

GM 572

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board Of Pharmacy, Gubernatorial Nominee, KERRI OKAMURA, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Board Of Pharmacy

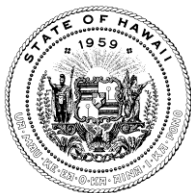
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



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

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

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2017

Friday, March 24, 2017
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 572.

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

My name is Lee Ann Teshima and I am the Executive Officer for the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 572, regarding the **appointment** of Kerri Okamura to the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Okamura's appointment to the Board.

Ms. Okamura has served on the Board as an interim appointee since July 1, 2016 and is being appointed as an industry member representing Hawaii island. She has been a licensed registered pharmacist since August 1995 and her license is current, active, and in good standing.

Ms. Okamura was appointed to serve her first term on the Board starting July 2013 and has attended 36 of 38 meetings since her appointment. She also serves as the current Chair of the Board.

She is prepared for the meetings and is able to facilitate discussions among the Board members who recognize her ability to lead the Board in discussions involving local and national issues. Ms. Okamura also represents the Board as an item writer for the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination, the only nationally recognized pharmacist licensure exam, and Hawaii's Multistate Jurisprudence Examination, both under the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

The Department believes that Ms. Okamura's interest and willingness to continue serving on the Board and her desire to contribute to the community will continue to enhance the effectiveness of the Board.

Therefore, the Department supports the confirmation of Kerri Okamura to the Board of Pharmacy and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:56 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: rontthi@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM572 on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM*

GM572

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for CPH on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Board of Pharmacy – State of Hawaii

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter of recommendation for Kerri Okamura to a position on the Board of Pharmacy for the State of Hawaii.

I have worked with Kerri Okamura, R.Ph., Director of Pharmacy Operations for KTA Super Stores since 2015. Kerri is a well-respected and involved customer of AmerisourceBergen and has been for many years. Her respect has garnered a standing position on our Elevate Provider Network Advisory Board and on an associated buying group advisory board for the Western States Pharmacy Coalition. On a local level here in Hawaii, she actively holds a seat on the Board of Pharmacy, is a past Board of Director with the Hawaii Pharmacists Assoc, and currently still holds a seat with the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at Hilo's Dean's Advisory Council.

Aside from all of the board positions and advisory positions held, Kerri can be found engaging and sharing openly with local community pharmacy managers to discuss best practices, community support ideas, and success stories. She involves her pharmacies with community outreach for health and wellness. AmerisourceBergen has awarded her KTA Puainako Pharmacy for raising awareness and the top award for fund raising for the Alzheimer's Association. Kerri is active, involved, concerned, and committed to care and safety in her pharmacy services for the people in Hawaii.

For all of the above reasons, and because I am sure she is and would continue to be an asset to the Board of Pharmacy, I highly recommend Kerri Okamura!

If any questions arise, please do not hesitate to call me at the number below.

Aloha,

Kerry Lum
Sales Executive- Community & Specialty Pharmacy
Cell: (808) 763-7783
Email: klum@AmerisourceBergen.com



3/11/17

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write in support of Kerri Okamura who is applying to serve another term as a neighbor island member of the Board of Pharmacy. I have known Kerri for over 20 years and she is involved in our local community, her church, and her children's school. Kerri has shown a very high commitment to our community and is an active participant in many community endeavors.

In all aspects of her work, Kerri has demonstrated remarkable leadership and organizational abilities. Her duties included both managing one Pharmacy and a chain of Pharmacies within our company. Kerri is very dedicated to the community she serves. Her cheerful attitude, dedication, and desire to serve our customers and community is impressive.

Kerri is highly committed to the Pharmacy field and is committed to providing our community a safe, professional, and caring environment to fulfil their healthcare needs. Kerri has established very high standards at KTA and has very high expectations of the performance of our Pharmacy team.

Kerri is unquestionably an exceptional person and I would therefore highly endorse Kerri Okamura as a member of the Board of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,


Richard K. Chinen Jr.

Vice President of Store Operations

KTA Super Stores

50 E. Puainako St,

Hilo, HI 96720

GM572

Kerri Okamura: Board of Pharmacy

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

I would like to continue serving on the Board of Pharmacy for another term. During my first term, I learned a great deal about the laws and rules of the practice of pharmacy. There were also a tremendous amount to learn about the process of interpreting the laws and rules as well as the work involved in making changes. I would like to continue another term so that I can continue to work on updating the rules so they are clear, concise and up-to-date with the changing practice of pharmacy.

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

As a member of the Board of Pharmacy, the most important responsibility I have is to protect the public. Whenever there is discussion on a regulation or application, we must always remember that public safety and protection are our first priority.

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

I feel I can help protect the consumer by always reminding myself about my role as a member of the Board. When discussing whether or not to support proposed legislation or changes to rules, I think I have the values to make the sound decisions and recommendations.

(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 believe I am qualified to serve on the Board of Pharmacy because of my experiences through work and involvement with professional organizations. As the Director of Pharmacy for KTA, I am responsible for the operations of the pharmacy and ensuring our pharmacies and pharmacist are in compliance with laws and rules at all levels. Part of being an effective Board member is understanding the profession and where the profession is headed as well as all of the laws and rules that regulate the practice and business. These are my main responsibilities at work and although I continue to learn, I also think I have the knowledge needed to be an effective and productive member.

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

One of the things I would like to work on during my term is to clarify collaborative practice referred to in HRS Ch. 461. There are often questions as to

what is permissible and what is required in a collaborative practice agreement. It is unclear and because the rules are not clear and it creates confusion. Another thing I believe is extremely important is physical inspection of pharmacies. It seems as though Hawaii is the only state without inspectors. I believe it is extremely important for public safety.

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

The three qualities that describe me are: amiable, respectful and driven. I think these qualities help me understand the views of others. I believe it is important to prepare for meetings and take a lot of time making sure that I understand the laws and rules and possible applications of them. These characteristics also allow me to voice my opinion in a professional manner.

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

In December 2016, I had the opportunity to take part in the NABP member forum. During this day and a half conference, I learned a lot about the laws and rules of other states, problems they might have experienced with the changing practice and progress they are making. It was an experience which made me realize that we are both behind and ahead of pharmacy practice when compared with many states. The conference provided a lot of ideas and insights as to what we need to do to advance the practice of pharmacy while keeping our community safe

(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 is with my role as the Director of Pharmacy at KTA. However, I think I can change hats easily and I think many times, my role at KTA is similar to the role I have at the Board ... to practice legally and safely while providing outstanding patient care.