



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
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LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR
RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Friday, March 6, 2009
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 258.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 258, regarding the **appointment** of Lan K. Kao to the Board of Acupuncture ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Kao's appointment to the Board.

Ms. Kao is being nominated to the Board as a licensee member. She has been licensed as an acupuncturist since May 30, 2000, and her license is current, active, and in good standing. Ms. Kao has been serving on the Board as an interim appointee since May 7, 2008.

Since her interim appointment, Ms. Kao has been a reliable member who attends the Board's meetings regularly. Her active participation in the meeting discussions demonstrates that she is prepared for the meetings and is focused on the matters at

hand. In addition, in openly sharing insights that she has gained over her many years of experience as a licensed acupuncturist in active practice, Ms. Kao contributes to the breadth of information that the Board has found valuable when making its decisions.

We believe that Ms. Kao's interest in serving on the Board, experience as an active practicing acupuncturist, and desire to contribute to the community will continue to enhance the Board's effectiveness.

The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Kao to the Board of Acupuncture, and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology
Department of Oceanography

Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813,

2-26-09

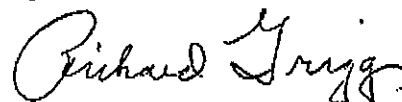
Dear Madam Chairperson,

This letter is written in support of Governor Linda Lingle's nomination of Lan Kao (Governor Message 258) to the State Board of Acupuncture. In 2003, I was treated for throat cancer and underwent two months of rigorous radiation and chemotherapy. Fortunately, I survived the cancer but the side effects including weight loss, energy deficit, neuropathy, muscle pain and dry throat, for which I have required extensive rehabilitation. I was also fortunate to have been referred to the private practice of Lan Kao by my doctors at Queens Hospital. For several years, I received regular acupuncture and moxibustion treatments from Lan Kao, as well as, a specially prescribed combination of Chinese herbs. During this period I steadily improved and am now back working at the University of Hawaii and even surfing when the waves are up.

In June of 2008, Lan Kao was recruited by Tripler Hospital Medical Center to join their "Integrative Pain Rehab Program" that is funded by the Department of Defense and the VA. The focus of this Program is the treatment of chronic pain. And, as it turns out, most of their patients are returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan. The Program is designed not only to reduce chronic pain but also to help the soldiers cope with psychological problems like PTSD. I understand that the scope of the injuries can be overwhelming. Treatment includes acupuncture, electrostimulation, moxibustion and nutritional and lifestyle counseling. The track record of the Program has been described as highly successful.

Lan Kao received her Bachelor's Degree at UCLA in California, but her training in Chinese Medicine was in Tibet and China, not to mention her private practice experience in Hawaii for 8 years and now her current position at Tripler Medical Center. Lan Kao is the only fully licensed acupuncturist in the US Department of Defense. Clearly Lan Kao is highly qualified and I can personally attest to the effectiveness of her treatment. Certainly she ranks as one of the best, if not the best Practitioner of Chinese Medicine in the State of Hawaii. I am confident that should Lan Kao be appointed to the State Board of Acupuncture, she would be extremely committed and pro-active to contribute to this important public service. Thank you for considering her nomination.

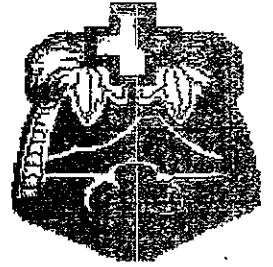
Sincerely,



Richard (Rick) Grigg
Emeritus Professor of Oceanography



Kathleen S. Brown, Ph. D.
 Integrative Pain Center
 1 Jarrett White Road, Attn: MCHK-PH
 Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii 96859-5000
 kate.brown1@us.army.mil
 808-433-1323 (w); 808-433-1466 (fax)



Tuesday, March 03, 2009

Sen. Rosalyn Baker
 Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
 415 South Beretania Street
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Chair Baker
 Vice Chair Ige
 Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: Support of Lan Kao to the Acupuncture Licensing Board

I am writing this letter in support of the candidacy of Lan K. Kao, L.Ac., Dipl. Ac. & C.H. to the Hawaii Acupuncture Licensing Board. As Director of the Integrative Pain Center at TAMC, I have had the pleasure of working directly with Ms. Kao during her employment with our pain program since July 2008. We are a DoD and DoD-VA JIF-funded program delivering integrative pain management for active duty service members and veterans with persistent musculoskeletal pain. Our TAMC integrative pain program incorporates both traditional and complementary care practitioners including acupuncture, chiropractic and massage therapists.

I have known Ms. Kao since 2001, when I was President of the Hawaii Psychological Association, due to her stellar reputation in the professional community and her service on the Board of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. Thus, when funding for the Integrative Pain Center project appeared viable I sought her interest and/or her counsel regarding the integration of acupuncture into our program. Ms. Kao has been an instrumental team member in the integration of our traditionally allopathic model with complementary practices. She consistently receives excellent reviews from patients and works very well within the integrative team. Her desire to continue to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of quality of care to our beneficiaries is demonstrated in her personal commitment to ensure patient satisfaction.

I recommend Ms. Lao as a candidate for the Acupuncture Licensing Board given her ease in synthesizing information and strategically applying it therapeutically and in her desire to excel, which motivates those around her. This reflects not only her superior clinical skills but her facility in working with diverse populations and ease in interdisciplinary communications. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions at (808) 433-3338.

Respectfully,

Kathleen S. Brown, Ph.D.
 Dir., Integrative Pain Center

State of Hawaii
 The Senate





Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

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Governing Board

Chair
Eugene Lee, M.D.

Vice-Chair
Leanne Chee, L.Ac.

Treasurer
Yu-Ling Low, L.Ac.

Secretary
Liberata Orallo, L.Ac.

Director
Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA.

Advisory Board
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Robert Smith, Ph.D.

Vice-Chair
Nancy Hughes, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Jubin Fujiwara, J.D.

Romella Javillo-Doble, CPA

Gary Saito, D.C.

Laurie Steelsmith, N.D.

Regina Taylor, J.D.

Student Representatives
Patricia Harlan
Brandon Flewelling

Administration
Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA.
President/CEO

Edmund Bernauer, Ph.D.
Chancellor of Academic Affairs

Craig Twentyman, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Director of Student Affairs

Yu-Ling Low, L.Ac.
Clinic Director

Jeanne Bernauer
Registrar

Chin Yueh Lin, MSW
Financial Aid Administrator

Theresa Avillar, B.S.
Administrative Assistant

Testimony Supporting GM 258 Relating to Acupuncture Board March 6, 2009

To: Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
David Y. Ige, Vice Chair
Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN)

From: Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.
President/CEO
Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

I am writing to express my strong support for Ms. Lan Kao, L.Ac. to serve on the Board of Acupuncture. She has an extensive educational and professional background in acupuncture. Lan Kao, received her Master of Acupuncture and TCM training at Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in California, graduating in 1999, and then completing a post-graduate internship at the China Academy of TCM in Beijing and Chengdu University of TCM in China. She received her B.A. degree in Philosophy at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1994.

I have known her for over 10 years and finds that she has the necessary character, experience, and qualifications to serve on the Acupuncture Board and to protect the interest of acupuncture consumers. Lan Kao has taught at our college and she is a practitioner in good standing. In addition, I was a Board member from 2001 to 2004 and familiar with its expectations of the members. I highly recommend Lan Kao to serve on this Board. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.
President/CEO

**Statement to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN)
Relating to the State Board of Acupuncture
Governor's Message 258
March 6, 2009**

To: Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
David Y. Ige, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Lan K. Kao, L.Ac., Dipl. Ac. And C.H.
License Acupuncturist

Chairperson Baker, Vice Chair Ige, and members of the Senate committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN), thank you for the opportunity to present background information about myself for your consideration of my confirmation to the State Board of Acupuncture.

I was born in Vietnam during the war years, and was fortunate to immigrate with my family to the U.S. in 1975, as my parents were both personnel for the American Embassy in Saigon. I was raised in California, but spent many summers in Hawaii. I graduated from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) with a Bachelor Degree in Philosophy, and in 1999 received a Master of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Degree from Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in California. After graduate school, I went to China to do a post-graduate internship at the Wangjing Hospital of the China Academy of TCM, associated with the World Health Organization, in Beijing, and at Chengdu University Hospital of TCM. During my internships at these hospitals, I was able to work collaboratively with doctors of Chinese and western medicine, in an integrative setting.

I have been a resident of Hawaii since May of 2000. During the past nine years in private practice, I maintained a successful acupuncture and Chinese medicine practice, having treated over 1000 patients with a variety of disease conditions. In July of 2008 I was recruited by Tripler Army Medical Center to be part of the Integrative Pain Rehabilitation Program, funded by the Department of Defense and Veteran's Administration, to treat active duty members who suffer from chronic pain. Many of the patients in the program are returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan, who often also suffer from PTSD in addition to pain, or soldiers preparing for deployment. I have also been active in the Hawaii community in a number of ways, from volunteer work with local organizations to public presentations at hospitals, conferences, universities, and the Life Foundation. I was also an instructor at the Institute for Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Honolulu from 2003 until 2006.

To be a member of the Board of Acupuncture would give me the opportunity to contribute to a rapidly evolving profession, as well as uphold and maintain the standards of the profession in the interest of public safety. Given that I have committed over thirteen years to the education and practice of Acupuncture and Chinese medicine, I strongly believe it is an effective system of medicine for addressing modern day health issues. As the acupuncture profession is becoming more recognized locally and nationally, there are many issues that confront the profession as it evolves and assimilates with the western medical community. Changes in education and

standards for licensure will require members of the Board to have an understanding of the profession in both depth and scope. Because of my deep appreciation and respect for acupuncture and Chinese medicine, and commitment to its progress, a position on the Board of Acupuncture would provide an opportunity for me to contribute my skills, educational training and clinical experience in an effective and meaningful way.

I perceive the responsibilities of a member of the State Board of Acupuncture to be an honor that should not be taken lightly, as it is a vital role with many demands on time and energy. My understanding of the duties of the Board is the following:

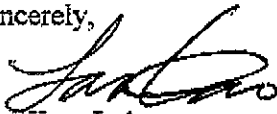
- Adopt regulations relative to the health and safety of the public
- Develop standards for licensure
- Administer exams
- Monitor licensees
- Investigate and conduct hearings relating to any violations of the statutes for Acupuncture
- Maintain records of the proceedings

As interim member on the Board for the past eight months, I have become familiar with the many issues facing the Board and the impact of each member's contribution. Given my experience listed below, I believe my skills and knowledge will be useful in the decision-making by the Board:

- Over nine years of clinical practice; in private practice and currently at Tripler Army Medical Center
- 2001-2004 Member on the Board of Director for the Hawaii Acupuncture Association
- 2002-2004 Appointed member on the Acupuncture Advisory Committee for the Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO), DCCA
- Licensed Acupuncturist in Hawaii, California, and Nationally Certified Diplomate in Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine
- Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine educator since 2003 at the Institute for Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Hawaii
- Broad education and training in the U.S., China, and Japan

Thank you again for the opportunity to present information regarding my personal background, education, and experience. I hope it will demonstrate my dedication and commitment to the profession, and willingness to serve and protect patrons of acupuncture and Chinese medicine. I ask for your support of my nomination to the Board of Acupuncture and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lan Kao, L.Ac.

License Acupuncturist

LAN K. KAO, L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. & C.H.

CURRICULUM VITAE

LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION

- Licensed Acupuncturist (L.Ac.) in the state of Hawaii
- Licensed Acupuncturist (L.Ac.) in the state of California
- National Certification Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM),
Diplomate in Acupuncture & Chinese Herbology (Dipl.Ac. & C.H.)
- International Certificate, post graduate advance training in acupuncture and herbal medicine,
China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine(TCM), Beijing, PRC
- International Certificate, post graduate advance training in acupuncture and herbal medicine,
Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine(TCM), Chengdu, PRC

EDUCATION

- *Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine*, Santa Monica, California
Degree: Master of Acupuncture & Traditional Chinese Medicine, with Highest Honors,
February 1999
- *University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)*, Los Angeles, California
Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, & completion of premedical requirements,
With Cum Laude and College Honors, June 1994
- *Moorpark College*, Moorpark, California, August 1987 – May 1993, Major: Philosophy

CLINICAL & INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

- 1999 (July-August): Postgraduate Internship in Acupuncture and Herbology, Chengdu
University Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine
- 1999 (June-July): Postgraduate Internship in Internal Medicine, Wangjing Hospital of China
Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Beijing, PRC
- 1999: Acupuncture Assistant at Ohai Medical Group, Long Beach, California
- 1998: Acupuncture Internship, Westside Women's Clinic, Santa Monica, California
- 1997-98: Practice Internship, Yo San University Clinic, Santa Monica, California
- 1993-95: Research Assistant, UCLA Center for East-West Medicine

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2008 (July- Present): Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii
- 2000 (June- Present): Private practice in TCM and Acupuncture, Kailua and Kaimuki Hawaii
- 2003 – present: Instructor and Lecturer at the Institute for Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental
Medicine (ICAOM), Honolulu, Hawaii
- 1999 (September – December): Private practice, Santa Monica, California
- 1999 (April-June): Consultant, UCLA Center for East-West Medicine
- 1999 (February-January): Clinic Assistant, TCM Healing Center in Santa Monica, California

- 1997 (January-December): Teaching Assistant, Acupuncture Anatomy & Therapeutics, Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine
- 1994-1996 (September-May): Administrative Assistant, UCLA Center for East-West Medicine
- 1989-95: Assistant Manager, Gold-Pac International in Vernon, California

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 1994 (January-May): Lab Assistant, UCLA Department of Microbiology & Molecular Genetics
- 1993-1994: Independent Research, UCLA Department of General Internal Medicine
- 1993 (June-August): Student Research Program, UCLA Department of General Internal Medicine

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIP

- July 2000-present: Group facilitator and coordinator for the International Yan Xin Life Science and Technology Association™
- June 2001-present: Member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association

HONORS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Register's Who's Who in Executives and Professionals, 2004-2005
- Dean's Honors List, Yo San University April 1996-December 1998
- Yo San University Tutorial Scholarship Award: Spring 1996, 1997, Winter 1998
- Recipient of Yo San University Faculty Nominated Award for Outstanding Student, February 1998
- UCLA College Honors Program
- Dean's Honors List, UCLA
- Dean's Honors List, Moorpark College

COMMUNITY SERVICE and VOLUNTEER WORK

- June 2001-2004: Elected Member on the Board of Director for the Hawaii Acupuncture Association
- January 2002-2004: Appointed Member on the Acupuncture Advisory Committee for the Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO), Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs (DCCA)
- 1994-1995: Volunteer for the UCLA Asian Pacific Health Corps
- 1992-1994: Volunteer for the UCLA Medical Center

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- October 2006: Speaker at "Mind Body Medicine for the 21st Century", sponsored by John Burns School of Medicine, Turning Point Cancer Center, HMSA
- August 2006: Public Talk at Queens Medical Center, Women's Health Center: "Secrets of Longevity"
- June 2003: First Hawaii Yan Xin Life Science & Technology™ Spring Symposium: "Science, Virtue, and Rejuvenation"
- May 2003: Hawaii State Consortium for Integrative Healthcare; speaker on the 'Cervical and Lumbar Pain Panel for the Multi-Modal Integrative Approaches to Chronic Pain Management Conference'
- April 2003: Queens Medical Center, Women's Health Center: "How to Mend our Hearts"

- February 2001: HMSA (Akamai Living Seminar): "Qigong and Traditional Chinese Medicine"
 - August 2000: Qigong Conference (sponsored by Yan Xin Life Science and Technology), University of Hawaii East-West Center: "Qi, Qigong and Health: Traditional Chinese Secrets"
-

List of References

1. Richard Grigg, PhD
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2. Mike Hashimoto, DAc.
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