

GM735

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Examiners in Optometry, Gubernatorial Nominee, DR. SEULYN K.L. AU, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Report Title: Board of Examiners in Optometry

Description:

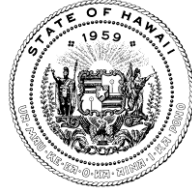
Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
4/7/2015	S	Received.
4/7/2015	S	Referred to CPN.
4/16/2015	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 04-22-15 8:30AM in conference room 016.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR
JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2015
Wednesday, April 22, 2015
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 735**, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO **THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY**, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **DR. SEULYN K.L. AU**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2019.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 735, nominating Dr. Seulyn K.L. Au for membership on the Board of Examiners in Optometry ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2019.

Dr. Au is an experienced and respected practitioner with a diverse background in optometry, business and community service. She has been a licensed optometrist in the State of Hawaii for over 30 years, and her license is current, active and in good

standing. She was the founder and managing optometric director of the Kalihi-Palama Optometry Clinic. This clinic is the only non-profit eye clinic in the State of Hawaii that provides eye care to homeless and medically needy people. She is Vice President and member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for Palama Settlement and serves on the boards of a number of nonprofit organizations.

In preparation for her service on the Board, Dr. Au has familiarized herself with the Board's responsibilities and tasks that include the granting, suspending, and revoking of licenses; the establishing of administrative rules; and the enforcing of provisions governing the State's licensing of the industry. Also, she understands the expectation that individual Board members will regularly attend and participate in the Board's functions. Importantly, Dr. Au has expressed a strong interest in participating more actively in policy and consumer protection issues at the board level. The Department believes that Dr. Au's combination of experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to public service make her a strong choice for appointment to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of Dr. Au's nomination to the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

April 21, 2014

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: Testimony in favor of Governor's Message 735 the nomination of Dr. Seulyn Au to the Board of Examiners in Optometry

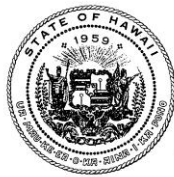
Dear Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Hawaii Optometric Association it is my pleasure to submit testimony in favor of the confirmation of Dr. Seulyn Au to the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

I have known Dr. Au for over fifteen years and can attest that she will have best interest of the people in the State of Hawaii as her highest priority. Having been a doctor of Optometry and a small business woman she has the experience to make sound comprehensive decisions.

Again thank you, for allowing me to submit testimony in favor of the appointment of Dr. Seulyn Au to the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Charlotte Nekota
Executive Director
Hawaii Optometric Association



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Office of State Representative Della Au Belatti

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2015

Wednesday, April 22, 2015
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO 735. TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Dr. Seulyn K. L. Au to the Board of Examiners in Optometry. Dr. Au would bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Board. She was the first licensed Native Hawaiian optometrist in the State of Hawai'i and has been a practicing optometrist for over 30 years.

Dr. Au started her first Hawai'i practice in 1985 as the Founder and Managing Optometric Director of the non-profit Kalihi-Palama Optometry Clinic. At the clinic, she helped provide critical eye care to many residents including serving the homeless and medically needy.

In 1989, Dr. Au founded Drs. Au and Lau, Optometrist, Inc. She currently serves as the President and Managing Optometrist. The company provides free vision screening in public schools and participated for the past 25 years in the "Gift of Sight" program which offers free eye exams for low income residents.

Dr. Au has also spent many years as an Adjunct Professor and as a consultant on a number of clinical trials. She has volunteered for numerous community organizations and served on the Board of Directors for Palama Settlement, Kokua Kalihi Valley Medical Health Clinic, and the Hawai'i Chapter of the National Kidney Foundation.

As a current resident of my District, I have personally known Dr. Au and her husband former State Representative Marvin Dang for a number of years. They have three children together. As a practicing optometrist combined with her academic background, business experience, and commitment to serving her community, I believe that Dr. Seulyn K. L. Au would make a strong addition to the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Representative Della Au Belatti

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTATIVE KANIELA ING
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET #311
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 21, 2015

TO: Chair Rosalyn Baker
Vice-Chair Brian T. Taniguchi
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

FROM: Representative Kaniela Ing

RE: Testimony in favor of Governor's Message 735 for the nomination of Dr. Seulyng Kuulei Lee Au to the Hawaii Board of Examiners in Optometry

It is with great pleasure to submit testimony in favor of the confirmation of Dr. Seulyng Kuulei Lee Au to the Board of Examiners in Optometry. She has been my optometrist for many years and is an outstanding, active, contributing member of our community.

Diverse experiences should be recognized and valued on the Board of Optometry. Seeing that Dr. Au has had outstanding, varied experiences in business, education, finance, strategic planning, and policy for 33 years, Dr. Au is more than well-qualified to being a member of Board where she will bring a unique and multi-faceted perspective and background.

Dr. Au is a community minded person who has the best interest of the people in the State of Hawaii as her highest priority. She is an Adjunct Professor based in Hawaii for two mainland optometry schools; the first Native Hawaiian optometrist in the State of Hawaii; an active participant of the "Gift of Sight" program where her clinic has provided nearly 5,000 free eye exams to indigent people in the community; and has served on the Boards of Palama Settlement, the Kokua Kalihi Valley Medical Health Clinic, and the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii.

It is overwhelmingly evident that Dr. Au is passionate about our community and would be an invaluable member to the Board. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in favor of the appointment of Dr. Seulyng Kuulei Lee Au to the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Sincerely,

Representative Kaniela Ing
State Representative, House District 11

Representative Kaniela Ing
House District 11
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 311 / Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone (808) 586-8525 / E-mail: reping@capitol.hawaii.gov

DR. SEULYN KUULEI LEE AU

April 22, 2015

Senator Roslyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 735 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Examiners in Optometry, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dr. Seulyn K. L. Au, for a term to expire on June 30, 2019.

I am respectfully requesting that your committee recommend me for the position of **industry member** on the State of Hawaii **Board of Examiners in Optometry**.

I have been a licensed optometrist in Hawaii since 1983. (OD-203) As a Board member, I will bring a unique background and perspective to the position. My diverse experiences over the years have been in business, education, and community service.

In the field of optometry, I have been a successful optometrist, businesswoman, and educator for 33 years. Twenty five years ago, I founded and managed Drs. Au and Lau, Optometrist, Inc., which was one of the largest practices in Hawaii. We were located in 3 major shopping centers on Oahu. Before that, I started and ran the only non-profit optometry clinic in the state, the Kalihi-Palama Optometry Center.

To educate future optometrists, I am an Adjunct Professor based in Hawaii for two mainland optometry schools. I have lectured and served as a consultant for clinical trials relating to new contact lens products.

As the first Native Hawaiian optometrist in the State of Hawaii, I am passionate about providing the very best care for the people of Hawaii. To assist those who needed help I provide free vision screenings in public schools and in low income communities. For 25 years since 1989, my company has participated in the "Gift of Sight" program. To date, I have provided nearly 5,000 free eye exams to indigent people in the community. In 1985, I started the Kalihi-Palama Optometry Clinic specifically to help homeless and medically needy patients.

I am a consistent, active leader and volunteer in our community with a specific emphasis on issues impacting the well-being of the people of Hawaii. I served on the Boards of Directors of Palama Settlement, Kokua Kalihi Valley Medical Health Clinic, and National Kidney Foundation in Hawaii.

I am willing to devote the time and to accept the challenge of working to build a stronger community through my public service on the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Thank you for considering my nomination.

Seulyn Kuulei Lee Au, O.D.