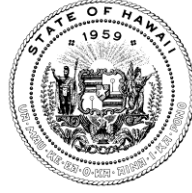


GM718

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Medical Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW FONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Report Title: Hawai'i Medical Board

Current Referral: CPH



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Friday, April 12, 2019
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 718, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANDREW FONG,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2023**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the confirmation of Dr. Andrew Fong's appointment to the Hawaii Medical Board (Board) as a licensee member.

Dr. Fong has over 15 years of experience as a pediatrician. His extensive work experience stretches from California to Kaiser Moanalua on Oahu and Kona Community Hospital on Hawaii Island. Dr. Fong's experience on both the mainland and Hawaii Island will bring a thoughtful perspective to the Board.

The Department believes that Dr. Fong's interest in serving on the Board, commitment to actively participate in board meetings, and knowledge of and experience in the profession will enhance the Board's effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

April 9, 2019

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: GM 718 – For consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW FONG, MD, for a term to expire 6-30-2023**

Dear Honorable Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

Please accept this letter in support of Andrew R. Fong, MD – who has been nominated to serve
on the Hawaii Medical Board (expiring 06/30/2023). Dr. Fong is a pediatrician at the Kaiser
Permanente Kona Medical Office and is also the Physician-in-Charge for Kaiser Permanente’s
clinics on Hawaii Island. Dr. Fong went to medical school at the University of Hawaii, John A.
Burns School of Medicine and trained at Kaiser Permanente Oakland Medical Center. He’s
board certified in pediatrics by the American Board of Pediatrics.

I’ve known Dr. Fong for nearly two decades in my time at Hawaii Permanente Medical Group
(HPMG), including my current role as President and Executive Medical Director. Dr. Fong has
been with HPMG since 1998 and has remained a longtime fixture among our leadership for
Hawaii Island – demonstrating an unceasing commitment to high-quality patient- and family-
centered care and exceptional service.

Dr. Fong’s philosophy of care emphasizes prevention and partnership. He’s an excellent listener
and explainer – traits that are particularly important for a pediatrician caring for sick children and
their worried family members. He’s a critical member of our primary care leadership team,
influencing continuous improvement initiatives that make us better as an organization in caring
for our members, patients, and their families.

Practicing medicine on Hawaii Island is complex due to the size of the island and volume of its rural districts. There's also the challenge of recruiting skilled physicians and providers to the island. There are few leaders I trust in taking on this important work, and I must commend Dr. Fong for his compassion, advocacy, and collaboration in serving this community for so many years.

Finally, Dr. Fong has also delivered on our mission to improve the health of Hawaii Island through community service. He's a leader for our Annual Day of Service activities at Pu'u Wa'awa'a Forest Reserve, where physicians, providers, and staff who work at Kaiser Permanente clinics on Hawaii Island – along with their families, have spent the last four years restoring native dryland plants to promote cultural health.

Committed to compassion, innovation, and excellence, Dr. Fong is a dedicated physician leader on Hawaii Island. He's highly regarded by his colleagues and is discerning and astute in reviewing the qualifications of emerging physicians and providers. I believe he's exceptionally qualified to serve on the Hawaii Medical Board.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Sewell, MD, FACP
President & Executive Medical Director
Hawaii Permanente Medical Group

Hearing: April 12, 2019, 9:30 a.m., Conference Room 229

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawai‘i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai‘i, 96813

RE: In **SUPPORT** of GM 718 – For consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW FONG, MD, for a term to expire 6-30-2023

Aloha e Senator Baker,

It is with pleasure that I recommend Dr. Andrew R. Fong for an appointment to the Hawai‘i Medical Board. Dr. Fong has been a pediatrician with Hawai‘i Permanente Medical Group since 1998 and currently serves as Kaiser Permanente’s physician-in-charge of Hawai‘i Island.

In his role as physician-in-charge of Hawai‘i Island, Dr. Fong oversees clinical operations at Kaiser Permanente’s Hilo, Waimea, Kona clinics. In this role, he has helped to create patient-centered care experiences for our approximately 30,600 members on Hawai‘i Island.

Prior to joining Kaiser Permanente in 1998, Dr. Fong served as a staff pediatrician at Coastal Pediatrics in Ventura and Oxnard, California. He is a proud graduate of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai‘i and completed his residency with Kaiser Permanente’s Oakland Medical Center. Born and raised on Oahu, Dr. Fong now resides with his ‘ohana on Hawai‘i Island.

Dr. Fong’s experience from a variety of health care settings, including those in rural areas, will help to inform his decisions and recommendations as member of the Hawai‘i Medical Board. He is incredibly knowledgeable and capable of understanding the larger issues facing the medical practice. Dr. Fong is a well-liked and trusted colleague who is frequently sought out for his advice. Therefore, we believe he will be an asset to the Hawai‘i Medical Board.

Accordingly, on behalf of Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i, I urge the committee and the Senate to confirm the appointment of Dr. Andrew R. Fong for the Hawai‘i Medical Board.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jonathan L. Ching
Government Relations Specialist

Lynda C. Corotan
68-3593 Malina Street
Waikoloa, HI 96738

April 3, 2019

Hawaii State Medical Board
335 Merchant Street, Suite 3
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

This letter is in support of Dr. Andrew "Rick" Fong's application for the Hawaii State Medical Board.

I first met Dr. Fong in February 2004 when I began my employment with Kaiser Permanente at the Kona Clinic. During the first 12 years I worked as an administrative support staff alongside Dr. Fong on variety of clinic projects. Dr. Fong has always been supportive, professional and engaging. In the past 3 years I have worked with him in the capacity as a physician recruiter for the Big Island. I greatly value his knowledge, input, and insight.

I highly support his selection for the board.

lynda.c.
corotan@kp.org



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Lynda C. Corotan

Sara Kobayashi
68-3483 Kupunakane Pl.
Waikoloa, HI 96738
(808) 333-8509

Hawaii State Medical Board
c/o Senator Rosalyn Baker
State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 3, 2019

Dear Senator Baker,

I have known Dr. Andrew R. Fong for 20 years as a patient and in a professional capacity for the past ten years.

Dr. Fong has been my children's pediatrician for 16 years and has always been warm and caring. We've had a few serious medical conditions and he has dealt with them promptly and competently. In my profession as an administrative assistant, I serve as support for his role as clinic chief. The professional growth I've gained from collaborating with him is invaluable.

I support his appointment to the Hawaii State Medical Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sara Kobayashi', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sara Kobayashi

Daryl H Kurozawa, MD, FACS
Associate Medical Director
Sales and Marketing, Service Delivery Planning
& Community Relations
Hawaii Permanente Medical Group
74-517 Honokohau Street
Kailua Kona, Hawaii 96740

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Nomination to the Hawaii Medical Board, Big Island Representative
Andrew R. Fong, MD

Dear Senator Baker:

This letter is written in support of the nomination of Dr. Andrew R. Fong to the Hawaii Medical Board as the Hawai'i Island representative.

I have known and worked with Dr. Fong since his arrival in Kona 21 years ago. I have had the opportunity to work with Dr. Fong in co-managing many of his pediatric patients. From this work it was clear that Dr. Fong is an excellent clinician with very sound medical knowledge and judgment.

16 years ago I moved to work with the Hawaii Permanente Medical Group and have since had the pleasure of working with Dr. Fong at Kaiser Permanente. Dr. Fong has a leadership role as the Physician in Charge, overseeing the clinical operations for Hawai'i Island. In this role, Dr. Fong has proven to be a great leader who is very well respected by the physicians both in the Medical Group and in the Community. His experience from his years of leading clinical care and medical providers would be an asset to the Hawai'i Medical Board.

I would strongly support Dr. Fong's nomination to the Hawaii Medical Board.

Respectfully Submitted,



Daryl H Kurozawa, MD
Associate Medical Director
Hawaii Permanente Medical Group