



GOV. MSG. NO. 187

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

February 5, 2010

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **MEDICAL BOARD, Hawaii:**

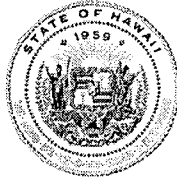
Danny Morito Takanishi Jr.

Term to Expire: 6/30/2014

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Lingle".

LINDA LINGLE



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
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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 2010

Thursday, February 25, 2010
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 187.

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

My name is Constance Cabral and I am the Executive Officer for the Hawaii Medical Board, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 187, regarding the **reappointment** of Danny M. Takanishi, Jr., M.D., to the Hawaii Medical Board ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Dr. Takanishi's reappointment to the Board.

Dr. Takanishi is being reappointed to the Board as a licensee member. He has been licensed since March 13, 1989, and his license is current, active, and in good standing.

Having served on the Board since July 1, 2006, Dr. Takanishi's extensive medical experience enables him to quickly understand the issues before the Board.

Because of his many years of experience as a practitioner, the Board on many occasions has asked for his thoughts and guidance on complicated issues. By bringing his knowledge, background and expertise to discussions, he offers a unique perspective. Because of this, the Board has had the necessary information and knowledge on which to base its decisions.

In 2009, Dr. Takanishi was elected Board Chairperson. As the UH medical school's chief of surgery and program director of the general surgery residency program, he has a wealth of administrative experience and superb leadership skills that he brings to the Board. He is extremely organized and comes to meetings well prepared, having read and reviewed all materials and documents provided to Board members prior to meetings. As a result, he is able to lead (and contribute to) discussions ranging from physician sanctions to applicants' qualifications for licensure.

We believe that Dr. Takanishi'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.

The Department supports the confirmation of Dr. Takanishi to the Hawaii Medical Board, and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII°
MĀNOA

February 23, 2010

Regarding: GM 187: For consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **DANNY MORITO TAKANISHI JR.**, for a term to expire
6-30-2014

Dear Colleagues:

Please accept this letter in support of Danny M. Takanishi, MD, who has been nominated for a second term to the Hawaii Medical Board (expiring 06/30/2014). Dr. Takanishi is a practicing general and cancer surgeon at the Queens Medical Center. He also serves as the Chair of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, and Program Director for the medical school's surgery residency program.

Dr. Takanishi is a hard-working, skilled surgeon with strong moral principles and ties to the local community. He is highly regarded by his peers and knowledgeable in the peer-evaluation process. I believe that Dr. Takanishi is an outstanding exemplar of the qualities Hawai'i seeks in its physicians and surgeons. He is well qualified and has already demonstrated his ability to effectively serve the Hawai'i Medical Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jerris R. Hedges'.

Jerris R. Hedges, MD, MS, MMM
Dean and Professor of Medicine
Barry & Virginia Weinman Endowed Chair

FEBRUARY 22, 2010

**TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
FOR THE HEARING ON GM 187, CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII
MEDICAL BOARD, GUBENATORIAL NOMINEE, DANNY MORITO TAKANISHI, JR., FOR A TERM
TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2010

9 A.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM 229

DEAR CHAIRPERSON BAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Maria Chun and I am an Associate Specialist and the Associate Chair, Administration and Finance, in the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Department of Surgery. In my capacity as a member of the general public and a healthcare consumer, I am testifying in STRONG SUPPORT of your consideration and confirmation of Dr. Danny M. Takanishi, Jr., M.D., FACS, to serve as the Chair of the Hawaii Medical Board.

Dr. Takanishi has the requisite knowledge base, leadership capabilities, professional experience, and interpersonal skills to serve as the Chair. He has been serving on the Hawaii Medical Board since 2006. Not only is he a practicing physician (surgical oncologist or "cancer surgeon"), but he is also the Chair of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Department of Surgery and the Program Director of the department's general surgery residency program. He also sits on a number of national committees, including one for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). These various roles provide him with a wide breadth and depth of understanding of healthcare both in practice and in policy. That is, he truly has first hand knowledge of the "big picture" of healthcare and the healthcare delivery system. This is mandatory for someone who is leading a Board that protects Hawaii's people not only from potentially unsafe practitioners and entities, but also policies and practices that may not be in a patient's best interest.

A locally raised and trained doctor, Dr. Takanishi is a graduate of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (aka University of Hawaii Medical School). Even while pursuing additional specialty training at the University of Chicago where he completed a fellowship and was then hired as faculty, he always maintained a deep affinity for his Hawaii roots. Throughout his

medical career he has held a keen interest in government and how it impacts the profession of medicine. Having personally been employed in various state government positions for close to two decades, I am impressed with Dr. Takanishi's passion for serving the public. It is important to note that his decisions are balanced, tempered by the facts of the situation, and based on sound judgment.

Although Dr. Takanishi is extremely intelligent and accomplished, he is not arrogant or condescending. He is personable, accessible, and down-to-earth, which allows him to easily interact with literally most anyone he encounters. This is another critical skill required of a public servant who serves on a Board that reviews the concerns of a wide variety of constituencies. Dr. Takanishi is clearly a collaborator who not only welcomes, but embraces the input and viewpoints of others. I have observed his interpersonal skills both professionally and personally and am always moved by how he takes the time to sincerely listen, express concern, and assist those in need.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of your consideration and confirmation of Dr. Takanishi to serve as the Chair of the Hawaii Medical Board. He is clearly the ideal person to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

Maria B.J.Chun, Ph.D., CHC



Hawaii Residency Programs, inc.

Kaiser Foundation Hospital • The Queen's Medical Center
Kuakini Medical Center • Hawaii Medical Center East • Straub Clinic & Hospital
Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children • Wahiawa General Hospital
Department of Health • Department of Veterans Affairs
University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

February 25, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

By

Richard Philpott, JD, LLM

Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel
Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc.

and

Designated Institutional Official
John A. Burns School of Medicine

GM187 – HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION OF DANNY MORITO TAKANISHI, JR.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Ige, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection. It is my honor and privilege to provide this testimony in support of Danny Morito Takanishi, Jr., MD, FACS, as a member of the Hawaii Medical Board.

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc as well as the Designated Institutional Official for the John A. Burns School of Medicine. In those dual roles, I oversee the training and accreditation for approximately 240 medical residents and fellows in 15 nationally accredited training programs. These programs, taken together, have provided almost half of the new board-eligible physicians entering practice in Hawaii since approximately 1985.

Dr. Takanishi is currently the Chair of the Medical Board. He is the Chair of the Department of Surgery, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i and also the Program Director for the Surgical Residency Training Program, John A. Burns School of Medicine. Because of his nationally recognized accomplishments in the latter role, he is also the Chair of the Accreditation Counsel for Graduate Medical Education's (ACGME) Transitional Year Residency Review Committee as well as a member of the ACGME Committee of Chairs.

And, of course, he is a nationally recognized and respected oncology surgeon who has long been a preeminent member of our medical community.

However, rather than speak further about his professional medical qualifications, I want to address the personal qualities which make him so perfectly suited for a position which has such an important responsibility to the public.

I have known Dr. Takanishi for 11 years. His integrity, fairness and honesty are simply above reproach. I have worked with him, and observed him, making difficult decisions which can impact the lives of other professionals as well as the public. He is always guided by a sense of commitment – and honor. He has consistently put aside any concern for self in favor of simply “doing the right thing.”

Dr. Takanishi consistently displays a level of moral courage and integrity which I continue to find remarkable.

I am very sensitive to the importance of the role he will fulfill if his appointment to the Medical Board is approved by this Committee and this legislature. Our training programs annually submit 80-90 applications for its trainees to this Board. I have yet to receive a decision which I consider unfair, inadequately considered, or lacking in concern for the public whom these physicians will treat.

I simply cannot envision a more qualified, conscientious, and honorable nominee. I urge this committee to approve this superb candidate.

UCERA

University Clinical, Education & Research Associates

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 1003 • Honolulu, HI 96813-4100 • phone: (808) 469-4900 • fax: (808) 536-7315
www.ucera.org

February 22, 2010

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
c/o Cathy Yasuda
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Danny Takanishi, M.D.

Dear Honorable Chair Baker and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

As a former chair of the Hawaii State Board of Medical Examiners, it is my pleasure to offer my most sincere recommendation for the reappointment of Dr. Danny Takanishi to the Board.

I have known Dr. Takanishi since he was a medical student and have worked with him as a medical school faculty colleague for many years. He and I have both served at the same time as chairs of our respective departments in the medical school. Now, Dr. Takanishi serves as a member of the UCERA board. Therefore, I have had many opportunities to observe the way he handles himself and deals with others in many different circumstances.

I have no reservations as to Dr. Takanishi's integrity and commitment to public service. Hawaii is well served by having Dr. Takanishi on the medical board and most likely continuing in his current role as board chair.

Sincerely,



Patricia Lanoie Blanchette, MD, MPH
Chief Operating Officer

February 18, 2010

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
c/o Cathy Yasuda
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
email: baker4@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Honorable Chair Baker and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

Thank you for the opportunity to present background about myself, and a written statement, for your consideration of my confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Board for a second term.

First of all, I would like to continue serving as a member of the Hawaii Medical Board because I believe that there are a number of issues and challenges that the Board must address, working collaboratively with other constituencies, to address the health care needs of our State. I would sincerely welcome the opportunity to assist in this vital process. As the recently elected Hawaii Medical Board Chair (Fall of 2009), I have begun actively participating in the Federation of State Medical Boards roundtable discussions and joined their Advocacy Network in order to work with other leaders of Medical Boards across the Nation in the identification of best practices in medical regulation. The Federation of State Medical Boards is a nonprofit organization founded in 1912 that represents the 70 medical boards of the United States and its territories. Its mission, reflective of that of its member Boards, is to continuously improve the quality, safety, and integrity of healthcare through developing and promoting high standards for physician licensure and practice.

My perception of my role and responsibilities as a member of the Hawaii Medical Board, in alignment with the Federation of State Medical Boards mission, is to work jointly with other members of the Board in the comprehensive review of applications for licensure, to grant licenses to qualified individuals who desire to practice in Hawaii, balancing the need to address our health care access issues with ensuring public safety, in the context of Hawaii Administrative Rules and the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Hence, I believe that the primary responsibility of the Hawaii Medical Board is to protect our citizens through proper provider (Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Physician Assistants, Podiatrists, and Emergency Medical Technicians) licensing and regulation. In doing so, the process must be fair and transparent. To this end, one of the first initiatives implemented since my election as Chair of the Hawaii Medical Board was to have the Deputy Attorney General assigned to the Board provide a review of the State of Hawaii Sunshine Law, augmented with relevant materials from the Office of Information Practices.

Based on my experience, there are a number of major issues facing the Hawaii Medical Board. These include the protection of peer-review in the development of a State Trauma System; license portability; and expansion of telemedicine services to address our limited physician resources and the challenges of health care access inherent in an island archipelago with many rural areas.

As the State moves forward in the establishment of a trauma *system*, in order to have truly open discussions by all entities involved in the care of the critically injured patient to ensure the highest quality coordinated care, there must be a mechanism established to protect the peer-review process. As trauma *systems* are dynamic and complex, there must be a formal process in place for on-going quality assessment, performance improvement initiatives, and resource allocation. This is particularly crucial in a State with limited resources. The balance here is to protect the process such that discussions related to pre-hospital care, ground transport, initial emergency room care, air transport to definitive higher-level of care facilities, for example, can be conducted without fear of professional liability, while concomitantly ensuring the safety and welfare of the public against unprofessional, improper, unlawful, or the incompetent practice of medicine.

In terms of license portability, the Federation of State Medical Boards is working with other entities to improve license portability through improved data retrieval, storage, and transfer processes. With improved portability, health care provider credentials can be more rapidly reviewed and licenses granted to allow for practice in several sites. This is particularly important in a State already troubled with health care provider shortages, and in terms of disaster preparedness, which is defied by a geography that is distinguished by isolation from the remainder of the United States by the Pacific Ocean. Accordingly, the State of Hawaii does not recognize license reciprocity with any other State. To this end, on a national level the Federation of State Medical Boards is arduously working to develop a standardized license application and is evaluating the expansion of its Federation Credentials Verification Service. However, critical to the success of this endeavor, State Medical Boards must work cooperatively to develop an expedited licensure procedure that results in the sharing of investigative information, recognizes reciprocity, while preserving state-based licensure systems, and of paramount importance, upholding the highest standards essential for the protection of public welfare.

Finally, as access demands continually increase, telemedicine will likely play an increasingly major role in addressing the Nation's health care needs, and Hawaii is no exception to this trend. This technology is a ready vehicle in the provision of medical care to underserved communities; however, barriers to implementation do exist. Some of these barriers include a lack of understanding by providers of the potential benefit to patients, concern regarding the inability to perform an examination in real time, concern regarding appropriate patient follow-up, lack of professional liability coverage for care provided via a telemedicine venue, and perhaps lack of reimbursement by insurers.

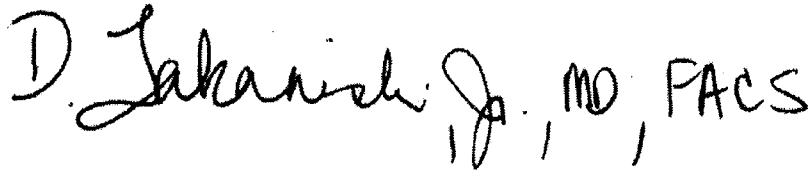
In all three of these instances, the solutions are not as straightforward or as clear as one would hope. I believe that the process must be a collaborative and an inclusive one that incorporates input from all stakeholders, such as the public, advocacy groups, medical

centers, physicians and other health care providers, medical regulatory entities such as the Hawaii Medical Board, and insurers, working with the Legislature to enact policy that will facilitate the implementation of these initiatives.

In closing, I believe that I have acquired substantial experience in matters pertaining to the fiduciary duty of the Hawaii Medical Board as I complete my first, 4 year term. Moreover, I have had the distinct honor of being recently elected by the members of the Hawaii Medical Board to serve as their Chair. I believe that this is testament to my leadership skills, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism and integrity, ability to arbitrate difficult decisions objectively, and to my broad-based knowledge of all aspects of physician training, licensure, and patient advocacy. The latter includes experience in academic medicine as a faculty member, Residency Program Director, and Department Chair; serving on a National Board of Medical Examiners/United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Test Development Committee; serving as Chair of a Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and serving on the Council of Review Committee Chairs of the ACGME (advisory committee to the Board of Directors of the ACGME); appointment to serve on a Reference Committee (evaluating issues pertaining to Medical Service) by the Speaker of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association; and serving on the Federation of State Medical Boards Editorial Committee for their Journal of Medical Licensure and Discipline.

Thank you again for your consideration and for the opportunity to provide a written statement of my perspective.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Takanishi, Jr., MD, FACS". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a stylized "T".

Danny M. Takanishi, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.