



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS

C O R P O R A T I O N

Quality Healthcare For All

Senate Committee on Health

April 5, 2021
1:00 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony in Strong Support Governor's Message 755

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, **KURT AKAMINE**, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), thank you for the opportunity to present testimony **in strong support of Governor's Message 755**, in consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Kurt Akamine**, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Mr. Akamine's combination of business acumen and commitment to his community is beyond reproach. Mr. Akamine is the Vice-President of Ohana Pacific Management Company, the parent company to the Garden Isle Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center where Mr. Akamine served as its immediate past administrator for thirteen years. During his long career as part of Kauai's healthcare landscape, Mr. Akamine has dedicated himself to a multitude of roles to advance the quality and accessibility of Kauai and statewide healthcare services. Just a few examples on an impressive list of volunteer service include serving as a past Board Chair for the HHSC Kauai region, Vice-Chair for the Hawaii Long Term Care Association, and as a statewide review board member of the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA).

HHSC looks forward to the contributions Mr. Akamine will make. The professional skills and knowledge he possesses will advance HHSC's priority goals. We thank Mr. Akamine for his willingness to bring his long-standing commitment to service to HHSC Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before this committee in strong support of this nominee.

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April 5, 2021 at 1pm

Senate Committee on Health

**To: Chair Jarrett Keohokalole
Vice Chair, Rosalyn H. Baker**

From: Kurt Akamine

**Re: Testimony
GM 755**

Thank you very much for the consideration given for my nomination to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC). If afforded the opportunity, it is my belief that I would add governance and leadership value at the Board of the Director's level.

For the past 20 years, I have been fortunate to have served our island communities throughout the state of Hawaii in the healthcare sector. At the organization that I am employed, I have been the licensed Nursing Home Administrator at two of their facilities as well as the Administrator for the Adult Day Health program. Currently, I am a Vice President and support the senior leadership in the various locations on Kauai, Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii island.

Having been born and raised on the island of Kauai, I do have a strong sense of responsibility toward our island. During various times throughout my career, I have served as a Planning Commissioner, Board of Ethics member and Chair, Board of Water member and Chair, Kauai Chamber of Commerce board member and Chair as well as several other ad hoc committees.

In the healthcare sector, I have participated in the development of several Community Health Needs Assessment reports, served on the community college's Nursing Advisory Committee, and have been a board member and Chair of the HHSC Kauai Region.

Should my nomination be confirmed and I have the privilege of serving on the HHSC Corporate Board, I will be able to use my experience and commitment to carry out the duties and responsibilities of a board member.

Senator Jarrett
Keohokalole,

KAUAI VETERANS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
PO Box 337, Waimea, HI 96796
(808) 338-9431



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION
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SAMUEL MAHELONA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
4800 Kawaihau Rd, Kapa'a, HI 96746
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March 30, 2021

To: Senate Health Committee

Subject: Support for Gubernatorial Nominee – Kurt Akamine

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Kauai Regional Board, we strongly support Mr. Kurt Akamine's consideration as a Gubernatorial Nominee to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Mr. Akamine's knowledge of healthcare issues statewide qualifies him well for this position. His acute awareness of local issues as a Kauai resident and his previous experience as chair of the Kauai Regional Board will provide the HHSC corporate board with needed perspective and insights. We look forward to Mr. Akamine's confirmation!

Mahalo,

 for Stephanie Iona

Stephanie Iona
Kauai Regional Board Chair
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation



April 1, 2021

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Health

Monday, April 5, 2021; 1:00 p. m.
Via Videoconference

Senate Bill No. GM755 – Kurt Akamine to the Board of Directors of Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation

To the Honorable Jarret Keohokalole, Chair; Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice-Chair; and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this letter is to strongly support the confirmation of Kurt Akamine to the Board of Directors of Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC").

Mr. Akamine's 20 years in the healthcare industry and serving on numerous boards and commissions makes him an exemplary candidate for a position on the Board of Directors for HHSC. However, his qualifications go beyond his extensive experience and leadership skills. In my personal interactions with Mr. Akamine, I see his genuine care for the patients and the staff at the healthcare facilities that he oversees. In my professional experiences, he always demonstrates a keen understanding of the local business climate – being thoughtful, fair, and expedient in his actions.

It is critical that important decisions regarding the health of our community be stewarded by those who have a strong understanding of our people combined with a "pono" approach in his dealings. Kurt fits that bill perfectly.

We strongly urge you to support the confirmation of Kurt Akamine to a position on the Board of Directors of HHSC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Warren H. Haruki
President and CEO

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GM-755

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 5:43:27 PM

Testimony for HTH on 4/5/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Shigemoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Chair Keohokalole and members of the Senate Committee of Health,

I am herewith submitting my strong support for Mr. Kurt Akamine, a candidate for membership on the HHSC Corporate Board. If his credentials and position with Ohana Pacific Health is not convincing enough, please let me add my impression and opinion of this extremely qualified gentleman. I served on the Kauai regional HHSC board nine years ago and though challenging, it was very rewarding to have served with other caring and qualified professionals. I learned a lot! My background was not in health care so my contributions to the System was very limited but if there was anything I took away from serving was the dire need for dedicated, caring, committed individuals who believed our state hospitals are doing their utmost to serve our communities.

I met Kurt in 2004, when we served as Directors on the Kauai Chamber of Commerce Board. He later was elected as the Board Chair and diligently and effectively led the Chamber. I found Kurt to be a master in collaboration and innovation and with his business regimen helped the Chamber become a highly desirable entity for small businesses to gravitate to for their business needs. It's no surprise that Ohana Pacific Health was the premier health care organizations for their clients with his leadership skills. His penchant for volunteerism is evident with the organizations he's served and continues to do so. It's also no surprise that he is being considered for the position of the State Corporate Board of HHSC. He will be an invaluable resource to the board and the entire state with his expertise and passion in the field of health care.

I implore your honorable body to seriously consider Kurt for the position. You will not be disappointed. Thank you.