

GM549

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Acupuncture, Gubernatorial Nominee, JONI KROLL, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

Report Title: Board of Acupuncture

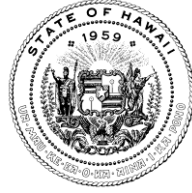
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR
JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2016
Tuesday, March 1, 2016
9:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 549**, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO **THE BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE**, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **JONI KROLL**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2019.

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

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 549, nominating Ms. Joni Kroll for membership on the Board of Acupuncture ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2019.

Ms. Kroll has practiced acupuncture since opening Kailua Acupuncture Clinic, LLC in 1989. She displayed a passion for the practice/treatment of acupuncture by

previously serving as an instructor at the College of Oriental Medicine and as a guest lecturer at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

In addition, the nominee is an Advisory Committee Member for the Board of Acupuncture, previously served as president of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and is an active member in other area related groups such as the American Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Ms. Kroll understands her responsibility to attend and prepare for the Board's periodic meetings.

Given Ms. Kroll's dedication and experience in acupuncture, the Department believes that she is in a good position to positively contribute to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of Ms. Kroll's nomination to the Board of Acupuncture.



QUEEN'S CANCER CENTER



THE QUEEN'S
MEDICAL CENTER

Senator Rosalyn Baker

Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawai'i State Legislature, 415 S Beretania St # 231, Honolulu, HI 96813

February 27, 2016

RE: Nomination of Joni Kroll D.Ac. to the Board of Acupuncture

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well and not too exhausted by the demands of the Legislative session!

I have been on the Board of Acupuncture since my appointment by Gov. Abercrombie in 2011 and I am excited to have Dr. Joni Kroll apply for the recently vacant acupuncturist opening. This is a critical and exciting time for our medicine. Its integration in hospitals like Cleveland Clinic, Massachusetts General, MD Anderson and, of course, our own Queen's Medical Center, make it truly important that we have practitioners who want to advance the science and professional standards of Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture.

Dr. Kroll has been licensed to practice acupuncture by the State of Hawaii since 1989, she has effectively treated thousands of patients. She is a leader in the Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture community: a frequent lecturer at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, past member of the Board of Acupuncture, past Chair of the Hawai'i Acupuncture Association and, if confirmed by your committee and the Senate, her interim status as Vice-Chair of the Board of Acupuncture would become permanent.

I have known Dr. Kroll since 2006 when, as a newcomer to the island, she welcomed me into the healthcare arena with true aloha. She shared her mana'o about important historical and cultural issues that helped me to quickly assimilate into the Hawai'i healthcare 'ohana.

In nearly ten years since then, we have crossed paths at legislative hearings, press events and continuing education workshops, where we even teamed together to learn "battlefield" acupuncture.

It is because she is such a consummate and akamai professional and showed such leadership that I encouraged her to join me on the Board of Acupuncture. While the great medical institutions on the mainland are leading the way in integrative medicine, it is a process that is not always easy. We need rational, intelligent practitioners like Joni to help lead our profession and to help ensure the highest standards of practice, safety and transparency in Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture.

I strongly recommend that the Committee approve the nomination of Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac., to join us on the Board of Acupuncture.

Respectfully yours,

Jayne Tsuchiyama, L.Ac.

Chairperson, Board of Acupuncture of Hawai'i
Acupuncturist, Queen's Medical Center



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February 26, 2016

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RE: Joni Kroll, Licensed Acupuncturist

To: Senator Roz Baker
Chair of Consumer Protection Committee

From: Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.
President/CEO
Institute of Clinical Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine

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Regina Taylor, J.D., Esq.

I am writing to express my strong support and recommendation for Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac. to serve on the Acupuncture Board. She has an extensive educational and professional background in acupuncture. Dr. Joni Kroll, has been in practice for over twenty years in Hawaii.

I have known her for over 20 years and finds that she has the necessary character, experience, and qualifications to serve on the Acupuncture Board. Dr. Joni Kroll have taught many continuing education classes and events to the acupuncture community. She is a practitioner in good standing. I highly recommend Dr. Joni Kroll to serve on your organization. Thank you for your consideration.

Administration

Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.
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Patricia Lai, MLS
Librarian

Allison Easton, B.A.
Administrative Assistant

Please feel free to contact me at (808) 521-2288 or email whlow@orientalmedicine.edu if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.
President/CEO



HOMAA.org

*hawai'i oriental medicine
& acupuncture association*

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February 26, 2016

TO: Senator Roz Baker,
Chair of Consumer Protection Committee.

RE: Dr. Joni Kroll
Senate Confirmation - Board of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee,

It is with great privilege that I write to you in recommendation of Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac. I have come to know Dr. Kroll through the Hawaii Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture Association's work on legislative issues. She is a licensed acupuncturist with over 20 years of experience and she acted as past President of HOMAA.

Dr. Kroll has proven herself as an intelligent, responsible individual. She is a wealth of knowledge about the history of acupuncture in Hawaii. During her continued work with the Association, she has always demonstrated patience, eloquence, and diplomacy when sharing her insightful ideas with the Board. We are blessed to have such a treasure in our community.

In summary, I highly recommend Dr. Joni Kroll for the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture position. Her rich experience in the field of acupuncture and her deep understanding of the history of acupuncture in Hawaii coupled with her fair-minded, intelligent, hardworking character would be a valuable asset to the Board.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 808-221-9814.

Sincerely,

Christina Kapothanasis, L.Ac., Dipl.O.M.
Executive Director
Hawaii Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture Association
info@homa.org

From: [Joni Kroll](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Board of Acupuncture Letter of Recommendation Joni Kroll
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 3:09:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kabba Anand** <kabba@hawaii.rr.com>
Date: Fri, Feb 26, 2016 at 1:29 PM
Subject: Re: Letter of Recommendation
To: Joni Kroll <acujoni@gmail.com>

February 26, 2016

Senator Roz Baker,
Chair of Consumer Protection Committee.

RE: Kroll, Joni
Senate Confirmation - Board of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Baker,

It is without hesitation that I stand beside and strongly recommend Joni Kroll as an experienced and highly qualified professional member for the Board of Acupuncture.

Not only has she been in private practice in Hawaii for many years, but she has served as past President of Hawaii Acupuncture Association. Ms. Kroll has repeatedly shown her devotion to both her profession, as well as to public safety and education. She is eloquent, intelligent, and hard-working. She works well as part of a team, and frankly, you are most fortunate that she is willing and able to serve the community at large in this way. We will all be better off for it.

Please contact me directly should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kabba Anand, D.Ac.
81 Makawao Ave., #112
Pukalani, HI 96768
[\(808\) 572-9862](tel:(808)572-9862)

Sent from my iSoul

GM 549 - Joni Kroll, Board of Acupuncture Nomination

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

It would be an honor to serve in a manner that allows me to use my nearly 3 decades of clinical experience and active involvement in the acupuncture profession in Hawaii in way that protects Hawaii citizens and helps navigate the integration of our ancient medicine into the Western health care system.

- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

Public safety and protection is the primary responsibility followed by keeping the State of Hawaii's laws and Rules and Regs instep with evolving professional standards.

- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

Review licensure applicants to assure they meet entry level standards for our profession. Use my 27 years in clinical practice to review and provide input on RICO complaints.

- (4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I completed my acupuncture training in Hawaii in the mid 1980's and have been blessed with a successful practice in Kailua for nearly 30 years. In addition to serving as the President of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association for several years, I also formed a nonprofit independent provider association that helped LAc's and insurance companies learn to work with each other in ways that benefited the consumer (developing standards for participation that included malpractice insurance, commercial office space, site inspections, etc.) I've also been legislative liaison which has given me insight and experience into the laws that govern health care practitioners. I have also taught courses on safety and ethics at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I've also learned to work well within the cultural diversity of our profession.

- (5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

Be an active part of the ongoing Rules and Regulations revision process which will bring our State up to date with current national professional standards.

- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

Experienced - I know the community of acupuncturists in Hawaii. I also know the issues facing our state and I keep up with national issues that may become local issues.

Efficient - I've been on enough boards to know that making good use of the limited time we have is important. I know how to listen to others and speak in a manner that moves the often slow process of democracy forward!

Discerning - I feel I am good at reading situations and people to understand their feelings and thoughts about issues as well as recognize when ulterior motives may be at play.

- (7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I have served as a member of RICO's advisory panel for acupuncture and have reviewed some very difficult complaints where I had to carefully weigh the patient's complaint with the practitioner's actions and determine if the actions fell outside our scope of practice. In one particular instance, my determination was that the practitioner had indeed acted in an unprofessional manner and outside the scope, resulting in harm to the patient which ultimately led to sanctions and loss of licensure to the practitioner.

- (8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

The only conflict of interest I can foresee would be in reviewing an applicant for licensure that had done part of their clinical internship with me. In such a case, I would recuse myself from voting.