

Date: April 4, 2023

To: The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
The Honorable Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Support for GM613 – Consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dentistry, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANDREW TSEU

Hrg: April 13, 2023, at 10:00am - Conference Room 229 & via Videoconference

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection. My name is Patrick Donnelly and I currently serve as the Statewide Oral Health Coalition Manager for the Hawai'i Public Health Institute. I submit this personal testimony in **strong support of GM613**, which considers Gubernatorial Nominee, Dr. Andrew Tseu, for confirmation to the Board of Dentistry.

I have worked with Dr. Tseu in different capacities related to a variety of oral health initiatives since 2016. Over these years, Dr. Tseu has played a key role in collaborations with numerous organizations across the state to establish multiple oral health programs dedicated to improving outcomes in impacted communities in addition to his current roles as Chief of the Hospital & Community Dental Services Branch under the Hawai'i State Department of Health, Vice-Chairperson of the Hawai'i Board of Dentistry, and Interim Chair of the Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition (HOHC). In HOHC specifically, Dr. Tseu has diligently helped drive the initiatives and policy priorities of the HOHC forward to successful outcomes that positively impact the oral health of Hawai'i residents since its inception in 2019.

In all my collaborations with Dr. Tseu, I have always known him to be fair, honest, dedicated, mission-focused, and professional. He is the most knowledgeable on the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act, related statutes, and current policies and practices impacting the dental professional workforce than anyone else I've had the pleasure of working with and, in my experience, is able to speak to nearly all aspects of oral health systems in Hawai'i. As he serves in such varied capacities, he is always mindful to avoid any perceived conflicts of interest and will readily recuse himself from discussions and decisions that may influence that perception. Most importantly, Dr. Tseu is a pleasure to work with. Always positive, and forward-thinking, Dr. Tseu creates a welcoming and fun work environment while lifting up others in a way that inspires true collaboration.

I believe Dr. Tseu is an excellent candidate for consideration and highly recommend his confirmation to the Board of Dentistry. Please let me know if I can be of any further support or assistance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,



Patrick Donnelly
Statewide Oral Health Coalition Manager
Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Testimony of the Board of Dentistry

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, April 13, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 613, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
BOARD OF DENTISTRY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ANDREW TSEU,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2027**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sheena Choy, and I am the Executive Officer for the Board of Dentistry (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Dr. Andrew Tseu's reappointment to the Board as a dentist member from O'ahu.

Dr. Tseu has been serving as a Board member since his interim term began on October 30, 2019. He has been licensed as a dentist since September 16, 1999, and his license is current, active and in good standing. Since Dr. Tseu's appointment, there have been 19 meetings of which he has attended 18. He currently serves as the vice-chair of the Board.

Dr. Tseu diligently prepares for the matters on the Board's agenda and actively participates in meeting discussions. Further, by sharing insights he has gained over his many years of experience as a licensed dentist, he has made significant contributions to the Board's deliberations on various issues.

Dr. Tseu volunteers his time and energy by attending national conferences and is committed to keeping the Board informed of current trends in the practice of dentistry. In addition, Dr. Tseu serves as an examiner for dental licensure exams, which greatly assists with determining whether a person is qualified to practice dentistry.

The Board believes that Dr. Tseu's continued desire to serve on the Board and commitment to active participation in board meetings will continue to enhance the Board's effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



HIPHI Board

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State of Hawai'i, Deputy Public
Defender

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community Health
Worker Initiative

COVID-19 Response

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective

Date: April 10, 2023

To: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Support GM613 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dentistry, Gubernatorial Nominee, Andrew Tseu, for a term to expire 6.30.2027

Hrg: Tuesday, April 13, 2023, at 10:00 AM

The Hawai'i Public Health Instituteⁱ (HIPHI) is in **Strong Support of GM613**, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dentistry, Gubernatorial Nominee, Andrew Tseu, for a term to expire 6.30.2027.

Since beginning his dental career in 2008, Dr. Andrew Tseu has served the people of Hawai'i in a variety of capacities, but all with the goal of creating an environment where the people of Hawai'i thrive. He is a true public servant, always working in areas that help to support the increased capacity and outreach of oral health.

Dr. Tseu has a strong belief that collaboration is the key to any meaningful work. In his current position as the Hospital & Community Dental Services Branch Chief, he works to be inclusive, hear everyone's input, and use that knowledge to build a stronger oral health program throughout the state. Dr. Tseu played a pivotal role in the reinstatement of the Medicaid Adult Dental benefit in the state. He is now working to increase the opportunities patients have to access oral health practitioners.

He truly has dedicated his life to serving others not just as a practitioner of dentistry, but as a true advocate always seeking a better way to ensure statewide oral health. His passion and persistence help him lead the Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition (HOHC) as its Interim Chair. In that role he brings together a variety of organizations, where he ensures collaboration takes place to result in the best outcomes possible. His understanding of the dental statutes and the implications of policy related to the HRS is immense, and it will bring an important nuance to the Board of Dentistry.

I have been lucky enough to work with Dr. Tseu through the HOHC. His profound drive to serve is evident. Our state needs people like Dr. Tseu serving on boards. He seeks to have all perspectives at the table to build a robust network of resources helping to drive positive results. I know that his

knowledge, passion, and his willingness to be inclusive of all voices will serve him well as part of the board.

HIPHI strongly supports the nomination of Andrew Tseu to serve on the Board of Dentistry. He is an excellent choice for this role.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Mierzwa". The signature is written in black ink on a light blue rectangular background.

Peggy Mierzwa
Director of Policy & Advocacy

ⁱ Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.

GM-613

Submitted on: 4/9/2023 8:19:48 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NO