



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

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR
RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Wednesday, March 11, 2009
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 264.

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. 264, regarding the **reappointment** of Cheryl M. Nakagawa, RDH, to the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Nakagawa's reappointment to the Board.

Ms. Nakagawa is being reappointed to the Board as a dental hygienist member. She has been licensed since August 9, 1982, and her license is current, active, and in good standing.

Ms. Nakagawa is an extremely valuable member as she attends most of the Board meetings and actively participates during the meeting discussions. She always

prepares for the discussions on agenda items and shares valuable insights based on her many years of experience as a licensed dental hygienist. More importantly, Ms. Nakagawa is able to assess an issue, research the issue, and make meaningful recommendations.

Furthermore, as the current chair and as a member of the Board's Rules/Legislative Committee, Ms. Nakagawa has devoted countless hours researching and deliberating on possible amendments to the Board's administrative rules. She has also sacrificed many hours as the Board's testifier at legislative hearings.

The Department believes that Ms. Nakagawa's interest in serving on the Board, experience in the profession, and desire to contribute to the community will continue to enhance the effectiveness of the Board.

Therefore, the Department supports the confirmation of Cheryl M. Nakagawa, RDH, to the Board of Dental Examiners and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

RE: STATEMENT TO SUPPORT THE NOMINATION TO THE
STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

TO: THE HONORABLE ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR, COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

My name is Cheryl Nakagawa. Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit this statement to extend my service to the Board of Dental Examiners for a second term. I truly enjoy working with my fellow board members who have a mutual respect for each other and are able to leave their other "hats" at the door when we sit at the board's table.

I hope to be able to continue to uphold the board's fiduciary duty to maintain public health and safety to 1) oversee the examinations, 2) issue licenses to qualified individuals, 4) conduct disciplinary hearings in the revoke or suspend licenses, 3) establish standards of practice and conduct, and to 5) promulgate these rules to enable the board to perform its duties and to uphold the laws that govern the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene.

It is my intention, as the new chairperson of the Legislative & Rules Committee, to expedite updates to the Hawaii Administrative Rules more efficiently.

The committee has begun a fast-forward tract, following parameters that will facilitate updating the rules: 1) The rationale will be based on the board's mission to protect the oral health and welfare and safety of our public dental consumer, as opposed to personal conveniences, constituent interests and financial gain; 2) Interpret and apply the regulations uniformly keeping in mind the rules of practice and procedure of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) and the Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO), as our board relates to the other boards and commissions, the guidance of the board's executive officer, and the attorney general's office; 3) Rules created shall be reasonable rules, reflecting current practice trends and societal functions; current technology and anticipating future technology, and 4) All decisions shall adhere to data-driven assessments, with the use of current evidence-based research, definitions and terminology.

The committee is to utilize its vast resources available which includes scientific and research papers, executive summaries, standards, guidelines and position papers from various professional, state and federal organizations. We will also actively engage all stakeholders as advisors to the board which includes the expertise of our board members, professional organizations, state, federal and educational system resources.

Given such amazing opportunities such as to preside over various Parent Teacher Association boards at the local schools and state levels, to be the current secretary of the School Community Council, to participate as an American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation team member and to facilitate various community projects over the years, has hopefully qualified me the to facilitate meetings effectively, as well as respectfully, for the board's most important work.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl M. Nakagawa, RDH

Cheryl Nakagawa, RDH

Contact

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Objective

To continue to serve and contribute fully to the Hawaii State Board of Dental Examiners as a board member in any capacity expected; working to maintain our public oral health safety and welfare.

Education

McKinley High School 1977
University of Hawaii Dental Hygiene 1982

Employment

1976-82 Dental Assistant
Dr Sanford S. Asahina
1982 to present Registered Dental Hygienist
Dr Sanford S. Asahina & Dr. Kelvin N. Asahina

Community Service

PTA/PTSA
1993-1997 Lincoln Elementary PTA, President
1999-2001 Pauoa Elementary PTA, Secretary
2000 Hawaii State PTSA Bylaws committee member
2001 Junior Achievement Program participant
2003-04 Kawanakoa Middle School PTSA, Secretary
2003-04 Kawanakoa Middle School PTSA, President

School Community Council

2004 to present: Kawanakoa Middle School Community Council, Secretary

Grader for the Board of Dental Examiners

2001 to present

Board of Dental Examiners

2004-present: Legislative & Rules Committee member
Continuing Education Committee member
Effective as of 2/27/2009:
Legislative & Rules Committee Chairperson
2008 American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation team.

Professional Organizations

1982 to present American Dental Hygiene Association
1982 to present Hawaii Dental Hygiene Association

Interests and Activities

Supporter: Hawaii Youth Symphony Association, Hawaii Public Radio, Special Olympics

References:

Kelvin N. Asahina, DDS

Sandra Ishihara-Shibata, Principal,
Kawananakoa Middle School