

# GM653

## JAMES CORCORAN

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Acupuncture, Gubernatorial Nominee, JAMES CORCORAN, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Report Title: Board of Acupuncture

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<b><u>Sort by</u></b> <b><u>Date</u></b>		<b>Status Text</b>
2/21/2012	S	Received.
2/21/2012	S	Referred to CPN.
3/7/2012	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 03-15-12 9:30AM in conference room 229.



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& acupuncture association*

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October 13, 2012

RE: GM653 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Acupuncture, Gubernatorial Nominee, JAMES CORCORAN.

Before the: SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee,

It is with great privilege that I write to you in recommendation of Col. U.S. Army (Ret.) James R. Corcoran, Ph.D. I have come to know Dr. Corcoran through the University of Hawaii affiliated East-West Center's China Seminar lecture series. Dr. Corcoran has been teaching History and Asian Studies at Hawaii Pacific University for 16 years.

Dr. Corcoran has proven to be a responsible, resourceful, and extremely intelligent individual. Through conversations at East-West Center lectures, Dr. Corcoran has expressed his support for the acupuncture and oriental medicine field. He has shown commitment to this belief by facilitating educational lectures on acupuncture and oriental medicine through HPU and UH Manoa. Dr. Corcoran personally has been a patient of acupuncturists for over 20 years, affirming the health benefits he has reaped. His extroverted, inquisitive, and friendly nature also makes him very personable.

Over his career, Dr. Corcoran has lived in seven Asian countries and has gained a wealth of knowledge that he shares through his teachings in and out of the classroom. Dr. Corcoran is a true academic in his insatiable love of learning. Dr. Corcoran is fluent in several European and Asian languages which help him garner a deep, genuine understanding of past history and history as it unfolds. He is involved in his community by serving as president of the Maunawili Community Association, vice president of the Windward Civilian Military Council and volunteering at the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance. His excellence in teaching awarded him the 2011 Golden Apple Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Dr. James R. Corcoran is truly an amazing person, who I feel honored to recommend for the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture public position. His rich experience in the fields of Asian history, acupuncture, and Oriental medicine, coupled with his fair-minded, intelligent, hardworking character would be a valuable asset to the Board.

Sincerely,  
Christina Kapothanasis, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M.  
Executive Director  
Hawaii Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture Association  
[info@homa.org](mailto:info@homa.org)  
808-221-9814

Testimony for CPN 3/15/2012 9:30:00 AM GM653

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Jack ND., LAc

Organization: Individual

E-mail: [jackburkend@gmail.com](mailto:jackburkend@gmail.com)

Submitted on: 3/13/2012

Comments:

Dr. Corcoran will be an excellent and hard working member of the Board of Acupuncture.

## Personal Statement for Confirmation of Professor James R. Corcoran's Appointment to the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture

I, James R. Corcoran, Ph.D., Colonel U.S. Army (Retired) would like to serve on the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture (BOA) as the Public Member. I have, as part of my Ph.D. studies in Chinese history, pursued research in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), naturopathy and acupuncture, and I have been under the continuous care of acupuncturists, here in Hawaii, for some twenty years. I believe that my academic qualifications and life experience position me as a valuable, contributing, addition to the Board.

Over the past decade I have engaged professional acupuncturists to teach class sessions on traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), naturopathy, and acupuncture in my courses on China at both the University of Hawaii at Manoa and at Hawaii Pacific University's Military Campus Program (MCP). My efforts have greatly benefitted my students, especially those who have served in Afghanistan and Iraq, by familiarizing them with the acupuncture program offered at Tripler Army Medical Center, a relatively new initiative by the U.S. Department of Defense. I have also been active in broadening the general public's awareness of TCM and Acupuncture in venues in the public sector on Oahu and farther afield in the State of Hawaii. My Chinese language capability enables me to research and write in the field of the history of TCM and acupuncture. Earlier this past year (2011), at Hawaii Pacific University's Faculty Scholarship Day, I presented a written history outline of TCM, to include acupuncture, as part of a lecture session together with Christina Kapothanasis, L.Ac., Diplo. O.M., Executive Director of the Hawaii Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture Association (HOMAA), and herself a member of the Hawai'i State BOA, and Kai Hung Tseng, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M., a Director, HOMAA.

I am privileged to have wide-ranging, personal, rapport and close relationships with many elements of the Oahu community outside my acquaintances and colleagues in academia and in military circles. I am a long-time member and current president of the Maunawili Community Association, a non-profit, 501c3, volunteer organization; president of the Windward Civilian Military Council; and was an elected member to the City and County of Honolulu Kailua Neighborhood Board from 1999 to 2010. For some two years now I have provided regular volunteer work to the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance in Kailua and Kaneohe. I am a member of many professional organizations, such as the National History Education Council through which, over the past two decades, I have served frequently as academic judge and resource person for our secondary schools for the annual Hawaii History Day Competition sponsored by the Hawaii State Committee for the Humanities.

My wife, Linda L.C. Corcoran, and I, are very active in the Windward and wider Oahu civic scene and are widely known to contribute significant support and aid to various activities and projects in our Oahu ohana.

I look forward to continued, valuable, contributions in these many activities in the years to come. Most certainly I would do my very best to be a highly valued member of the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture.

My understanding of the role and responsibilities of the Board of Acupuncture is as put forth in Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") Title 16, chapter 72, clarifying and implementing chapter 436E, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") wherein "the legislature ... finds and declares that the practice of acupuncture is a theory and method for treatment of illness and disability and for strengthening and invigorating the body and as such affects the public health, safety, and welfare, and therefore there is a necessity that individuals practicing acupuncture be subject to regulation and control." The BOA's powers and duties cover licensing, exemptions, qualifications for examination, licensing renewal, revocation or suspension of licenses, use of titles, and foreign school curricula and standards, among other requirements.

I believe that I have a number of qualifications to serve on the BOA. I have been an active advocate and supporter of TCM as well as a recipient of TCM/acupuncture treatment continuously for the past 20 years, first from Dr. Jack Burke, N.D. Waimanalo (259-6889), and then, following my 2011 presentation on TCM/acupuncture at HPU, in treatment from Christina Kapothanasis, L.Ac. Diplo.O.M. (the BioEnergetics Institute, the Lam Clinic, Chinatown Cultural Plaza, 221-9814). My professional involvement with TCM/acupuncture emanates from my MA studies in China-Taiwan and my Ph.D. studies in mainland China; all part of my historical research in Chinese

history as a part of my Ph.D. in Chinese history from UH Manoa. Also, I have been an active advocate and supporter for the U.S. Department of Defense inclusion of acupuncture as part of DOD medical services. I see my potential role on the BOA as a go-between for public consumers of acupuncture on the one hand, and dispensing professional acupuncturists on the other hand; and I can bring that benefit to my position as Public Member on the board.

I have experience on boards and committees operating under the Hawaii State Sunshine Law (HRS 92), have given testimony before various Hawaii State Legislative Committees, and, again, I am the president of the Windward Civilian Military Council as well as president of the Maunawili Community Association. I have been researching Hawaii State statutes and rules governing the field of acupuncture, and I am currently following SB 2832 (companion bill HB 2570) relating to dietetics, which intends to shift licensing from the Department of Health to DCCA, but in the meantime excludes other health professionals from giving nutritional advice. If confirmed as Public Member to the HI State BOA I will base my participation and my voting on what I think is the best benefit to the public as concerns acupuncture activities as drawn from my interaction with acupuncture professionals, citizens' views, legislators' positions, Hawaii State administrative rules and statutes, and my own experience and research.

Please feel free to contact me at any time for more information relating to my confirmation of my appointment to the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture.

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