

GM880

GARY KAJIWARA

**Nomination to the Hawaii Medical
Education Council**

Relating to Nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (Gov. Msg. No. 880)

Written Statement Addressing the Questions From the Senate Committee on Education
Submitted by Gary K. Kajiwara

1. Why did you apply to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council?

I am honored to be nominated to serve a second term on the Hawaii Medical Education Council by Governor Neil Abercrombie. I believe that the Hawaii Medical Education Council has made significant progress in identifying the future requirements for graduate medical education in the State of Hawaii, and I would like to continue to assist the Council in achieving its objective to improve the quality of Hawaii's graduate medical education program and its value to the community.

2. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawaii Medical Education Council, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Highlight three qualities you feel make you a highly qualified candidate.

I believe that I am qualified to serve as a member of the Hawaii Medical Education Council based on my experience and involvement in graduate medical education training programs for over 35 years through the senior healthcare management positions that I have held at Kuakini Health System and its subsidiaries. Kuakini Medical Center is a non-profit, community teaching hospital that has been involved in Hawaii's graduate medical education program since the 1970's. Kuakini Medical Center, as an acute care hospital, has participated in the training of medical students from the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and in the training of medical, surgical, and transitional residents and geriatric fellows sponsored by JABSOM and funded through the Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc. (HRP). Currently, I represent Kuakini Medical Center on the HRP Board and serve as the Board Chair of HRP. Also, Kuakini Medical Center has had experience as a sponsoring institution for the training of family medicine residents in the late 1990's and I served as the administrative lead for the accreditation of this residency program and its operations.

The value that I bring to the Hawaii Medical Education Council include (1) my experience and involvement in graduate medical education from the perspective of a healthcare provider and former institutional sponsor of a medical residency program, (2) my knowledge of and direct involvement in the residency programs of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, (3) my experience as an administrator of an acute care hospital and long term care facility that works closely with physicians on the hospital medical staff, contracted physicians/physician groups, and joint venture physician-hospital network, and (4) my involvement in training programs for physicians and allied health professional with affiliated hospitals and academic centers in Japan.

The three qualities that I think best describe me are honest, diligent, and committed. I believe these qualities will help strengthen the collective efforts of the members of the Hawaii Medical Education Council in achieving the Council's planned initiatives. I am committed to contributing my best efforts in serving on the Council, and to represent the Council with integrity and professionalism, and to support the Council's purpose and initiatives in improving Hawaii's graduate medical education.

3. What recommendations would you make to the Legislature and the Board of Regents to improve healthcare training programs in the State?

The healthcare training programs in Hawaii should be adjusted according to the identified needs of the community for healthcare professionals and allied health professionals including the needs of the local healthcare providers. The assessment of the future supply of and gaps in Hawaii's healthcare workforce should be tied to the planned initiatives for improving the healthcare training programs. There should be greater integration of the healthcare training programs for the various professions and allied health disciplines in order to meet the regulatory standards for the healthcare industry and to meet the expectations of the consumers and payors for healthcare services.

4. What challenges do you see facing our healthcare industry, specifically relating to our workforce needs?

There are major challenges that are facing the healthcare industry and the overall community in the next 10 years with regard to the workforce needs. The healthcare workforce will be decreasing in supply while the demand for healthcare services and the cost of healthcare will be increasing due to (1) the rapidly aging population that will increase the demand for and utilization of healthcare services, (2) the impending retirement of a large segment of the healthcare workforce (Baby Boomer workforce) and the projected number of graduates from the current training programs will not be able to fill the vacancies, (3) the collective funding for healthcare services by government, employers, and consumers will not be able to sustain the rapidly escalating cost of the healthcare services provided to the community, and (4) the healthcare providers will not be able to cover the increasing cost of labor (including professional services) to maintain their required workforce under prevailing reimbursements from government and private payors.

5. During these difficult economic times, how can we ensure adequate funding for our healthcare training programs?

My recommendation is to implement initiatives for (1) identifying ways to eliminate duplicative efforts in the healthcare training programs and to best utilize available funding, (2) identifying ways to meet the future workforce shortages through the use of multidisciplinary teams and modified / streamlined work processes to deliver healthcare, and to modify the healthcare training programs for these changes, (3) identifying ways to integrate the various healthcare training programs for professionals and allied health professionals, and (4) increasing the use of information technology and simulation training in the healthcare training programs in order to stabilize the cost of the training programs.

6. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Hawaii Medical Education Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I believe there is a very low possibility for conflicts of interest that could arise during my service on the Hawaii Medical Education Council due to my serving on several boards of private organizations such as the Board of the Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc. and/or my serving in senior healthcare management positions at Kuakini Health System and its subsidiaries. I understand that the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawaii Medical Education Council will require my commitment to serve in the best interest of the Council. Should there be any possibility of a conflict of interest, I will follow the prevailing State guidelines for the disclosure and handling of any conflict of interest relating to the Council and my participation as a member of the Council.

GM880

TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF GARY K. KAJIWARA
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
FOR THE HEARING ON APRIL 16, 2012

RELATING TO GOV. MSG. NO. 880

This testimony is being submitted to the Senate Committee on Education, relating to Gov. Msg. 880 on the nomination of Gary K. Kajiwara to serve a second term on the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to present testimony for your consideration of my nomination to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

I am Hawaii born and raised. I am a graduate of Roosevelt High School and the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where I received a Bachelor of Arts degree, and two graduate degrees - Masters of Public Health degree, majoring in health services administration, and Masters of Business Administration degree, majoring in marketing. During my graduate education, I was fortunate to be selected to work in two internship positions. One of the internships was with the Hawaii State Comprehensive Health Planning Agency, which later transitioned into the Hawaii State Health Planning and Development Agency, and the second internship was with the Hawaii Regional Medical Program. Following my graduation, I was privileged to serve in post graduate positions as Administrative Intern and Administrative Resident at The Queen's Medical Center.

Over the past 35 years in my career as a health care executive, I have served in several senior management positions at Kuakini Health System and its subsidiaries (Kuakini Medical Center; Kuakini Geriatric Care, Inc.; Kuakini Support Services, Inc.; Kuakini Foundation). Kuakini Health System is a Hawaii-based, non-profit, tax-exempt health care organization that serves the Hawaii community through its core businesses that include an acute hospital, long term care facility, residential care home, adult day care centers, biomedical research, and various joint ventures.

The value that I bring to the Hawaii Medical Education Council include (1) my experience and involvement in graduate medical education from the perspective of a healthcare provider and former institutional sponsor of a medical residency program, (2) my knowledge of and involvement in the residency programs of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, (3) my experience as an administrator of an acute care hospital and long term care facility that works closely with physicians on the hospital medical staff, contracted physicians/physician groups, and joint venture physician-hospital network, and (4) my involvement in training programs for physicians and allied health professionals with affiliated hospitals and academic centers in Japan.

A favorable decision by the Hawaii State Senate regarding my nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council will provide the opportunity for my continued involvement in the improvement of graduate medical education in the State of Hawaii. With the decreasing population of young adults in Hawaii and on the mainland over the next decade and increasing competition among all industries including the health care industry in the recruitment of qualified persons, I believe there is an urgency for the State of Hawaii to focus on graduate medical education as well as other graduate education programs for non-medical disciplines in order to help (1) generate interest in young adults, (2) provide effective and innovative training methods, and (3) retain qualified candidates in health related professions and non-health related professions, for the continued sustainability and growth of the Hawaii community.

I am supportive of maintaining graduate medical education in Hawaii, and I welcome the opportunity to address the challenges in this area. For this reason, I humbly ask for your consideration and support of my nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. If there are any questions that the Senate Committee on Education may have, I will be happy to respond at this hearing or anytime in the future. Thank you for your assistance.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Conference Room 225
April 16, 2012 at 1:15 p.m.

Testimony in support of GM 880, which nominates Gary Kajiwarra to the Hawaii 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 nomination of Gary Kajiwarra to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

The Hawaii Medical Education Council works to ensure the adequacy of health care training programs in Hawaii so that they are able to provide the health care workforce needed to address the health care needs of the people of Hawaii. Specifically, the Council monitors Hawaii's health care workforce and health care needs, particularly regarding physicians. The Council also monitors health care training programs, particularly regarding graduate medical education. Furthermore, the Council recommends to the Legislature and Board of Regents the changes needed to the state's health care training programs. Finally, the Council works with other agencies to develop a plan to ensure adequate funding of health care training programs in the state.

Gary Kajiwarra has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Kuakini Health System, which includes Kuakini Medical Center, for more than 20 years. Kuakini Medical Center is a member of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Mr. Kajiwarra on various projects. Mr. Kajiwarra currently serves on the Boards of Directors of a number of organizations, including the American Excess Insurance Exchange, CareResources of Hawaii, Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Hawaii Cancer Consortium, and Hawaii Employers Council. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, the American College of Health Care Administrators, and the American Academy of Medical Administrators.

Mr. Kajiwarra previously served on the Hawaii Medical Education Council, and I am confident that if he were appointed again he would serve with dignity, wisdom, and integrity.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association supports GM 880.

**Written Testimony
In Support of
Gary Kajiwara
By
Jerris Hedges, MD, MS, MMM**

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

I would like to offer a formal recommendation for the reappointment of Gary Kajiwara to the Hawaii Medical Education Council Board.

Mr. Kajiwara is the Chief Executive Officer at Kuakini Medical Center, one of the current training sites for our accredited Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs. This qualifies him for one of the positions requiring training hospital involvement. Mr. Kajiwara also serves on the board of the Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc. the organization that works closely with the John A. Burns School of Medicine to support GME. As a result, he is very knowledgeable about medical education at all levels.

As Dean of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, I have worked with Mr. Kajiwara for many rewarding and enjoyable years, and found him to be extremely dedicated and informed about medical education and health system issues in our State. He is committed to Hawaii and to our medical community and brings a depth of experience that would greatly benefit the Board.

Thank you for your consideration.



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April 10, 2012

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda:

This testimony is on behalf of Gary Kajiwara's nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC).

I am Satoru Izutsu, Vice Dean and Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Psychiatry at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. I have been at the University of Hawaii since 1976. It is with great enthusiasm that I endorse the nomination of Gary Kajiwara for a second term on the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC).

I have known Gary for over 25 years, first as a graduate student at the UH School of Public Health and the College of Business. He graduated in 1974 with a dual degree, MPH/MBA. He has held significant positions in the healthcare sectors of our community such as Administrative Resident at Queens Medical Center.

Since 1990, he has been the President and CEO of the Kuakini Health System. His extensive knowledge of health care, hospital administration, health finances, and human services are beyond comparison. As the current Board Chair of the Kuakini Health System, I have firsthand knowledge of the breadth of his knowledge and experience. Gary's opinion on issues related to the health and welfare of people are sought by innumerable eleemosynary community organization who seek his counsel.

It is without hesitation that I endorse his nomination to HMEC. He will be an outstanding member.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Satoru Izutsu".

Satoru Izutsu, PhD
Vice Dean



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

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April 9, 2012

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Chair, Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Senate, Room 218
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda:

Re: Hawaii Medical Education Council Letter of Support of Mr. Gary Kajiwara

I highly recommend the re-appointment of Gary Kajiwara, President & CEO of Kuakini Health System, as a member of the Hawaii Medical Education Council. I have known Mr. Kajiwara for over twenty years. We have worked together as colleagues on numerous health-related initiatives and projects; we both serve on the boards of the Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc.; the Healthcare Association of Hawaii. We also serve on the UH's Cancer Center Consortium board and are very active with the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Mr. Kajiwara is a highly respected and experienced leader in the Hawaii healthcare community. He also serves on the board of Premier, a national organization of major hospital systems representing some of the most prestigious hospitals in the country. Kuakini Medical Center is the home of the Honolulu Heart Study, now the Honolulu Aging Study, an internationally-recognized longitudinal study on heart disease and aging. It has maintained consistent funding from the National Institutes of Health for over four decades and has produced major findings in coronary artery disease and aging. Kuakini Medical Center is the center of geriatric medicine in Hawaii and the home base of the University of Hawaii's geriatrics fellowship program, a highly regarded training program in geriatric medicine.

Mr. Kajiwara is highly qualified to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council and will continue to provide expert guidance to the Council's work. Mahalo.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur A. Ushijima
President & CEO