

October 28, 2013

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

email: [senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**RE: Maria B.J. Chun, Ph.D.  
Candidate for Public Member, Hawaii Medical Board**

Dear Honorable Chair Baker and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

Thank you for the opportunity to present a written statement for your consideration **in strong support** of Dr. Maria Chun's confirmation to the **Hawaii Medical Board**. Dr. Chun would fill a vacancy for a public member. I anticipate that there will be many letters of endorsement similar to mine, so I will be brief, in deference to the Committee's busy schedule.

By way of background, I have served on the Hawaii Medical Board for the past 7 years, serving as Chair of the Board for the past 4 years. Moreover, I am a tenured Professor at the University of Hawaii and the prior Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Hawaii. In this role I had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Chun, particularly on fiscal and managerial matters, for the past few years and I therefore believe that I am in good position to speak to the qualities that make her well-suited to serve the public and the citizens of Hawaii on the Hawaii Medical Board. I will not reiterate what is in her 'application packet' but rather highlight the skill set she would bring with her.

First of all, Dr. Chun has extensive experience in governmental affairs, as her curriculum vitae demonstrates. Her experiences include, among a number of endeavors, working for a prior Lieutenant Governor, in addition to spending a number of years in the Office of the State Auditor (the last three of those years as the Deputy). She understands the role of governmental oversight and the responsibilities associated with this role. Additionally, Dr. Chun is a collaborator and a leader, with exemplary interpersonal communication skills, who approaches matters with the highest level of dedication, integrity, and professionalism. She is highly dependable, detail oriented, a quick learner, and one who seeks clarity if the circumstance requires it. Her morals and ethics are outstanding, and she is well-respected by all who work with her.

In closing, I believe that Dr. Chun has the requisite qualifications, skills, and temperament to serve the public in exemplary manner as a member of the Hawaii Medical Board, and I unequivocally support her candidacy with the highest possible enthusiasm. I hope that you will give her candidacy strong consideration. Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,



Danny M. Takanishi, Jr., MD, FACS