budget and Finance. The ERS is a qualified defined benefit public pension plan covered under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The ERS and its Board of Trustees account for and safeguard assets in the ERS investment portfolio and invest funds to help finance its retirement benefits program. The \$21.57 billion (as of Sept. 30, 2022) investment portfolio of the ERS holds a diversified set of assets across different strategies and risk categories.

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