

April 11, 2011

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Chair, Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee on Education:

Re: Hawaii Medical Education Council, GM 697

I am Arthur A. Ushijima, President & CEO of The Queen's Health Systems and President of The Queen's Medical Center. I have applied to be re-appointed to the Council because Hawaii and the nation are facing a significant and growing shortage of physicians. As demand for healthcare services increases with the aging population, the state may not have an adequate supply of physicians to support this need. I have been involved with graduate medical education since 1980 and feel that my thirty years of experience may be useful and helpful in addressing this issue.

Besides my experience in the development and management of graduate medical education programs, I have worked with the medical staffs of five different hospitals in five different states since 1973. I have had experiences in governmental, faith-based and community hospital settings, working with physicians in academic, private and employed practice models. I have experienced the changing requirements of medical practice over the past thirty-eight years and anticipate that the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act will dramatically change the landscape of medical practice and healthcare delivery over its implementation. Having had experiences with the evolution of Medicare since 1973, I may be able to productively contribute to the development of medical practice under the Affordable Care Act.

We must develop a continuum of programs in graduate medical education in order to encourage graduating medical students to remain in Hawaii for training and practice. It is important to develop fellowships in needed specialties such as gastroenterology; oncology, as well as to increase the number of primary care physicians. In 2009, Queen's working with the John A. Burns School of Medicine developed an ACGME-approved fellowship program in cardiology to address the need for cardiologists. We must encourage partnerships between UH and the private sector to promote growth in physician supply. There are several things that merit some consideration:

1. Provide tax credits to individuals who provide support to graduate medical education at the University of Hawaii.
2. Create incentives to medical students to enter needed specialties such as primary care; internal medicine and who establish practice in Hawaii.

3. Provide incentives such as tax credits for malpractice premiums for physicians willing to provide ER call coverage.
4. Address physician concerns over malpractice.
5. Develop physician extender programs such as physician assistants; advanced practice RN's. GME programs will not likely be able to train enough physicians to meet demand.

With the current federal budget issues and not having enough resources to train physicians and other health professionals, we can expect shortages to grow. We will need to collaborate and create partnerships to increase physician and care-giver supply.

Because I am employed by Queen's, it's possible that conflict-of-interest situations could arise and I will recuse myself when situations occur.

If there are questions, I may be reached at 547-4688 or aushijima@queens.org. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur A. Ushijima
President & CEO, The Queen's Health Systems
President, The Queen's Medical Center
1301 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

GM697

Testimony



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Friday, April 15, 2011, 1:15 PM
State Capitol Room 225

Testimony of
Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor, State of Hawaii

To the Senate Education Committee
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

GM697 Confirmation of **Arthur Ushijima** to the
Hawai'i Medical Education Council

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

I am pleased to nominate Arthur Ushijima to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. Ushijima is being reappointed to represent Queen's Medical Center. His term will end June 30, 2015.

Ushijima is the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Queen's Health Systems and President of The Queen's Medical Center. Ushijima has led Queen's in a variety of leadership positions since 1989. As a major employer of graduate medical education programs in the state, Ushijima brings an important local labor market perspective to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council.

Ushijima also brings a wealth of other experience to the Council. His prior hospital administration experience includes leadership roles at the U.S. Air Force Medical Service, Office of the Air Force Surgeon General, and mid-western hospitals. Ushijima also serves on many boards including Hawaii Business Roundtable, Health Care Association of Hawaii, University of Hawai'i Foundation, Hawaii Residency Programs, and American Hospital Association Regional Policy Board.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully request that you confirm Arthur Ushijima to the Hawai'i Medical Education Board.



SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Conference Room 225
April 15, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Testimony in support of GM 697, which nominates Arthur Ushijima to the Medical Education Council.

My name is George W. Greene, President and CEO of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), whose membership includes all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, two-thirds of the long term care beds, home care agencies and hospices, and other related provider organizations. Our provider members employ more than 40,000 people statewide, delivering quality care to the people of Hawaii. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the reappointment of Arthur Ushijima to the Medical Education Council.

The Medical Education Council is established by law within the University of Hawaii to ensure that Hawaii's health care training programs are sufficient to produce enough health care professionals to fulfill Hawaii's health care needs. The Medical Education Council is charged with analyzing Hawaii's health care workforce requirements, assessing training programs, and making recommendations to the Legislature and the Board of Regents of changes or additions to training programs that are needed.

Arthur Ushijima is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Queen's Health Systems and the Queen's Medical Center. He has been the President of the Queen's Medical Center for 18 years. Before joining Queen's he was the Chief Operating Officer of Akron General Medical Center in Ohio, and prior to that the Executive Director of St. Mary's Hospital in Missouri. He served as an administrator of two hospitals while he was an officer in the U.S. Air Force Medical Service.

During his noteworthy career Arthur Ushijima has been involved with community organizations and served on the boards of various community agencies and professional organizations. Among these are the Hawaii Business Roundtable Executive Committee, the University of Hawaii Foundation, and the American Hospital Association Regional Policy Board. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the American Public Health Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Arthur Ushijima is well known and highly respected in Hawaii's health care community. He has been on the Board of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii since 1993, serving as its Chairman from 1995 to 1996. I have worked with him on various projects, and I can personally attest to the depth and breadth of his knowledge of health care and his commitment to ensuring access to quality health care for the people of Hawaii. His continued participation in the activities of the Medical Education Council will undoubtedly be highly valued.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association supports GM 697.

April 15, 2011

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Committee on Education

Friday, April 15, 2011; 1:15 PM
Conference Room 225

**Re: GM 697 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation
to the Hawaii Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee,
ARTHUR A. USHIJIMA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015**


Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

It is with pleasure that I support the reappointment of Arthur A. Ushijima to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. I have known Art for almost twenty years and have been impressed with his enthusiastic dedication to improving the quality of health care in Hawaii. As the president and CEO of The Queen's Health Systems, Art wholeheartedly supports the mission of founders Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV. An extremely adept hospital and health administrator, Art is highly respected among his peers in the medical and business communities, locally and throughout the county.

Previously scheduled commitments prevent me from personally appearing at Mr. Ushijima's confirmation hearing, however please consider this letter an endorsement of Art's candidacy. I am certain that he will continue to contribute tremendously to the Hawaii Medical Education Council and respectfully encourage this Committee to proceed with confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support of the confirmation of Arthur A. Ushijima.

Aloha,


Jeffrey N. Watanabe
Founding Partner

R. Brian Tsujimura
745 Fort Street, 17th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
rtsujimura@imanakakudo.com

April 11, 2011

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education
Conference Room 225
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

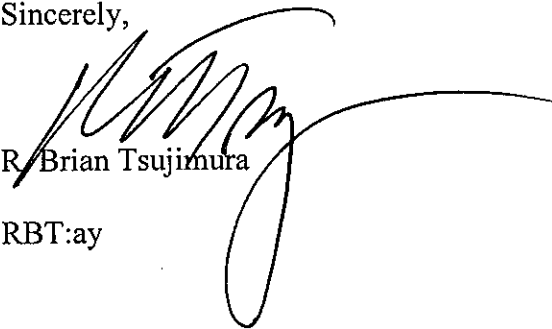
Re: Testimony in Support of GM 697: Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, ARTHUR A. USHIJIMA, for a term to expire June 30, 2015

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Arthur Ushijima to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. I have served with Art on the Queen Emma Foundation, Queen Emma Land Company, and the Queen's Health Systems Boards.

I have come to know Art as a thoughtful and resourceful leader. I know that he will bring these same talents to this council. He operates a large organization and has had the ability to balance human and fiscal resources to keep Queen's afloat despite the hard financial times. I know he will be a welcome addition to the Council and I ask for your support.

Sincerely,



R. Brian Tsujimura

RBT:ay

Erin Conner

From: Hardy Spoehr [HSpoehr@papaolalokahi.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 7:01 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: Testimony: GM 697

Testimony: GM 697, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, ARTHUR A. USHUIJIMA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Friday, April 15, 2011
1:15 PM
Conference Room 225
State Capitol

Papa Ola Lokahi, the Native Hawaiian health Board, strongly supports the appointment of ARTHUR A. USHIJIMA to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council for a term to expire in 2015. Mr. Ushijima has continuously distinguished himself as a leader in health care in Hawai'i. He brings to this appointment knowledge of our local community, business acumen, and a vision as to where health care and health care education needs to go in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to strongly support this measure.

Hardy Spoehr, Executive Director
Papa Ola Lokahi (Native Hawaiian Health Board)
894 Queen Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-597-6550