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John A. Burns School of Medicine
Office of the Dean

Testimony Presented before the
Senate Committee on Education

Friday, April 17, 2026 at 1:00 pm

By

T. Samuel Shomaker, MD, JD, MSM, Dean

**GM 668 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
HAWAII MEDICAL EDUCATION COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
TAMMY HO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029.**

Chair Kim, Vice-Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

My name is T. Samuel Shomaker, and I am the Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) of the University of Hawai'i. I also serve as chair of the Hawai'i Medical Education Council (HMEC or Council).

I am writing in support of GM 668 which submits for consideration and confirmation Tammy Ho to serve on the Hawai'i Medical Education Council for a term expiring on June 30, 2029. Ms. Tammy Ho will represent a hospital where accredited graduate medical education programs are conducted, as required by the HMEC Charter.

Ms. Ho brings over two decades of distinguished service in research administration and academic affairs in Hawai'i's medical community. Currently serving as the Director of Academic Affairs at The Queen's Medical Center, she has played a key role in advancing the institution's academic and training missions. Most recently, she made a significant contribution to the development and successful submission of a new primary care residency program at Queen's, demonstrating her continued commitment to expanding medical education opportunities in our state.

Throughout her career, Ms. Ho has held leadership roles across several healthcare and academic institutions, including the University of Hawai'i's John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), Hawai'i Pacific Health, and St. Francis Medical Center. Her expertise spans across grants administration and implementation, policy development, negotiating clinical trial agreements, and oversight of research compliance and ethics, while also serving as a member of multiple advisory committees.

Ms. Ho is widely recognized for her commitment to integrity and education and has been honored with several awards, including the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i's

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Team Employees of the Year Award, which demonstrates her excellence in leading successful teams. Her extensive experience in managing and navigating complex challenges will make her an excellent addition to the Council at a time when GME programs are expanding and evolving to meet the healthcare needs of Hawai'i's communities.

I am confident that Ms. Ho's collaborative leadership, longstanding service, and deep understanding of academic healthcare systems will make her an invaluable contributor to the work of the Council.

I strongly support of the nomination of Ms. Ho to serve on the Hawai'i Medical Education Council and urge your committee to recommend confirmation of her nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.