

# GM 686

## Testimony –

# ALLEN HIXON

**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALLEN HIXON, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

**Report Title:** Hawaii Medical Education Council

**Current Referral:** HRE

GM 686

Senate Committee on Higher Education

April 15, 2014

Confirmation Hearing of Gubernatorial Nominee Allen L. Hixon, MD for membership on the Hawaii Medical Education Council term to expire 6/30/2017.

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Dear Chair Taniguchi and members on the committee,

I am writing with enthusiastic support for confirmation of Allen L. Hixon, MD to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

As a board certified Family Physician practicing in the state of Hawaii, as Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, and as a key leader in the Family Medicine Residency program at the University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine, Dr. Hixon understands firsthand the pressing challenges facing healthcare professionals in our community, now and into the future. He's focused his career on serving underserved communities and mentoring healthcare teams that care for them. He's intimately familiar with program graduate medical education requirements and deeply involved in primary care workforce development in the state of Hawaii.

Beyond the inspiring professional expertise and civic-mindedness abundant in Dr. Hixon's C.V., his warm, cordial, and tenacious style builds team collaboration most effectively and often proves to be that essential factor driving many successes.

Dr. Hixon's professional expertise and broad experiences in graduate medical education, residency financing, health workforce development, and community service prepare him well to make important contributions to Hawaii and the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

I'm confident you too will find him so very well suited to join the HMEC.

Mahalo,

John Baleix, MD, MPH  
Medical Director for Patient Centered Medical Home  
Hawaii Medical Service Association



*"Health care that is safe, health care that works, and health care that leaves no one behind"*

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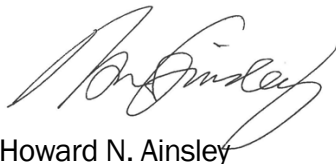
Dear Chair Taniguchi:

I am writing this letter of support for Allen L. ("Chip") Hixon, M.D., a board certified Family Medicine physician who is being considered for membership on the Hawaii Medical Education Council. Dr. Hixon has served in various leadership positions, most recently as a University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) professor and Department Chair for Family Medicine and Community Health.

He developed his relationship with the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation's East Hawaii Region through our partnership with JABSOM on graduate medical education, as well as his efforts involving primary care workforce development in underserved populations.

Dr. Hixon's experience in the health care field and previous involvement in the community allows him to offer a unique perspective that would serve the Hawaii Medical Education Council well. I recommend Dr. Allen L. ("Chip") Hixon as a member without reservation, and trust you will give him full consideration.

Sincerely,



Howard N. Ainsley  
HHSC East Hawai'i Region CEO

GM 686

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Dear Chair Taniguchi and members on the committee,

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Allen L. Hixon, MD to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

Dr. Hixon is a Board-certified Family Medicine Physician practicing in the state of Hawai'i.

He is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine. His career has focused on primary care workforce development with a particular emphasis on underserved populations. He has extensive experience with graduate medical education and primary care workforce development in the state of Hawaii.

I have worked with Dr. Hixon extensively in the area of graduate medical education and attest for his expertise and dedication to the current and future health care of the people of Hawai'i.

His background and expertise in health workforce development, graduate medical education, and residency financing prepare him to make important contributions to the HMEC in the future.

I trust you will give him you full consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew W. Nichols, M.D.  
Family Medicine and Sports Medicine Physician  
Honolulu, Hawai'i

**Testimony of**

**Allen L. Hixon, MD**

**to the**

**Senate Committee on Higher Education**

**on**

**April 15, 2014**

**GM 686**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Education Council,  
Gubernatorial Nominee Allen L. Hixon, MD, for a term to expire December 31, 2017.**

**Chair Taniguchi and members of the committee,**

**Thank you for this opportunity to be considered to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council. It is a time of great change for health care nationally and for the people of Hawaii. Thoughtful strategic planning is essential to ensure access to care for everyone and to be good stewards of state health care expenditures. In this testimony I will briefly describe my background, qualifications, and vision.**

**The focus of my career has been primary care workforce development with a specific emphasis on underserved populations. As a practicing Board Certified family physician I hold an unrestricted medical license in the State of Hawaii. I am privileged to care for individual patients and families across the lifespan in the hospital, outpatient clinic, nursing home and community. This practice includes maternity care, preventive, acute and chronic care of children and adults and care of the elderly.**

**In addition to direct patient care, I have spent over eight years as a residency program director becoming familiar with the national accreditation criteria of the Accreditation Council for Graduate medical Education (ACGME) as well as the complex specifics of graduate medical education (GME) hospital finance. I currently serve as the Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, John A. Burns School of Medicine. In this role I oversee medical student teaching as well as a residency program based at Wahiawa General Hospital that has trained over 100 family physicians in the last 20 years. The vast majority of these family physicians continue to practice in all corners of the state.**

**I have been privileged to work at the national level developing workforce policy for the American Academy of Family Physicians. This provided an opportunity to study geographic and specialty workforce trends and challenges. In Hawaii I have had the opportunity to work with the Hilo Medical Center and greater Hilo Community to initiate the first GME residency program on a neighbor island.**

**This included developing an interprofessional training model with nursing, pharmacy, and behavioral health.**

**My vision for the HMEC is to advance the “triple aim” of health care here in Hawaii. The triple aim calls for enhancing the patient health care experience while driving improved health outcomes and controlling costs. Specifically, my background would allow me to assist the HMEC in strategic decision making around GME expansion with the very important goal of ensuring access to care for all people of Hawaii.**

**Thank you for considering me for this opportunity to serve. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Allen L. Hixon, MD**