

February 26, 2024

The Senate Office of Joy San Buenaventura
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Dear Senator San Buenaventura,

The following is my written statement to the questions from your request letter:

1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation?

I am interested in joining the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation because I am passionate about access to healthcare for our rural communities across Hawaii.

2. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation?

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, my role will be to ensure that quality healthcare is provided throughout the regions, explore rural health designations and funding streams that can help provide sustainability for the state hospital system given the rapidly changing healthcare environment our nation is facing at this time.

3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, why do you believe that you are qualified for this position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.

As President of the Hawaii State Rural Health Association and a National Rural Health Association Fellow, I know that I can bring valuable knowledge and experience to help the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to navigate the rapidly changing healthcare landscape. Existing payment models have made care more expensive for consumers as well as healthcare organizations and by working with our federal legislators, Center for Medicare Services (CMS), and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) I can help communicate the need for higher reimbursement rates and regulatory changes that provide enhanced payments to hospitals in a separate payment thereby lowering co-payments and co-insurance costs for consumers.



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I am a team player, collaborate well with others and I am involved and vested in what happens in our communities. I believe in leveraging resources and creating sustainability in the programs we implement. It takes a village to make things happen in a sustainable way and there are so many opportunities for groups to work together for a common goal and purpose across the state of Hawaii.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

During my term of service, I would like to create the infrastructure to support the development of projects and programs to support recruitment and retention of doctors who graduate from residency programs in Hawaii. A big part of this will be identifying/monitoring emerging issues nationwide as they relate to Hawaii and exploring revenue streams to keep our hospital system vibrant and accessible. Part of this effort will be to strengthen the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Foundation to better support the regions and their foundations.

Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How do these qualities benefit the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation?

People tell me that I am a “doer”; I get things done. I enjoy a challenge and love the work that I do. I feel like it makes a difference and is important work for Hawaii. This kind of work takes patience; I am extremely patient. I am also very optimistic (truly, an eternal optimist; there is nothing that cannot be done or fixed). I have a knack for getting people to work together and put aside their differences. These qualities allow me to help bring groups together to work on the bigger issues; which is what the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation is all about.

5. Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation?

I worked for two years with the state primary care office to gather the information necessary to apply for the primary care Health Profession Shortage Area (HPSA) designation for Hawaii County; which helps with obtaining rural health designations, grant funding priority, a 10% bonus payment paid out quarterly on an automatic basis to providers and healthcare organizations on all direct billed Medicare claims, and allows for loan repayment; which is critically important for recruitment and retention of healthcare workforce.

I worked with the physician groups to get the survey information out to existing physicians and gave presentations on the importance of the data. I personally drove to the addresses of physicians practices that have Hawaii medical licenses and identified those providers that had a home address listed, were working in a different employment field or not working in the state of at all. There are many physicians who hold licenses in Hawaii in the hope that they will retire here and potentially work part time.



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The Health Professions Shortage Area (HPSA) designation for Hawaii County went into effect in January of 2020 and helped many providers and healthcare organizations stay in business during the pandemic. The county-wide designations were then able to be implemented in all neighbor island counties across the state of Hawaii.

This effort shows that I will not give up given a large task or one that I have been told could not be accomplished. I believe that the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation is of critical importance to access healthcare services on the neighbor islands across Hawaii and I look forward to making a difference for our communities.

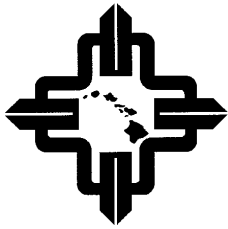
6. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interest that may arise during my service on the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Should a conflict of interest arise, I will discuss the potential conflict with the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Chairperson and excuse myself from that event or situation. If the scope of the conflict would prevent me from performing my duties as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, I would immediately submit my resignation for consideration. Transparency and honesty are two things that I hold in high regard.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written statement to assist the Senate with its confirmation process.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rantz
Executive Director
Hilo Medical Center Foundation



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Quality Healthcare For All"

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice-Chair

February 28, 2024
1:00 PM
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 225 & Via Videoconference

**Testimony in Strong Support of
Governor's Message 566**

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

Edward N. Chu
President & Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of Governor's Message 566, in consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, LISA RANTZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Ms. Lisa Rantz has served as the Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation for the past ten years. In that role, she has help grow the Foundation's outreach and program efforts. Ms. Rantz has developed programs to assist researchers, educators, policymakers, and rural residents to address changing rural environments by identifying and advocating for rural health issues and policy changes. In collaboration with the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine, Lisa brought the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) program/grant to Hawai'i Island. The AHEC program provides training, mentoring, clinical rotation support, housing and transportation for health care professions students on rural rotation. The program has also been successful in supporting more than 1,800 students (9th grade through graduate medical education) across Hawai'i Island with training and certifications needed to enter a health career. As part of HMC Foundation's Pre-Health Career Corps program, Ms, Rantz has worked to raise awareness, training, and guidance on the various health careers available for at risk and underserved students. Most recently, Ms. Rantz collaborated with Community First to design and implement a comprehensive health needs assessment called "Access to Care" to garner the community and provider

voice when it comes to what is really happening in Hawaii's rural areas in accessing health care services. Ms. Rantz is also active within a number of non-profit and civic organizations across Hawai'i Island and the state including the Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce, Hilo Women's Club, Hawai'i State Rural Health Association, and many more.

Given her outstanding health care background and commitment to rural health in Hawaii, HHSC looks forward to the valuable contributions Ms. Rantz will make to the HHSC Corporate Board.

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

GM-566

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 4:11:03 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/28/2024 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am pleased to whole heartedly SUPPORT Lisa Rantz as a member of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors. In her career Ms. Rantz has made outstanding contributions towards improving healthcare in the East Hawaii community and across the State with a particular emphasis on medical education and rural healthcare. HHSC will greatly benefit from having her as a Board member. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.