



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2010

April 13, 2010, 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 329

By

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And

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**GM 397 - Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, FERAYDOUN DON PARSA, MD, for a Term to expire 06-30-2013**

Aloha Honorable Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Sakamoto, and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of GM 397, which endorses Gubernatorial Nominee, **Fereydoun Don Parsa**, for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council.

We believe that Dr. Parsa's professional experience as a physician and surgeon, and as a medical educator and researcher, and his proven leadership and commitment to public service uniquely qualify him for appointment to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council.

Dr. Parsa is currently a Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, John A. Burns School of Medicine. He also serves as Chief of Plastic Surgery at The Queen's Medical Center. By way of educational background, Dr. Parsa obtained his Medical Degree from the Lausanne Medical School, in Lausanne, Switzerland. He subsequently received his postgraduate medical education in General Surgery at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, Illinois and at the University of California, Los Angeles. This was followed by additional subspecialty training in both Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and in Cardiovascular and Microvascular Surgery under the auspices of the Baylor College of Medicine and the prestigious Texas Heart Institute, in Houston, Texas.

He is American Board of Surgery certified in both General Surgery and in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He has 89 peer-reviewed, scientific publications, book chapters, and scholarly presentations. Additionally, Dr. Parsa has won countless Teaching Awards from both Students and Residents in training. Moreover, he has been the recipient of innumerable honors and awards, such as the coveted Hawai'i Medical Association Physician of the Year Award. He has been active in a number of local, national, and international medical societies, and is the current Chairman of the Pan-Pacific Surgical Association and the President of the International Society of Simulation Surgery.

Most noteworthy, Dr. Parsa has demonstrated exemplary dedication to public service and to humanitarian endeavors. He has been an active volunteer for "IRAQ STAR" providing free plastic and reconstructive surgery to wounded and deformed American soldiers returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; he has been a prior Board member of the American Cancer Society; he has served as a respected member of the Hawai'i Medical Board since 2004; and he has also served on the Board of Directors of the Aloha Medical Mission, which provides free care to citizens of impoverished Nations. To this end, Dr. Parsa has been recognized by the State of Hawai'i House of Representatives in 1986, 1988, and 1990 for his volunteerism, as an altruistic individual who compassionately provided free care during a number of medical missions to the Philippines.

In summary, Dr. Parsa brings many years of experience as both a healthcare provider in the State of Hawai'i, and as a medical educator and researcher, along with outstanding academic credentials, strong leadership skills, and an unwavering commitment to public service that makes him the ideal candidate for the position to which he is nominated. We are in **strong support** of his nomination to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this testimony.