

GM813

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Advisory Commission On Drug Abuse, gubernatorial nominee, JAMI KNOX, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

Report Title: Hawai'i Advisory Commission On Drug Abuse

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
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Testimony SUPPORTING GM813
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawaii Advisory Council on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances, Gubernatorial Nominee, JAMI KNOX, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: April 13, 2016, 9:30 a.m. Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the nomination and confirmation
3 of Jami Knox, MD to the Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled
4 Substances (HACDACS) for a term to expire 6/30/2018.

5 HACDACS appointees represent a cross-section of the community, including, but not
6 limited to pharmacological, medical, community and business affairs, youth action, educational,
7 legal defense, enforcement and corrections segments of the community, pursuant to Chapter 329-
8 2 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

9 Jami Knox is the owner of Aloha Pediatrics, LLC, which provides a full spectrum of
10 inpatient and outpatient pediatric care. Dr. Knox earned her Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) from
11 Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. She is a board certified physician in
12 Pediatrics and practices addiction medicine with patients of all ages. Dr. Knox has lived and
13 practiced on Kauai since 2009 and is committed to staying on the island and working toward
14 improving the health and well-being of all residents. The appointment of Dr. Knox will ensure

1 representation of the Island of Kauai as well as the medical segment in Commission
2 deliberations.

3 We respectfully request your expeditious and favorable consideration for the nomination
4 of Jami Knox to serve on HACDACS.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of a volunteer whose
6 appointment adds to the cross-section of community interests represented on the Commission.

7 **Offered Amendments:** None.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: peaceful.healing2@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM813 on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM
Date: Saturday, April 09, 2016 1:58:56 PM

GM813

Submitted on: 4/9/2016

Testimony for CPH on Apr 13, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virginia Beck, NP, CTP	Women's Health & Wellness, Inc	Support	No

Comments: April 9, 2016 Senate Advisory Commission. GM813 Re: Jami Knox, MD, Hawai'i Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances. To whom it may concern: Jami Knox, MD, is a pediatrician with whom I worked closely for many years, before she opened her own practice. She is extremely well educated, informed and knowledgeable regarding drugs and substance abuse, as she has a Suboxone license. She has always assisted any patient or individual who was struggling with addiction and inappropriate use of medications and substances. As a physician she was rigorous in managing her patients, and as a member of the community she has spent many hours in volunteer services to the community that works with substance issues. Always willing to extend herself to help others, she has assisted my patients with difficulties, and has helped me research medications and options for them. She is very organized and efficient and would be an asset to any committee on strategic planning. I whole heartedly recommend her for this Commission Sincerely yours, Virginia Beck, WHCNP-BC,CTP

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: [Gerald McKenna](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: HAVDACS Commission
Date: Friday, April 08, 2016 6:39:33 PM

I am writing to recommend Jamie Knox, MD, for appointment to the HAVDACS Commission.

I have known Dr Knox for the past 10 years. She is an excellent paediatrician and very knowledgeable in the field of addiction medicine.

She is currently a certified provider of Suboxone and does everything possible to help individuals with substance use disorders.

Dr Knox works well with others and I believe she would be an outstanding contributor to this commission.

Her particular interest and expertise in both paediatrics and adolescent medicine further qualifies her for appointment to this commission.

Substance use disorders are serious and potentially life-threatening medical disorders and are significant cost drivers in both adolescent and adult medicine.

I applaud the commission for its excellent work and believe that Dr Jamie Knox will be an outstanding member to that body.

Sincerely,
Gerald McKenna MD
DFASAM, DLFAPA
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry
John A Burns School of Medicine

Sent from my iPhone

Dr. Graham Chelius MD
PO Box 414 Waimea HI 96796
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State of Hawaii Boards and Commissions,

It is with great enthusiasm that I am writing this letter of Recommendation for Dr. Jami Knox for the HACDACS board. She has been a personal colleague, and friend and I know her to be an advocate for those who suffer with chemical dependency. She has pursued her interest in substance abuse as a professional, and has additional qualifications and education beyond what most MDs have regarding chemical dependency and substance abuse. She is a skilled communicator, is actively in practice, is invested in the community, and has many connections, both professional and personal, which will allow her to perform well on the board.

She is very familiar with health insurance issues, and small business ownership, and so is able to bring a broad set of skills, and base of knowledge to the board.

I personally recommended her to the DOH ADAD personnel and continue to believe that she is an ideal candidate. Please accept my highest recommendation for Dr. Knox.

Graham Chelius MD

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?
I would like to be a member of the Board to contribute my knowledge and somewhat unique perspective as a pediatrician and addiction medicine provider on the Island of Kauai. I would like to be able to contribute to improving the serious addiction problem and lack of resources that exist here on Kauai.
- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?
I believe the roles and responsibilities of the members of the board are to evaluate and integrate information that we are given regarding substance abuse and addiction in Hawaii and to present opinions and recommendations to the governor.
- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?
I believe that in finding ways to improve the substance abuse problem in Hawaii we would be helping protect consumers not only from a safety perspective but also from a financial perspective. I believe that an improvement in the substance abuse and addiction problem in Hawaii would improve the quality of life for all of its residents.
- (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 am qualified for this position because I face issues regarding substance abuse and addiction on a daily basis in my practice as a pediatrician because of the effects of drug abuse and addiction on many of the children in my practice. Additionally, I have a small addiction medicine practice to provide medication-assisted treatment to those wishing to be free of opiate addictions.

I have been a pediatrician for 16 years and in that time I have had several opportunities to observe the effects of drug and alcohol addiction on families . Shortly after moving to Kauai, The size of the drug addiction problem it became very apparent to me and I knew that I wanted to help in some way. I was encouraged by colleagues to consider obtaining a suboxone license in order to contribute to decreasing the opioid addiction problem on our island.

I believe that my knowledge in both of these areas can bring a unique perspective to the Board.

- (5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?
I hope to accomplish improving support for a treatment facility on the island of Kauai and to help this become a reality. I would also like to find a way to improve access of care to those requiring mental health and substance abuse care, as this is a huge problem on Kauai.
- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.
Three qualities that best describe me are honest compassionate and tenacious. In being honest I will share what my true feelings and opinions are with the Board, which hopefully will be helpful in coming to consensus opinion. In being compassionate I truly understand and feel the difficulties that members of our community have with this very taboo issue about which we must speak very frankly and openly. In being tenacious if I have a goal and a job to do I will not stop until it is done. I believe all of these qualities will benefit the Board.
- (7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.
I was the pediatric department chair and perinatal co-chair for approximately 3 years at KVMH. I believe this position gave me a lot of experience in leadership, in being a team player and in helping to organize the team. I believe this experience will benefit me as a Board member.
- (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 do not foresee any conflicts of interest which may arise during my service on the board however I understand that we are unable to see the future. If I felt that I had a conflict of interest I would make every effort to wait each issue and determine a best course of action.