

Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Education

April 14, 2008

Submitted by Gary Kajiwara

Hawaii Medical Education Council

Chair Norman Sakamoto, members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to present testimony for your consideration of my confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

I am Hawaii born and raised. I am a graduate of Roosevelt High School and the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where I received a Bachelor of Arts degree, and two graduate degrees - Masters of Public Health degree, majoring in health services administration, and Masters of Business Administration degree, majoring in marketing. During my graduate education, I was fortunate to be selected to work in two internship positions. One of the internships was with the Hawaii State Comprehensive Health Planning Agency, which later transitioned into the Hawaii State Health Planning and Development Agency, and the second internship was with the Hawaii Regional Medical Program. Following my graduation, I was privileged to serve in post graduate positions as Administrative Intern and Administrative Resident at The Queen's Medical Center.

Over the past 31 years in my career as a health care executive, I have served in several senior management positions at Kuakini Health System and its subsidiaries. Kuakini Health System is a Hawaii-based, non-profit, tax-exempt health care organization that serves the Hawaii community through its core businesses that include an acute hospital, long term care facilities, residential care home, adult day care centers, biomedical research, and various joint ventures.

A favorable decision by the Hawaii State Senate regarding my serving as a member on the Hawaii Medical Education Council would give me the opportunity for greater involvement in the improvement of graduate medical education in the State of Hawaii. With the decreasing population of young adults in Hawaii and on the mainland over the next decade and increasing competition among all industries including the health care industry in the recruitment of qualified persons, there will be a growing urgency for the State of Hawaii to focus on graduate medical education and other higher education programs that will help (1) generate interest, (2) provide effective and innovative training methods, and (3) retain qualified candidates in health related professions and allied health professions, for the continued sustainability and growth of our community.

I am supportive of graduate medical education in Hawaii, and I welcome the opportunity to address the challenges in this area. For this reason, I humbly ask for your consideration and support of my nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. Thank you.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

John A. Burns School of Medicine
Office of the Dean

April 1, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto
Chair, Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Reference: Governor's Message Number 530

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

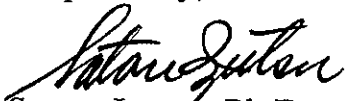
It is with great pleasure that I support Governor Linda Lingle's nomination of Gary Kajiwara to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

I have known Gary for 35 years as a student and colleague. He has progressed from an outstanding student with double Masters degrees in Public Health and Business to a top health care executive in our community. He possesses thorough knowledge, not only of issues related to the delivery of patient care, but also the training of physicians. Included in his expertise are issues related to recruitment, employment and deployment of medical personnel; and, the training of graduate medical physicians

Mr. Kajiwara will be generous in sharing with the Hawaii Medical Education Council his extensive knowledge of the health and medical fields.

It is without hesitation that I support Governor Lingle's nomination.

Respectfully,



Satoru Izutsu, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean


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of Hawaii

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March 31, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto
Chair, Senate Education Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

Re: Governor's Message Number 530

On behalf of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii I would like to support the nomination of Gary Kajiwaru to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

Mr. Kajiwaru has been the President and CEO of Kuakini Medical Center for a number of years, and during this time I have worked with him on a number of health care issues. I have found Mr. Kajiwaru to be a thoughtful person who works easily with others. He possesses an extensive knowledge of the complex health care environment and is highly respected by his colleagues.

Mr. Kajiwaru would provide a critical perspective on the Hawaii Medical Education Council, and I fully endorse his nomination.

Sincerely,


RICHARD E. MEIERS

President and CEO