



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 1:15 p.m.

By

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and

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GM 545 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council, gubernatorial nominee, LISA RANTZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support for the Governor's nominee, Ms. Lisa Rantz, for consideration and appointment to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council (HMEC).

Lisa Rantz is the Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation and offers over ten years of high level experience overseeing various non-profit educational entities who have partnered with Hawai'i Community College and the Hilo-Waiākea Complex. Lisa has successfully obtained and managed over \$5 million in grants that support educational opportunities for socioeconomically disadvantaged students and their families in rural Hawai'i. Lisa's passion for education and work with the local communities make her a valuable asset for the HMEC. The results of her efforts make it possible for JABSOM students and residents to have a portion of their training done on neighbor islands. This exposure is critical to help recruit and retain physicians for neighbor island and other rural/underserved communities throughout Hawai'i.

The HMEC is comprised of eight Governor-appointed and Legislature-confirmed individuals and five ex-officio members, including the Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine who serves as the Chair. The HMEC is administered by the Designated Institutional Official and Director of the Graduate Medical Education programs. Lisa will serve as a community (non-clinical) representative on the council.

Solving Hawai'i's physician (and health professions) workforce shortage requires multi-sector engagement and ownership, a multi-pronged and longitudinal approach, as well as ideas and resources from the private sector (*i.e., insurers, hospitals, businesses and private health care organizations committed to improving and maintaining healthy citizens and communities*) the public sector (*i.e., primary-, secondary-, and higher education, legislature, Departments of Health and Human Services and Federal agencies*) and the larger communities of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in strong support of the Governor's nomination of Lisa Rantz.