

Richard James Vidgen

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October 23, 2007

To: The Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
415 South Beretania Street, Room 215
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Senate Committee on Health, October 26, 2007, 9:00 AM
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Subject: Consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Board of Directors, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Richard James Vidgen**, for a term to expire 6/30/2011.

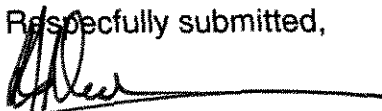
Honorable Senators:

I am writing to express my interest in serving as a member of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Board of Directors. My background includes business and industry management and leadership positions in Hawaii, California, Australia and New Zealand; involve operations, business research and development, technology, domestic and international sales and marketing, personnel and organizational structuring, operational audit and strategic planning; and community service. My service on the Kona Community Hospital Management Advisory Committee has provided me a familiarity with the hospital and regional operations and functions.

The healthcare environment in Hawaii like the rest of the nation is facing many challenges that require multi-faceted qualifications, perspectives and responsible decision-making. As a concerned community advocate, I would be able to contribute my business experiences, familiarity with the community hospital operations and ability to work with board colleagues to address quality healthcare for the state authorized safety-net system.

I would like the opportunity to share my experiences on the HHSC Board of Directors to assure quality health care for all citizens in the State of Hawaii. Thank you for considering my interest in the HHSC Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,


Richard James Vidgen

(Attachment)

Rick Vidgen

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New Opportunities. From 1991 to 2003 I presided over the growth and business development of MacFarms of Hawaii, a \$30 million international agricultural enterprise. With the sale of this agribusiness in 2003, I have been working on new opportunities that dovetail with my experience in strategic planning, agribusiness operations, consumer and industrial marketing (domestic and international), and company management.

I have recently put together several small development projects serving as general partner and am working as a Realtor for Clark realty Corporation. In this latter role I have been quite successful and was named Hawaii Island Realtor Associate of the year in 2004 and in the 2006 year sold listing valued at over to \$27 million and was named in the Hawaii Business Top 100 realtors.

At present I am also involved in consulting to a prominent macadamia farmer group in Planning and Marketing of their crop in a macadamia industry and market that has serious problems.

I am also involved in an exciting "start up" company project , KonaCarbon LLC which will make biofuel and high value activated carbon out of macadamia shell using a high tech gas pyrolysis process.

Career Accomplishments.

- Transformed a losing macadamia operation to 10 successive profitable years under challenging weather and market environment and making it into one of Hawaii's "Top 250" companies.
- Assembled a "lean and mean" management team to cut costs and to plan and execute innovative and aggressive marketing programs
- Introduced the concept of the nutritional value of macadamia nuts to the world treenut industry, food media and consumers. This focus is now seen as the primary reason for the turnaround in World macadamia and treenut sales and industry fortunes.
- Updated macadamia processing technology to a new level of efficiency and effectiveness to become the best in the world and at a manageable cost.
- Transformed a bulk sales commodity company into a retail sales brand
- Developed an exit strategy for MacFarms owners to sell the land asset while maintaining a viable macadamia business
- Initiated the Honomalino Irrigation Cooperative providing the impetus for achieving an agricultural water supply for South Kona
- Restructured operations of the Blue Diamond Consumer Group to turnaround (within 15 months) a downslide in revenue and profits to significant revenue/profit growth
- Made the Hawaii Business "Top 100" Realtor list in 2006 in my 3rd year in the business.

Experienced Leadership

1992-2003 MacFarms of Hawaii—Big Island of Hawaii

Company President

- \$30 million agribusiness listed by *Hawaii Business* as one of Hawaii's Top 250 companies
- World's largest macadamia nut orchard

- Domestic and international sales (both retail and industrial) with local and international sourcing
- Successfully turned company around to achieve a 10-year profit run
- Developed management team and harnessed technology to become industry leader
- Increased sales with innovative product packaging
- Initiated research and procured funding to reposition product as healthy nutrition

1987-1992 MacFarms of Hawaii—Big Island of Hawaii

Vice President Operations

- Planned and executed \$4.8 million irrigation development to salvage marginal orchard areas
- Doubled Hawaii retail sales from \$2.5-\$5 million
- Introduced factory technology and profitable outsourcing of retail operation

1983-1986 RAM Group—Oakland, California

Sales and Marketing consultant

- Key clients included New Zealand Kiwifruit Commission, MacRobertsons and New Zealand Game Industry Board
- Managed development of MacFarms Domestic Retail Sales
- Developed international client base and US sales and marketing contacts

1981-1983 MacFarms of Hawaii—Hawaii and California

Vice President Sales

- Initiated market development from zero to sales of \$10 million
- Created bulk broker network
- Participated in development of new retail brand

1978-1981 CSR Ltd—Sydney, Australia

Manager Review and Audit (Operational Audit and Strategic Planning)

- Input and development of \$A1 billion company plan
- Provided management confidence in devolved authority for Coy
- Streamlined projects that led to multi-million dollar savings

1975-1978 CSR Ltd—Melbourne, Australia

Personnel Manager

- Planned and executed major organizational restructure for region
- Developed migrant worker programs that reduced stoppages and costs
- Created community outreach and five-language newsletter to reduce turnover

1964-1975 New Zealand Sugar (CSR Ltd)—Auckland, New Zealand

Shift Superintendent-Production Manager

- Took losing operation from poor performance to cost/ profit leader
- Introduced innovative work systems to multicultural site
- Managed technology change to improve efficiency

Education

1958-1963 Queensland Institute of Technology Brisbane, Australia

- Diploma in Industrial Chemistry (Honors)

Community Involvement

Governor's West Hawaii Advisory Committee 2003 – 2007

Hualalai Academy, Board of Directors 1994—2000

- Board President, 1997 – 2000
- Re-launched private school
- Built new campus

Kona Community Hospital Management Advisory Board 2003 -Present

International Treenut Congress, Director 1993 – 2003

Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, 1989 – 2003

Hawaii Leeward Planning Conference, 1988 – present

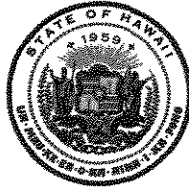
Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association, 1987 – 2003

Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce, 1987 – present

- Entrepreneur of the Year, 2000, Director 2005-present

References

Available upon request



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

October 24, 2007

Senator *[Signature]*
Health Committee

Re: Letter in Support of Mr. Rick Vidgen

Dear Members of the Health Committee:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Mr. Rick Vidgen, who has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. I am acquainted with Mr. Vidgen through his work on the West Hawaii Region of the Management Advisory Committee..

Mr. Vidgen has the experience, background, and understanding of how critical our hospitals are to our communities. His reputation as a capable and dependable resource for the HHSC in West Hawaii will greatly serve all of Hawaii as a Board Member of the HHSC.

Please feel free to contact me at (808) 586-7335 should you have any questions regarding this recommendation or if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Lorraine R. Inouye
Senator, 1st District



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

"Touching Lives Every Day"

Senate Committee on Health
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

October 26, 2007, 9:00AM
Conference Room 016
Hawaii State Capitol

TESTIMONY SUPPORTING GM

Consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Richard James Vidgen**, for a term to expire 6/30/2011

Testimony of Thomas Driskill, Jr.
President & Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC)

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of Gubernatorial Nominee Richard James Vidgen for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. The HHSC Board of Directors is dedicated to responsible governance and decision-making to advance the system's mission of providing and enhancing accessible, comprehensive healthcare services.

Mr. Vidgen has an extensive business background with career and leadership accomplishments and is active in local community service organizations. Mr. Vidgen's business qualifications and dedication to community concerns will certainly contribute to the corporation's highly qualified Board of Directors and governance of the state authorized safety-net system.

HHSC strongly supports your consideration and confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Richard James Vidgen to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Your favorable consideration for confirmation of this nominee is greatly appreciated.

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