

# GM 625

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, EARL HASEGAWA, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Report Title: Board of Dental Examiners

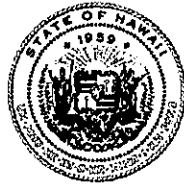
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
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

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESENTATION OF  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH STATE LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 2014

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014  
9:00 A.M.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 625

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
AND TO THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, VICE CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 625, regarding the appointment of Earl Hasegawa to the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). My name is Keali'i Lopez, Director of the Department. The Department strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. Hasegawa's appointment to the Board as a dentist member for a term to expire on June 30, 2018.

Mr. Hasegawa has maintained a dentist's license since September 17, 1990. His license is current, valid, and in good standing.

Mr. Hasegawa understands the role and various responsibilities of the Board including the review and examination of new licensees, receiving and investigating

complaints, interpreting and enforcing the applicable statutory laws and administrative rules, and the overall consumer protection the Board affords to the community. Mr. Hasegawa brings experience to the Board having served as a member on a number of industry related organizations. Mr. Hasegawa also brings the practical industry experience as an oral surgeon to the Board.

Mr. Hasegawa understands that the appointment to the Board comes with the responsibility to attend and participate. Mr. Hasegawa is committed to attending the Board's scheduled meetings from Maui. Mr. Hasegawa feels that as a personal matter, serving on the Board is a meaningful way to give back to the community and industry. Mr. Hasegawa is mindful of recent events in the industry and strongly supports the Board's role to protect the general public, and ensure that licensees are competent and qualified.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the appointment of Mr. Hasegawa to the Board of Dental Examiners.



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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April 8, 2014

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

By U.S. Mail and Email

Dear Senators Baker and Taniguchi and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Dental Association Board of Trustees and the 980 members of the Hawaii Dental Association, and wish to recommend the confirmation of the appointment of Earl Hasegawa, DDS, to the Hawaii State Board of Dental Examiners.

Dr. Hasegawa is an Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon practicing on Maui since 1995 and is a member in good standing of the American Dental Association, the Hawaii Dental Association, and the Maui County Dental Society. He also served as President of the Maui County Dental Society.

Dr. Hasegawa is committed to excellence in dentistry and will serve with distinction on the Board of Dental Examiners. The Hawaii Dental Association gives its utmost support for his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Lili K. Horton, DMD, MS  
President



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII\*  
**MAUI COLLEGE**

April 9, 2014

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI

Re: Dr. Earl Hasegawa (GM625) appointment to Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners

Senator Baker:

It is my privilege to write this letter of support for Dr. Hasegawa's nomination to the Board of Dental Examiners. Dr. Hasegawa is a highly respected oral surgeon and is a leader in the Maui dental community. Dr. Hasegawa was one of several dentists who approached University of Hawaii Maui College (UHMC) in 2000 with the need for educational preparation of dental auxiliaries on Maui. Dr. Hasegawa played a major role in the development of the Dental Assisting (DA) and Dental Hygiene (DH) programs.

In order to provide education for oral health auxiliaries, UHMC needed a clinical laboratory. Dr. Hasegawa provided technical guidance and resources to assist with the opening of the Maui Oral Health Center. This facility, with a classroom and seven patient care areas, serves as the learning center for the Dental Assistants, Dental Hygiene students, and Dental Residents from Lutheran Medical Center. In addition, it provides access to dental care-approximately 900 patient visits per month. Maui Oral Health Center is the "Dental Home" for these patients.

Dr. Hasegawa has served as a guest lecturer and provides clinical instruction for DA student in his office and for the Dental Residents at the Maui Oral Health Center. His knowledge and expertise is appreciated by all the students.

Dr. Hasegawa is a member of the Maui Oral Health Taskforce which meets monthly to address oral health issues in Maui County. He is a wise and thoughtful committee member who is able to provide a broad perspective on the needs of both the community and his dental colleagues.

I strongly support Dr. Hasegawa's nomination to the Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners based on his knowledge of dental practice, oral health issues in Hawaii, his leadership, and his willingness to serve our community.

Sincerely,

Nancy Johnson, MSN, APRN  
Professor

LAWRENCE N. C. ING  
BRADFORD R. ING

2145 WELLS STREET, SUITE 204  
WELLS STREET PROFESSIONAL CENTER  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HI 96793-2225  
(808) 242-4555 • FAX (808) 244-6964  
*office@theinglawfirm.com*

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## THE ING LAW FIRM

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April 9, 2014

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Email: [senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Re: Support for Appointment of Earl Hasegawa GM625  
Board of Dental Examiners

Dear Senator Baker:

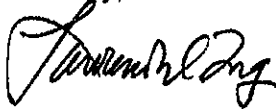
I have known Earl Hasegawa both professionally and socially for over 25 years. Dr. Hasegawa's experience as a dentist and oral surgeon and an active community servant, especially for the disadvantaged and the young, provides an insight as to the practice of dentistry and the use of community resources that will prove valuable to the Board.

Having personally had Dr. Hasegawa as dentist and as an oral surgeon, I have always been impressed with his compassion, hard work and ability to explain difficult situations to his patients and making them feel completely comfortable and at ease. He is also honest and involved in his professional and personal communities.

Dr. Hasegawa has shown over the years that he can work with others and make fair and reasonable decisions for the benefit of his patients and community.

I respectfully request that he be appointed to the Board of Dental Examiners.

Sincerely,



LAWRENCE N. C. ING

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cc: Earl Hasegawa, D.D.S., M.S. (via e-mail: [ehase@aol.com](mailto:ehase@aol.com))

April 10, 2014

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker  
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 625

Dear Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Taniguchi, and Committee Members:


It is an honor for me to write in support of Dr. Earl Hasegawa for appointment to the Board of Dental Examiners. Dr. Hasegawa is an old friend of our family who has, at one time or another, used his considerable skills as an oral surgeon to help each member of our family.

Dr. Hasegawa is a rare practitioner insofar as, aside from being a highly skilled, well educated, talented surgeon with a very demanding professional life, he is also very community minded. He is extremely generous with both his time and treasury in reaching out to support our community. He is involved in pro bono dental care, and service and leadership on behalf of the Maui County Dental Society. Dr. Hasegawa even participates in fostering professional excellence in dentistry by serving as an examiner for professionals seeking certification at the national level, a role which requires him to close his office for over a week at a time to administer examinations and interviews on the mainland.

Moreover, he has been extremely active in supporting our public schools here on Maui as a parent and community member. He and his wife Cheryl have been important supporters of the music program at H.P. Baldwin High School in Wailuku, Maui. I can't think of another oral surgeon in our community who you would find setting up chairs in the gym for band concerts, but Dr. Hasegawa is that kind of individual. Down-to-earth, selfless, successful, and highly skilled, you couldn't ask for a better suited candidate for the Board of Dental Examiners.

Mahalo for your kind consideration of Dr. Hasegawa's nomination.

Sincerely yours,



GRANT Y. M. CHUN  
Vice President

April 8, 2014

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Dr. Earl Hasegawa  
Reference #GM625

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing in strong support of Dr. Earl Hasegawa's nomination to the Board of Dental Examiners.

I have known Dr. Hasegawa for over twenty years, as a fellow practitioner and friend. Medically, he has been a pillar in our community not only serving his patients but assisting fellow dentists and physicians in dealing with very difficult cases. He continues to practice, serving our community's dentistry / medical needs, and is very well respected by all of his peers and patients.

Personally, Dr. Hasegawa is engaged in helping our younger generation and active in community volunteer service. Many depend on him for his energy and reliable nature. He remains soft spoken and genuine as he has always been.

Dr. Hasegawa continues to be a valuable Maui community leader. He is one that I trusted with my family for his medical / dental expertise and will trust especially in role as Dental Examiner Board Member.

Respectfully,

Barry Shitamoto, MD  
43 Kamalei Circle  
Kahului, HI 96732  
808-242-2590



April 5, 2014

Senator Roz Baker

RE: Dr. Earl Hasegawa's nomination to the Board of Dental Examiners

Honorable Roz Baker

It gives me great pleasure to recommend Dr. Earl Hasegawa for the board of Dental Examiners. As a practicing Maui dentist for the last 29 years on Maui, I have worked with Dr. Hasegawa on numerous occasions. Of particular note is Dr. Hasegawa's spearheading the setup and staffing of the dental education booth at the Keiki fest every year for the past 10 years. He also has been a strong supporter of the Maui Mobile Dental Clinic and the UH Maui campus Dental Assisting program. In addition, he and his wife Cheryl have donated a lot of time and financial support to the Lao Schools Renaissance Program. They were honored recently for their contributions by the Lao school PTA.

Dr. Hasegawa is very well liked and respected in the Dental community. He has built a thriving practice because of his excellent care to patients and great communication skills. He is a past president of the Maui County Dental Society and served on various dental projects. His office is clean, modern and he takes numerous continuing education classes to keep himself current. He and other fine oral surgeons are on call all the time for dental emergencies at the hospital and has helped countless people throughout the years.

What sets him apart is his compassion and professionalism. I remember an instance late on a Saturday afternoon when one of my patients had an accident and severely traumatized her tooth. Dr. Hasegawa dropped what he was doing and drove to my office to help me splint and replant her tooth. As a result, she was able to save her tooth and save her smile. He has outstanding morals and will always do what is right to help the welfare of the patient.

Please strongly confirm his appointment to the Dental Board!

Mahalo,

Jonathan K. Lau, DDS

Wailuku Dental Group, Inc.

**April 10, 2014**

**TO:           The Honorable ROSALYN BAKER, Chair**  
**The Honorable BRIAN TANIGUCHI, Vice Chair**  
**Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**

**DATE:       Wednesday, April 11, 2014**

**TIME:       9:00 AM**

**PLACE:      Conference Room 229**

**FROM:       WESLEY LO**

**SUBJECT:    Testimony Regarding GM 625 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, EARL HASEGAWA, for a term to expire 6-30-2018**

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Mr. Early Hasegawa nomination to the Board of Dental Examiners.

I have known Mr. Hasegawa both professionally and personally for years.

From a professional standpoint, his skills as an Oral Surgeon are unquestioned, and his passion for healthcare and doing the "right thing" has always set him apart. I have seen him give of himself "selflessly" on behalf of the community and the patients that he serves without a complaint.

From a personal standpoint, he is the fabric of the Maui Community. He is a family man who is involved in many activities throughout the community. He is well –respected by all both in the healthcare profession and amongst community members

You could not ask for a better skill set and background for this

I urge the committee to approve Mr. Hasegawa's nomination

TESTIMONY  
OF  
EARL HASEGAWA  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

GM625

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, EARL HASEGAWA, for term to expire June 30, 2018

Chair Baker and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I want to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. I truly consider this an honor and privilege to be considered as a member of the Board of Dental Examiners

I also want to extend a warm mahalo to those who submitted letters of support on my behalf.

I wish to be a member of the Board of Dental Examiners (Board) because I would like to be part of the process by which quality dental care is delivered to the public. I have been fortunate in my career thus far and would like to give back to my profession and the public. I have been rather active in my local community including helping to maintain 24/7 coverage of the Emergency Department at Maui Memorial Medical Center along with my two fellow Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. It would be an honor to now take the next step and take on a more challenging role at the State level.

My perception of the roles and responsibilities of the members of the Board is to use our experience and knowledge in making contributions to the Board's decisions. The Board plays an essential part in monitoring the current ADEX exam process and the members of the Board need to be able to evaluate this exam's effectiveness. The Board members should be able to examine the different aspects of the dental profession and help determine the safety parameters of different procedures. They also need to have an understanding of the ethical and legal ramifications of actions taken by a dentist for the purposes of disciplinary action.

Given the roles and responsibilities of the Board's members, I humbly believe that I am qualified not only by my academic history but also by my nearly 20 years of private practice experience. My experience on the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery will help me bring more current knowledge to the Board.

What I hope to accomplish as a Board member is to use my knowledge and experience in helping the Board deal with whatever issues cross its path. I want to work as a team member in helping to make the Board an effective and respected part of the State's government.

I feel that I have many qualities that will be of a benefit to the Board. Among these is the ability to work well with others. Over the years I have been involved with many activities both in dentistry and outside the profession. I have taken on both leadership roles and committee roles and find it easy to work with my colleagues. I also have the ability to listen to the opinion of others. I find that this is a valuable quality and allows me to formulate a better understanding of a situation and eventually make better decisions. Finally, I try to make sure that the lines of communication are open when dealing with committees or groups of people. There is nothing more frustrating than miscommunication when trying to accomplish a task. Although these may be interpreted as general attributes of a person, I feel that simple concepts and characteristics are sometimes missing when dealing with more complex issues.

I recently was a delegate to the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery annual meeting. During that time we examined many issues facing our specialty and dentistry, and I hope to bring this knowledge to the Board for the purposes of improving patient safety and quality of care.

I do not see any conflicts that could arise during my tenure on the Board.

In closing, I would like to thank this Committee for the hard work and dedication you do for the State of Hawaii and for giving me the opportunity to be with you today. Thank you for considering my nomination. I would also like to thank everyone who submitted testimony on my behalf and have supported me throughout the years.

At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS  
FROM  
EARL HASEGAWA  
TO  
SENATOR ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

GM625

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, EARL HASEGAWA, for term to expire June 30, 2018

Chair Baker, thank you for the opportunity to answer questions relating to the Board of Dental Examiners. I have not listed the questions but have answered them in the order given to me.

I wish to be a member of the Board of Dental Examiners (Board) because I would like to be part of the process by which quality dental care is delivered to the public. I have been fortunate in my career thus far and would like to give back to my profession and the public. I have been rather active in my local community including helping to maintain 24/7 coverage of the Emergency Department at Maui Memorial Medical Center along with my two fellow Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. It would be an honor to now take on a more challenging role at the State level.

My perception of the roles and responsibilities of the members of the Board is to use our experience and knowledge in making contributions to the Board's decisions. The Board plays an essential part in monitoring the current ADEX exam process and the members of the Board need to be able to evaluate this exam's effectiveness. The Board members should be able to examine the different aspects of the dental profession and help determine the safety parameters of different procedures. They also need to have an understanding of the ethical and legal ramifications of actions taken by a dentist for the purposes of disciplinary action.

Given the roles and responsibilities of the Board's members, I humbly believe that I am qualified not only by my academic history but also by my nearly 20 years in private practice. Being on the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery has encouraged me to keep up with the latest techniques and concepts in the profession.

What I hope to accomplish as a Board member is to use my knowledge and experience in helping the Board deal with whatever issues cross its path. I want to work as a team member in helping to make the Board an effective and respected part of the State's government.

I feel that I have many qualities that will be of a benefit to the Board. Among these is the ability to work well with others. Over the years I have been involved with many activities both in dentistry and outside the profession. I have taken on both leadership roles and committee roles and find it easy to work with my colleagues. I also have the ability to listen to the opinion of others. I find that this is a valuable quality and allows me to formulate a better understanding of a situation and eventually make better decisions. Finally, I try to make sure that the lines of communication are open when dealing with committees or groups of people. There is nothing more frustrating than miscommunication when trying to accomplish a task. Although these may be interpreted as general attributes of a person, I feel that simple concepts and characteristics are sometimes missing when dealing with more complex issues.

I recently was a delegate to the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery annual meeting. During that time we examined many issues facing our specialty and dentistry, and I hope to bring this knowledge to the Board for the purposes of improving patient safety and quality of care.

At this time I do not see any conflicts that could arise during my tenure on the Board.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your hard work and dedication for the State of Hawaii and for giving me the opportunity to answer some questions that will hopefully give you more insight regarding my confirmation. Thank you for considering my nomination.