

GM782

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Radiologic Technology Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, EDWIN MURANAKA, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

Report Title: Radiologic Technology Board

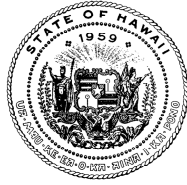
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY**

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM 781, GM 782
Consideration and Confirmation to the Radiologic Technology Board Gubernatorial
Nominee, Gary Ropert and Edwin Muranaka, M.D. for terms to Expire on 06-30-19
(Ropert) and 06-30-18 (Muranaka)

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: 4/13/16 Room Number: 229
Time: 9:30 am

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Governor's message requests confirmation of Gary Ropert and
3 Edwin Muranaka, M.D. for appointment to the Radiologic Technology Board.

4 Mr. Ropert has been a productive resource for the Radiologic Technology Board on
5 which he had served previously. He has worked in the nuclear medicine and radiologic
6 technology field since 1982, and is currently employed at The Queen's Medical Center - West as
7 the Imaging Manager. Additionally, Mr. Ropert has extensive training and knowledge in the
8 areas of medical imaging computers and healthcare information systems, computed tomography
9 and general radiography. His experience in nuclear medicine and management are valuable to
10 the board, and his re-appointment will be a positive benefit to the board's effectiveness.

11 Edwin Muranaka, M.D., is a Radiologist and managing partner of Yeoh & Muranaka,
12 MD's Inc., an outpatient radiology imaging service on Oahu. Their offices are partners with the
13 Kapiolani Community College Radiology Technologist training program and participate in the

1 clinical training of their students. Dr. Muranaka is a graduate of the University of Hawaii, with a
2 Doctor of Medicine Degree from the John A. Burns School of Medicine. He is a board certified
3 radiologist and a member of various professional organizations. Dr. Muranaka had been
4 practicing as a radiologist since 1986. His appointment will be a positive benefit to the board's
5 effectiveness.

6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



ALOHA PACIFIC
MOBILE IMAGING

Jason I. Kim
Aloha Pacific Mobile Imaging
1010 S. King Street, B6
Honolulu, HI 96814
April 9, 2016

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce & Consumer Protection, Health Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker,

It is my pleasure and honor to support Edwin Muranaka MD for appointment onto the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board.

I had the privilege to work as a radiologic technologist for Dr Muranaka for over six years. During that time, I learned to respect him for the passion he has for his work and his ability to lead the company and its employees. Dr Muranaka was always the first person in the door in the morning and the last one out the door at night. He is unsurpassed in his knowledge of radiology gained from his many years of experience and at the same time stays on top of the latest technology and techniques.

Dr Muranaka showed me the importance of having compassion and empathy for the patients in the workplace. No matter what kind of issues there might be for a patient's exam, in the end what mattered the most to him was that they were given the proper care. An example of Dr Muranaka's compassion and being up with the latest technology was his implementation of low dose CT protocols. Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology Services, with Dr Muranaka's lead, was one of the first facilities in the state to set up their CT machines to try and lessen the radiation dose while still producing diagnostic images.

I cannot think of a more ethical person than Dr Muranaka. So much so that when I question what is the right thing to do in certain situations, I ask myself, "What would Dr Muranaka do? "

Dr Muranaka also has a great business sense. This is evident in the growth of HDRS since he has led the company.

I left HDRS four years ago to start my own mobile radiology business. I can honestly say that I would not be where I am today if it wasn't for Dr Muranaka leadership and teachings. He has continued to be a mentor, someone who I can always go to for advice and guidance.

April 9, 2016

Page 2

This is why Edwin Muranaka MD is so respected in the healthcare and radiology industry and why there is not anyone more deserving of a position on the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason I. Kim". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jason I. Kim

President



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MOBILE IMAGING

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Aloha Pacific Mobile Imaging
1010 S. King Street, B6
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April 9, 2016

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Chair, Commerce & Consumer Protection, Health Committee
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Sincerely,

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Jason I. Kim

President

P.O. Box 25763
Honolulu HI 96825
April 10, 2016

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230

re: GM782 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Radiologic
Technology Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, EDWIN MURANAKA, for a term to expire
06-30-2018

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Dr. Edwin Muranaka to the Radiologic Technology Board. I have known and worked with Dr. Muranaka for over 20 years. I have always been impressed with his clinical knowledge and compassion. One of his concerns has consistently been the correct technical performance of radiological, ultrasound, computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance (MRI) examinations by the technologists under his supervision. If you can't see it on images, you cannot come to the correct diagnosis. He has welcomed radiologic technologist students from the radiologic technology program at Kapiolani Community College to come to our practice for their practical education. He provides feedback to both licensed technologists and to students. Dr. Muranaka continues to keep up with advancements in the state of the art in radiology in technology, equipment and techniques.

In summary, Dr. Muranaka will serve the people of Hawaii well as a member of the Radiologic Technology Board.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Y. Sue, MD

submitted via email and via the State Legislature testimony submission website

To Whom It May Concern:

Growing up in Honolulu, but doing all of my post highschool education on the mainland, I returned to Honolulu in 1995 to work with Dr. Edwin Muranaka in a private practice radiology business, then known as Yeoh and Muranaka, now known as Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology. We have been in practice together for the past 21 years, and during this time we have had two radiologists retire, and have recruited three more radiologists. Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology currently has five radiologists with three honolulu locations, providing X-ray, Fluoroscopy, Mammography, Bone Densitometry, Ultrasound, CT, and MRI imaging modalities. I have known Dr. Muranaka for almost 40 years, since the time he was still in medical school at the John A Burns School of Medicine. I feel well qualified to speak of his character and his long history of excellence in medicine, and in radiology, in particular.

I have always been impressed by Dr. Muranaka's unrelenting pursuit for perfection and quality control. Our radiology group was the first in Honolulu to convert to direct digital x-rays and digital ultrasound, but before this transition, he tirelessly reviewed the daily count of each technologist's X-ray exams, and the number of X-ray films each technologist used, and discarded, with the intent to instruct the technologists on bettering their techniques, to acquire the most diagnostic images possible, with the least radiation exposure. He frequently spent time with the technologists critiquing their positioning and their X-ray exposure techniques. We continue these efforts now in the digital X-ray era. In fact, at Dr. Muranaka's urgency, a few years ago we recruited a QA chief technologist who took over this mandate with zeal, to maintain continuous quality improvement, and expanding this type of quality control to the other modalities as well.

Dr. Muranaka is well trained and has continued to learn over the many years of his practice. He appreciates others' expert opinions, but most reveres peer reviewed journal references, preferably with evidence based conclusions. Often, when I ask his opinion on difficult cases, he not only offers his thoughts, but refers me to specific reference articles to support his assessments. He maintains active membership in many radiologic societies to stay abreast of new medical discovery and developing technology. He is not only board certified in radiology, but also in internal medicine and critical care medicine, that which he was trained in before he pursued radiology.

Dr. Muranaka has become our permanent managing partner. Previously rotating this responsibility amongst the radiologist partners, we found that he is, by far, the most effective; he has a strong grasp on the business of radiology, in particular, the financial, contractual, and managerial aspects.

Dr. Muranaka gets along well with everybody, his peers, the staff, patients, and referring physicians. He is always courteous and professional, in conduct, and appearance. He still opts to wear shirt and tie, instead of Aloha attire, that which I immediately reverted to when I returned to Hawaii.

I have no reservations in recommending Dr. Muranaka as a member of the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board. I'm sure he will be a valuable contributor. Feel free to contact me to discuss further his many attributes.

Jeffrey Yeoh
President
Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology
808-949-0091

April 08, 2016

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Eight State Legislature
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I am the current Chair of the Radiologic Technology Board and the Chief Technologist at Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology Services (HDRS), where Dr. Edwin Muranaka is a radiologist and part-owner. I have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Muranaka since 1995. I have always found Dr. Muranaka to be a great source of information, and he has consistently been a patient and gracious mentor to me. He holds high ethical standards for himself as well as those around him, and practices radiology with the best interest of his patients in mind. Dr. Muranaka is knowledgeable of current radiology practices, and encourages his staff technologists to stay current in their respective imaging modalities in order to provide excellent care for each patient who goes to HDRS for imaging.

Dr. Muranaka supports the education of radiologic technologists in the state of Hawaii, and was a key factor in creating an opportunity for students from the Radiologic Technology Program at Kapiolani Community College to rotate through HDRS. HDRS has both first- and second-year students rotating through its Ala Moana location, providing the opportunity to practice or observe imaging in an out-patient setting in the areas of general x-ray, bone densitometry, CT, MRI, and ultrasound.

Dr. Muranaka's numerous years of experience as a radiologist from a private imaging facility setting will provide the Board with a new perspective, complementing those of its current membership of technologists practicing in a variety of imaging areas. I believe Dr. Muranaka will bring valuable knowledge and experience to the Board and strengthen its effectiveness. I humbly ask for your support in confirming Dr. Edwin Muranaka to the Radiologic Technology Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jodi Ann T. Nakaoka", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jodi Ann T. Nakaoka, MEd, R.T.(R)(M)
Chief Technologist
Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology Services
1481 S. King Street, #202
Honolulu, HI 96814
(808) 792-3713
jnakaoka@hawaiiids.com

Marshall M. Miyoshi
1481 South King Stree, Suite 210
Honolulu, HI 96814

April 10, 2016

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair of the Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St# 231
Honolulu, HI 96813
senbaker@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Baker,

This is a letter of recommendation for Dr. Edwin Muranaka, for a position as a member of the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board. I am the COO at Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology Services and have been working in the field both as a radiologic technologist and administrator since 2002. I have had the privilege of working for and with Dr. Muranaka for the past 15 years and have gotten to see him in many different roles such as administrator, mentor, leader and student. During this time, I have witnessed him handle numerous situations in which he does so decisively, ethically and fairly.

Dr. Muranaka is a board certified radiologist, born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, who has been practicing radiology in the state of Hawaii since 1987. He is well attuned to the healthcare environment and needs of our state. He will be able to share knowledge and help guide decisions with his vast experience in the field.

He brings with him a high level of critical thinking, ability to communicate analysis clearly, and impeccable morals. He is dependable, compassionate, and follows through on commitments.

His dedication is apparent as he shares with his peers, staff and physicians in the community, new information and upcoming changes with the healthcare and radiologic field. He is able to navigate through information and ask pertinent questions to make good decisions as demonstrated by bringing in a Low dose CT scanner to Hawaii.

We are fortunate that we have someone with these attributes and knowledge within the field, willing to give time to serve on this important board. I believe he would be a valuable addition to the board and I strongly recommend you to approve his appointment to the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board.

Please feel free to contact me at 808-792-7897 if you need any additional information or clarification.

Sincerely,



Marshall M. Miyoshi
Chief Operating officer
Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology Services
Phone: 808-792-7897
mmiyoshi@hawaiidrs.com

April 8, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation in support of Dr. Edwin Muranaka for appointment to the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board. I have personally known Dr. Muranaka for 4 years and have no doubt that he will be a tremendous asset to the organization.

Dr. Muranaka is a skilled radiologist with a breadth of experience. He is not only skilled diagnostically, but also has a detailed knowledge of radiologic procedures and exam techniques that is well above that of the average radiologist. Dr. Muranaka works closely with the staff at Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology to ensure that the highest standards are met in terms of image quality, radiation safety, and patient satisfaction. His supervision is welcomed by the x-ray, MRI, and ultrasound technologists who see the example set forth and push themselves to perform the highest quality work.

As the managing partner of an organization with greater than 100 employees, Dr. Muranaka is equally proficient at motivating and communicating with the staff. He has strong personal relationships with each of his employees and they look to him for advice and guidance at every turn. He has an easy-going attitude and is highly personable, but with the fair expectation that his employees perform their duties at the highest level. Dr. Muranaka is highly respected and exemplifies the professionalism and team work that all of his employees emulate.

In addition to his strong interpersonal skills, Dr. Muranaka is remarkably adept at the day to day business dealings of the company. He has a tremendous knowledge base as it pertains to contracts, business leases, and equipment procurement. He draws on a wealth of experience to make careful and practical business decisions that have guided the company to its current level of success.

In summary, I cannot think of a more qualified individual to serve on the Hawaii Radiologic Technology Board than Dr. Edwin Muranaka. I am confident he will make the organization proud. Please let me know if there are any further questions or if there is anything I can do to help with the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shephard S. Kosut MD', with a stylized 'MD' at the end.

Shephard S. Kosut MD

227 Kahako St

Kailua HI 96734

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

I have been made aware that there is currently a need for representation by radiologists on the Radiologic Technology Board. I believe I can fulfill that vacancy responsibly and contribute to the discussions and decisions through my experience and training as a diagnostic radiologist.

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

It is my understanding that the Radiologic Technology Board oversees the regulations regarding the licensing of radiologic technologists. The members reviews and update these rules and regulations.

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

Diagnostic radiology examinations and nuclear medicine examinations involve patient exposure to measurable doses of radiation. The training of the personnel involved in these examinations is critical to meeting the standards of ALARA, "as low as reasonably achievable". Determining the credentialing and regulation of licensing of technologists therefore is essential. I believe my training will allow me to contribute to the discussions and determinations of the Radiologic Board in these matters.

- (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 have practiced diagnostic radiology in Hawaii for nearly 30 years. Through that time, I have worked with and interacted with technologists trained locally at Kapiolani Community College and mainland institutions. For the past several years, our outpatient office facilities have participated in the training of local technologists from KCC. In the past, I have been approached by the Noise, Radiation, and Indoor Air Quality Branch of the Department of Health to review rules and regulations concerning the licensing of radiologic technologists. I am a board certified radiologist partner in one of the largest dedicated outpatient diagnostic imaging company in Hawaii that has been operating since 1968. As managing partner I help to oversee almost a hundred employees, the majority of whom are technologists.

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

I hope to contribute through my knowledge and experience as much as possible.

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

Fair minded, responsible, and reasonably intelligent. I believe I can be fair in determining the licensing criteria that will be achievable and yet safeguard our patients. I will accept my responsibilities on the Board seriously and contribute to the best of my abilities. I can evaluate radiology issues effectively and efficiently.

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

I have hired more than a hundred radiology technologists, supervised most, fired a few. I know what makes a good technologist and a great technologist.

- (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?

I foresee no conflicts of interest.