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, Dr. Todd Seto, for consideration and appointment to the Hawai‘i Medical Education Council (HMEC).

Dr. Seto is currently the Director of the Center for Outcomes Research and Education (CORE), Director of the Office for Research and Development, and Co-Chair of the Graduate Medical Education Council (GMEC) Subcommittees on Quality and Patient Safety and Research at the Queens Medical Center. His experiences as a physician and leader will make him a strong asset for the HMEC. He is committed to Hawai‘i and dedicates himself to the improvement of health care for our state as indicated by his roles in research, clinical training, and patient safety. His input would greatly benefit HMEC as a representative of the Queen’s Medical Center, which is one of our major clinical training sites for JABSOM medical students, residents and fellows.

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 (GME) programs.

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 Dr. Seto.