

# GM776

# GARRETT OTA

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, GARRETT OTA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Report Title: Board of Dental Examiners

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<b><u>Sort by</u></b> <b><u>Date</u></b>		<b>Status Text</b>
3/9/2012	S	Received.
3/9/2012	S	Referred to CPN.
3/19/2012	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 04-03-12 9:30AM in conference room 229.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ  
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](http://www.hawaii.gov/dcca)

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012

Tuesday, April 3, 2012  
9:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 776  
GARRETT OTA

WRITTEN ONLY

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

My name is Keali'i S. Lopez, and I am the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA" or the "Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 776 regarding the appointment of Dr. Garrett Ota to the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board") as a Hawaii County dentist member. The Department respectfully requests the Committee to recommend that the Senate advise and consent this appointment to the Board.

Dr. Ota is a licensed dentist in good standing and has been engaged in private general dentistry since 1995. He has been active in the Hawaii County Dental Society for many years and served as its president from 2009-2011. As a licensee working in Hawaii County, Dr. Ota is active in ensuring that underserved communities receive appropriate dental care and actively participates in dental clinics.

Dr. Ota views his service on the dental board as a way to meaningful contribute to the profession and to Hawaii's dental patients. He is particularly interested in exploring emerging issues related to scope of practice for dental professionals that are not licensed dentists.

In light of his background, I am confident that if given the opportunity, Dr. Ota will prove to be an asset to the State and to this Board. I respectfully request the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to this appointment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Hawaii Dental Association

1345 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Phone: 808.593.7956 Fax: 808.593.7636 Toll-free: 800.359.6725

Email: [hda@hawaiidentalassociation.net](mailto:hda@hawaiidentalassociation.net) Website: [www.hawaiidentalassociation.net](http://www.hawaiidentalassociation.net)

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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

GM 776

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, GARRETT OTA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

By

Neil C. Nunokawa, D.D.S.  
1885 Main Street, Suite 204  
Wailuku, Hawaii, 96793

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 229

Honorable Chair Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair Brian T. Taniguchi and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

On behalf of the 970 members of the Hawaii Dental Association, I urge you to confirm the  
appointment of Garrett O. Ota, DDS to the Hawaii State Board of Dental Examiners.

A resident of Hilo, Hawaii, Dr. Ota graduated from Waiakea High school with honors in  
1988 and received his D.D.S. degree from the University of Southern California School of  
Dentistry in 1994. I wish to point out that Dr. Ota received his dental degree within six  
years of finishing high school, a process that usually takes a minimum of eight years. This  
indicates that his academic record as an undergraduate in college was exemplary, enabling  
him to enter dental school after only two years as an undergraduate. Remarkably, Dr. Ota  
also graduated as valedictorian of his dental school class and is a member of OKU, a  
prestigious dental honor society.

Dr. Ota has been a member in good standing of the Hawaii Dental Association for over 13  
years and has held the positions of president and secretary of the Hawaii County Dental  
Society. He has also served as a delegate from the Big Island of Hawaii to the HDA House of  
Delegates, the governing body of our organization.

Please confirm the appointment of Dr. Garrett O. Ota to the Hawaii State Board of Dental Examiners. He is highly qualified to serve as an advocate for consumers of dentistry in our state. He has the total support of the Hawaii Dental Association.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Nunokawa, D.D.S.  
President  
Hawaii Dental Association

January 16, 2012

RE: Letter of Interest, State of Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Garrett O. Ota, D.D.S. and I would please like to submit my name to serve on the State of Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners. I am a practicing dentist in Hilo for the past 16 years. I have also served as President for the Hawaii County Dental Society for the past three years (January 2009 to December 2011). I had the responsibility of overseeing our County Peer Review Committee during this time and found the process very interesting.

I have been exposed to strong ethical values in dentistry my entire life, as my father was also a practicing dentist in Hawaii and an active member of our local dental society. I feel that it is important to maintain the integrity of our profession and would try my best to accomplish this if allowed to serve on the Board of Dental Examiners. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Garrett O. Ota, D.D.S.