



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

By

Jerris R. Hedges, MD, Dean
Lee Ellen Buenconsejo-Lum, MD, FAAFP
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & DIO
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

GM 620 – Submitting For Consideration And Confirmation To The Hawai'i Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA RANTZ, For A Term To Expire 06-30-2025

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of GM 620 and the nomination of Lisa Rantz to serve on the Hawai'i Medical Education Council (Council) as a member of the general public as required by statute.

Lisa is the Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation and serves as President for the Hawai'i State Rural Health Association. She offers over twelve years of high-level directing experience overseeing various non-profit educational entities, including partnering with the Hawai'i Community College and the Hilo-Waiākea Complex. Lisa has successfully obtained and managed over \$5 million in grants focusing support on education for low socioeconomic students and their families in rural Hawai'i.

Lisa's contributions working with local communities, advocating for medical education and her dedication to the enhancement of healthcare throughout the State of Hawai'i continues to make her a valuable asset for the Council. Her direct experiences will help to ensure our neighbor island medical education needs are being met to help the people of Hawai'i.

We stand in strong support of Lisa's nomination and urge this Committee to confirm her appointment to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 1:04:26 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elena Cabatu	Testifying for East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation	Support	No

Comments:

The East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation is in full support of Lisa Rantz's confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 1:47:31 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Kobayashi	Testifying for Community First	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

On behalf of Community First, I strongly support Lisa Rantz's confirmation into the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. Community First was founded in 2014 by Barry Taniguchi and serves as a neutral forum for the community to come together and as a catalyst for solutions to improve health and lower medical costs on Hawai'i Island. Lisa Rantz has been invaluable as chair of the Physician Subsidy Selection Committee (PSSC), and the Barry Taniguchi Medical Subsidy Program. The PSSC program was transferred from Community First to Hilo Medical Center Foundation in 2019 to continue the important work of recruiting and retaining physicians in East Hawai'i. The program now also includes eligible primary care physicians who hire either APRNs or physician assistants.

Mahalo,

Kim Kobayashi

Program Manager



Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

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**Testimony to the Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 3:00 P.M.**

**RE: GM620 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i
Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA RANTZ, for a term to
expire 06-30-2025.**

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce ("HICC") **strongly supports** the reappointment of Lisa Rantz, Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation as a Community representative on the Hawai'i Medical Education Council.

Thanks to the leadership Lisa has brought to the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, our East Hawaii community is healthier and better prepared for the future. The Foundation initiates projects which enhance healthcare and services at the Hilo Medical Center and helps to assure we have an established healthcare workforce through its Pre-Health Career Corps. Middle, high school and college students who have interests in healthcare careers have the opportunity to participate in a free year-round program which offers hands-on workshops and career presentations by health industry leaders. Not stopping there, the Foundation has expanded the program to connect these students to potential employers on our island.

For students already enrolled in healthcare programs, the Foundation's AHEC Scholars program supports those students by providing additional classroom instruction and importantly, hands-on clinical experience in rural and/or urban settings.

Through experience gained through her professional career and voluntary work with community organizations, Lisa has gained a firm understanding of our community, its healthcare needs and the importance of retaining physicians practicing within our rural areas. We firmly believe Lisa will continue to be an asset to the HMEC as she is to our island.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support.

Sincerely,

Miles Yoshioka, Executive Officer

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 10:21:18 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Lauris Wade MD	Testifying for Hawaii Radiologic Society	Support	No

Comments:

The Honorable Chair Donna Mercado Kim,

Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Hawaii State Legislature

Dear Senators,

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my full throated support of the nomination of Lisa Rantz as the Gubnatorial Nominee to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. I have enjoyed literally dozens of opportunities to work with Lisa Rantz on a number of issues affecting Hawai'i's health care future. She is an effective leader and Hawai'i is fortunate to have her working to our collective benefit.

John Lauris Wade MD

Legislative Liaison Hawaii Radiologic Society
Hawaii Physician Shortage Crisis Task Force
BS Biology Duke 1986
MD Northwestern 1990
Residency Madigan Army Medical Center 1995
Maj USA Army (Ret)
802-379-8060

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 6:55:07 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adrienne Lamson	Testifying for Floral Construction & Dev. Co., Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

I highly recommend Lisa Rantz' confirmation to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. As past president of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, I have worked with Lisa, who is currently the Foundation Director, on an array of projects that affect the Medical community on the Big Island and State of Hawaii. She is truly dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare for our state.

Thank you,

Adrienne Lamson,

president, Floral Construction & Dev. Co., Inc.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 8:59:16 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Grosskreutz, M.D.	Testifying for Hawaii Physician Shortage Crisis Task Force	Support	No

Comments:

As President of the Hawaii State Rural Health Association, and Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, Lisa Rantz would be an incredible resource for the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

The Best of Small Business 2020 recognized Ms. Rantz, who led the efforts to obtain a federal Health Professions Shortage Designation for Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai counties as well as parts of Oahu. Hawaii is currently ranked #51, behind all other states and the District of Columbia, in the availability of healthcare providers to care for Medicare patients according to Wallethub. Without Lisa's efforts the doctor shortage crisis of 53% on the Big Island, 42% on Maui and 33% on Kauai would have been much worse, as the federal 10% bonus enabled some medical practices to remain providing healthcare.

Lisa is extremely knowledgeable about the causes and effects of Hawaii's provider shortage. Our doctor shortages have resulted in a higher mortality rate, lower life expectancy and higher death rate for trauma, stroke, heart attack and cancer on the Neighbor Islands, according to www.hawaiihealthmatters.org.

As a former Chief of the Medical Staff at Hilo Medical Center and member of the Hawaii Doctor Shortage Crisis Task Force, I can attest to Lisa's commitment to addressing Hawaii's access to healthcare crisis.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 12:38:44 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bradley Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have known Lisa Rantz since 2014 when she became Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation. During the time I've known Lisa, I found her to be a dedicated and diligent individual who truly cares about the health care system in Hawaii. Lisa had done a fantastic job as in her position at the head of the Foundation. She is very knowledgeable about the health care system in Hawaii and has served on numerous boards and committees over the years. I can highly recommend Lisa Rantz to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council. Thank you.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 1:45:48 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
BREEANI LEE	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Lisa Rantz is such a wonderful human and she definitely deserves to be accepted to HMEQ.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 2:22:19 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shan Sato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am honored to write a letter of support for Ms. Lisa Rantz. I've known Lisa for several years, while I was working for Hilo Medical Center in the Administration office. From the first day we met, Lisa always had the passion to help others in whatever way she could, had a heart of gold and never expected anything in return, hence that's why I knew we'd be friends for years. She'd work long hours with no complaints to complete projects that would be beneficial for our community and our physicians/healthcare professionals. Besides her bubbly personality, there's so many reasons why I love Lisa. She's smart, caring, and such a compassionate woman that I feel I am truly blessed to have her in my life not just as a boss, but as a friend. If you want things done RIGHT for our community, you can always count on Lisa! She's absolutely phenomenal!

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 2:24:14 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
edward peskin,MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Members of the Hawaii Legislature, I have known Lisa Rantz since approximately 2012 in my previous role as medical director and chief medical officer for the east hawaii region of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and as a fellow member of a community committee working on increasing the number of health care providers on the Big Island. Lisa not only has done an outstanding job in recruiting current and future health care providers as the Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, but has voluntarily expanded her efforts to recruit and retain current and future health care providers with her involvement with statewide organizations, including serving as President of one of those organizations. She has an educational background and is heavily involved with educational efforts of the Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency Program and with programs in our public schools to increase interest among students in health care careers. I cannot think of a better candidate for the position you are considering her for, and give her my highest possible recommendation for this post. Thank you for taking my testimony. Edward(Ted) Peskin, MD, FACOG Hilo Hawaii

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 2:32:18 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Juliette Tulang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Lisa Rantz has been and will continue to be an asset to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC). I support her appointment 100%.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 2:58:50 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Robbins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have known Lisa Rantz since she first assumed the position of Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation (HMCF). As a member of the board of the HMCF for many years I have had the opportunity to work with Lisa on numerous projects related to both educational and practical medical issues in the domain of East Hawaii Island. She has always had a clarity of purpose when carrying out her responsibilities and an extraordinary sensitivity to the needs of the medical community. She will be an outstanding asset to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

Respectively submitted for your consideration, Richard P. Robbins M.D.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 3:24:36 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Bray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity provide testimony in support of GM620. Lisa Rantz has been instumental in building the infrastructure of a healthcare pipeline in Hawaii County with students who are interested in the healthcare profession from high school to graduate school. Due to Lisa's diligent work at the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, she helped Hawaii County receive the Health Professional Shortage Area designation which opened up the availability of scholarships, loan repayments and bonus payments to providers. She is an asset to any Board or Committee and brings with her experience, knowledge, compassion and dedication.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 3:53:22 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rhonda Roldan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony. I am in strong support for the Gubernatorial Nominee, Lisa Rantz to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. Her experience in healthcare and outstanding non-profit work demonstrates the collaborative energy she brings. Lisa would make an excellent addition to HMEC.

Mahalo,

Rhonda Roldan

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 4:22:15 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerry Glass	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Lisa Rantz could not be a better person for Hawaii Medical Education Council. As the Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation she is more than qualified to be an advocate for medical education. I have worked with her for the past two years as trustee of that foundation.

I've also know Lisa personally for a number of years as she is a member of our Rotary Club of Hilo. I've worked with her on both Hilo Medical Center Foundation and Rotary Club of Hilo fundraisers.

Thank You,

Kerry Glass

808-756-7929

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 5:20:28 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregg Kishaba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I want to take this opportunity to express my strong support for the nomination of Lisa Rantz to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. As a public health professional, I have the privilege to work alongside Ms. Rantz on many health-related endeavors that address access to timely and appropriate healthcare. For many years, Ms. Rantz has been a tireless health advocate and champion for our rural neighbor island communities. As the current President of the Hawaii State Rural Health Association, she continues to strengthen Hawaii's rural health infrastructure and network.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 6:32:15 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Geiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I write this letter in full support of Ms. Lisa Rantz's nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC). I have seen first hand Ms. Rantz's positive impact and truly caring nature. As the parent of a pre-med student at UH Hilo, Ms. Rantz's guidance and support has been invaluable. She sincerely cares about the people of Hawaii and the future of medicine/medical care in the State. One just has to look at her accomplishments at the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, and Hawaii State Rural Health Association to see what an asset she is. I have no doubt that as a member of HMEC, Ms. Rantz will continue to do great things for the people of Hawaii. I truly believe that having her on the council would be invaluable in helping meet current and future healthcare needs of the State.

Sincerely,

Scott Geiger

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 8:47:26 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betty Stewart	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Committee:

It is with great enthusiasm that I endorse Lisa Rantz for nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. I can think of no individual more connected, educated and knowledgeable about healthcare education on Hawaii Island. We would be lucky to have Lisa represent our campus with concerns and challenges for educating healthcare providers here on our Island.

Respectfully,

Betty L. Stewart PA-C, MPAS, DFAAPA

MEDEX Kona

University of Washington

P. O. Box 558
Kaunakakai, HI. 96748-0558
E-mail: jmikami44@gmail.com/ Phone: (808) 658-0710

April 2, 2021

Aloha Senators Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair, and other members of the Committee on Higher Education:

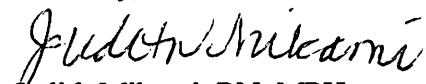
I am requesting that you consider and confirm Lisa Rantz to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC) as member of this Council until June 30, 2025. In addition to her position as Executive Director of Hilo Medical Center Foundation in Hilo, Hawaii, Ms. Rantz has been active in several community and state organizations that has given her a breadth of experience to serve as a member of the Hawaii Medical Education Council. She is currently a community board member of HMEC on Hawaii island and has contributed to medical education programs across the state and has also worked to negotiate approval to use the Hawaii State Loan Repayment funds to support solo and small practice physicians working in rural areas throughout Hawaii.

Ms. Rantz continues to support rural health programs throughout Hawaii as President of the Hawaii State Rural Health Association whose purpose is to advocate for rural health issues and promote communication, education, and research of issues related to rural health. She embodies the vision of HSRHA as she is a collaborative health leader for rural communities in Hawaii, not only her Hawaii Island home.

I humbly endorse Ms. Rantz as a member of the HMEC for her term that will run through June 30, 2025, and I believe that she will be a vital member as she works collaboratively with the council members to ensure that the graduate medical education program will be administered appropriately as well as the funding of health care training programs will be adequate.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,



Judith Mikami, RN, MPH
Rural Health Consultant
Member, HSRHA and Molokai Rural Health
Community Association, President

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 10:52:10 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angie Miyashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the nomination of Hilo Medical Center Foundation's Executive Director Lisa Rantz to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. Lisa works tirelessly to support health education and is the primary reason we are able to be the Area Health Education Center for Hawai'i Island and support the different HMC Foundation projects year-round. As a health Pathways teacher Lisa Rantz has provided support, education and resources for our schools including my school Ka'u High and Pahala Elementary School. She cares about our rural students just as much as the students that are in town. Lisa's position on the council will continue to support important efforts to allocate additional educational resources to Hawai'i Island. Thank-you for your consideration, Sincerely, Dr. Angie Miyashiro

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 10:11:04 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth Nakamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support the nomination of Lisa Rantz. She is a very knowledgeable advocate of rural and neighbor island health care workforce needs.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 10:22:00 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marissa Fakaosita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have worked with Lisa Rantz in the context of developing rotation opportunities for training pediatric physicians in rural neighbor island areas of Hawaii. She is incredibly dedicated to advancing the access of quality healthcare throughout Hawaii and incorporating this work to our training doctors. She would bring a wonderful skill set and a wealth of previous experiences to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

Thank you,
Marissa Fakaosita

To: The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President
And Members of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature

April 3, 2021

From: Sally Ancheta, Immediate Past President, Hawai'i Island Rural Health Association

Re: Support for GM620: Lisa Rantz, nomination to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council, term expiring 06-30-2025

Dear Honorable Senate President Kouchi and Senate Members of the Committee,

I am honored to offer this letter of recommendation for Lisa Rantz, Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation (HMCF) and President of the Hawai'i State Rural Health Association (HSRHA). As the immediate past president of the Hawai'i Island Rural Health Association and immediate past Secretary of the Hawai'i State Rural Health Association, I have worked closely with Ms. Rantz for the past five years. Her leadership in building both the HMCF Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and the Hawai'i State Rural Health Association has been unsurpassed.

Ms. Rantz has created a vibrant AHEC Scholars program for health professions students interested in supplementing their education by gaining additional knowledge and experience in rural and/or underserved urban settings. This is a longitudinal program with interdisciplinary curricula which is implemented to a defined set of clinical, didactic, and community-based activities. All experiential or clinical training is conducted in rural and/or underserved urban settings. She has been the catalyst for creating the fundraising campaign to help bring doctors to Hawai'i through the Rural Family Practice Residency Program now called Hawaii Health System Corporation Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP). This program trains physicians in their last three years of medical school here on the island of Hawai'i. Studies show that most young physicians end up practicing in or near the communities where they did their residency; which in turn will help bring more doctors to Hawai'i to address the physician shortage crisis. She has an acute understanding of the needs of our rural communities and has actively secured funding from Hawai'i County to assist with lessening our extreme physician and provider shortage.

I have truly appreciated Ms. Rantz ability to grow our Hawai'i State Rural Health Association (HSRHA). Under her leadership, HSRHA goals include the following:

- 1) *Advocating for recruitment and retention of primary care providers (physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives and physician assistants)*
 - Health Professions Shortage Area (HPSA) designation allows for loan repayment for physicians, physician assistants, and advance practice nurses.
 - State loan repayment by the federal government will provide matching funds for loan repayment. We will work to secure state and county matching funds
 - Behavioral Health Expansion is a critical issue facing rural Hawai'i.
 - 2) *Recruitment and retention of Hawai'i's rural health workforce through networking, education, training, and mentoring.*
 - Promote a rural health focus within the health care community by sponsoring and facilitating a rural health track at the annual Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit, in partnership with the University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine, Area Health Education Center (AHEC).
- Commit to expanding, enhancing and sustaining the ECHO Hawai'i model across our island state.

In closing, I highly recommend Ms. Rantz nomination to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council as she has led efforts to secure funding, education and opportunities for medical providers in the state of Hawai'i, with a lens on our rural communities. It is without a doubt, Ms. Rantz will administer the duties and powers given to HMEC with knowledge, commitment and expertise.

With aloha and appreciation,
Sally Ancheta

Sally Ancheta, HI Island Coordinator, East HI, Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Immediate past president HIRHA

sally@hiphi.org

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 11:32:10 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emmanuel K	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support Liza Rantz for this nomination. She has shown over the years her passion to support our ohana, our students who one day will serve our community, and she does all of this hard work with open arms and great smile. Very knowledgeable of resources in the community.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 1:29:34 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Pellegrin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of the nomination of Lisa Rantz to serve on the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. She has a strong track record demonstrating knowledge of the State's need for physicians, particularly in areas with the greatest shortage, as well as the skills needed to support the development and implementation of plans to address the need. I support the nomination of Lisa Rantz without reservation.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 6:04:19 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maxwell Geiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I am write this testimony in support of Ms. Lisa Rantz's nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC). As a medical student at the University of Hawaii at Hilo I have interacted with many administrators and advisors and Ms. Rantz has provided the most personal, efficient, and helpful guidance. She has allowed me to assist her on projects within the Hilo Medical Center Foundation and Hawaii State Rural Health Association, where each hour was spent benefiting the local community as well as communities across the state. I believe that Ms. Rantz will be an extremely valuable member of the council, since she always has the community, students, and professionals in mind.

Sincerely,

Maxwell Geiger

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 7:29:32 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Manisha Geiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I am submitting this testimony letter in full support of Ms. Lisa Rantz's nomination to the Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC). As a parent of a pre-med student currently enrolled at UH Hilo, guiding my son down the path towards medical school can be challenging at times. Ms. Rantz's guidance has been invaluable. Her enthusiasm for her job and for the Hawaii community shows through in every conversation we have had. This enthusiasm along with her extensive experience at the Hilo Medical Center Foundation and Hawaii State Rural Health Association, make her the perfect candidate for this position.

Respectfully,

Manisha B. Geiger, OD



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

4/5/2021

Recommendation for Hawaii Medical Education Council

Aloha,

I would like to express my strongest recommendation for Lisa Rantz to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

She is an outstanding community support organizer. In addition, she is dedicated to the community and a force of good statewide as President of the Hawaii State Rural Health Association.. Her efforts on HMEC will be invaluable and I offer her my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelley Withy MD PhD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelley Withy, MD, PhD
Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
Director, Hawaii/Pacific Basin AHEC
John A Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 7:22:30 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Domizio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha and good morning! This is testimony in support of adding Lisa Rantz to the Medical Education Council. Ms Rantz has proven her skills and dedication to the creation and support of individuals interested in and committed to serving the people of Hawaii through their expertise in delivering health services. Ms Rantz is especially well qualified for membership in this Council and I strongly support her candidacy.

Dan Domizio PA-C Emeritus

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 9:10:43 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sneha L Sood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of Lisa Rantz for a position on the Hawai'i Medical Education Committee. I am a Neonatologist at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children and faculty with the John A. Burns School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics. I work closely with the Pediatric residency program to assist Pediatric residents plan their elective rotations, known as IEUs, to the neighbor islands and also lead the division of Neonatology's efforts at outreach education. Lisa Rantz has worked closely with us to support our residents with accommodations, transportation as well as taking a personal interest in their neighbor island experience and I know she is involved in similar efforts for other residency programs and for other learners. She gave an excellent Pediatric Grand Rounds to educate the community Pediatricians and residents on the opportunities in healthcare on the neighbor islands. I have been impressed by her knowledge of rural health care issues in Hawaii and her involvement in initiatives to support physicians and residents in practice or interested in practicing in rural areas in order to address health care provider shortages. Her leadership roles in the Hawai'i State Rural Health Association and the Hilo Medical Center Foundation have been key in these efforts and although her initial focus was on East Hawaii, she has been expanding her efforts to include other areas of the Island of Hawai'i as well as the other neighbor islands. I believe that Lisa Rantz would be a very valuable member of the Hawai'i Medical Education Council and I have no hesitation in highly recommending her for this position.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 10:11:10 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Sparks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I think lisa would be great working with the commitee. She is a tireless work for the Health of the People of Hawaii.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 10:49:36 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Iboshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Committee On Higher Education

Testimony In Support of Lisa Rantz to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

My name is Charlene Iboshi and I support Lisa Rantz's appointment to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. Since retiring from the Hawaii County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, I have been involved with non-profits that address the Health and Wellness in our community. Through this community service, I have worked with Lisa Rantz on projects, including Community First's Physician Subsidy and Selection Committee, and Hawaii Island Rural Health Association.

Lisa Rantz has proven herself in the medical community, locally and statewide, as an effective spokesperson for medical education and those matters that deal with medical equity and access. Through her research, writing and collaborative work, she has been able to support better conditions for the recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals, including physicians and nurse practitioners. Additionally, she has chaired major educational campaigns in our community.

Without hesitation, I recommend approval of Lisa Rantz to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

Charlene Iboshi. Esq.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 12:01:14 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Daniels	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This testimony is in support of Lisa Rantz's appointment to the Hawaii Medical Education Council. Lisa is a very active person in health care in the state and in the county of Hawaii and has worked on a number of issues confronting our systems of care. She is forward looking, anticipating changes and the needs that result from those changes, and hard working. She is well versed in the issues and her experience in working on solutions, particularly in rural environments, make her a valuable addition to the Council.

April 3, 2021

Chair Donna Mercado
Vice Chair Michelle N. Kidani
Members of the Committee on Higher Education

RE: GM 620 Hawaii Medical Education Council Support for Lisa Rantz

Dear Chair Donna Mercado, Vice Chair Michelle N. Kidani, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

I am writing in **strong support** of Gubernatorial Nominee Lisa Rantz to serve on the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Rantz in different capacities throughout the last five years. She is a dynamic leader who has dedicated her career to improve health across the State of Hawaii. Ms. Rantz has consistently demonstrated a depth of knowledge, experience and passion in addressing the severe physician shortage needs in Hawaii and supporting medical education. Her vision and leadership bring organizations and individuals together for collaboration to create a larger, more meaningful impact.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of GM 620.

Sincerely,

Jana Ortiz-Misiaszek

Jana Ortiz-Misiaszek

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 1:08:34 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aimee Grace	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Dr. Aimee Malia Grace, and I am writing in my individual capacity. I strongly support the confirmation of Lisa Rantz to the Hawaii Medical Education Council.

I have worked with Ms. Rantz for several years. She is a strong advocate for rural health and Hawaii's health workforce issues. Ms. Rantz is a great team player; knowledgeable; helpful; collaborative; and a build-bridger. She has served well in this capacity on the Hawaii Medical Education Council and will be a critical partner going forward.

Thank you,

Dr. Aimee Grace

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 2:21:27 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Bergner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support GM620 in favor of Lisa Rantz. She is an instrumental team member to our community. I am a teacher at Waiakea High School and Lisa as helped me so much over the years. She organized adding another AED on our campus, has provided workshops for my students, and continues to communicate with myself and other teachers about how she can benefit our students. I strongly support Lisa Rantz.

GM-620

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 3:08:08 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/6/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allison Mikuni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing to offer my full support for Ms. Lisa Rantz to be confirmed to the Medical Education Council as a Gubernatorial Nominee. Ms. Rantz is uniquely qualified to support the Council and is an excellent resource for identifying healthcare providers on Hawaii Island who are active and taking Medicaid, as well as those who have left practice or moved. Her community network is extensive and built upon years of interaction in the local community. She has taken a leadership role in evaluating the county for designation as a Health Professional Shortage Area. Her work with Hilo Medical Foundation, Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency Program, Hawaii State Rural Health Association, Community First, and many other prominent community health organizations brings a valuable perspective to the Council. In all the years I have known her, she has been a devoted and tireless advocate for the rural and underserved in our state. I highly recommend Ms. Rantz and we would be well-served by having her on the Council.