

GM 51

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Dental Examiners, Gubernatorial Nominee, PEARL ARRINGTON, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Report Title: Board of Dental Examiners

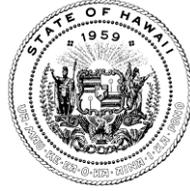
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

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**PRESENTATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
First Special Session of 2017
Tuesday, August 29, 2017
1:30 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 51**, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO **THE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **PEARL ARRINGTON**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2021.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND TO THE HONORABLE JILL N. TOKUDA, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 51, nominating Ms. Pearl Arrington for membership on the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2021.

Ms. Arrington is a long-time licensee and practitioner as a dental hygienist in Hawaii, working for a number of decades in various dental offices and maintaining her

license in good standing during that time. Being educated locally and having also spent her career in the State, Ms. Arrington has seen the development of the Hawaii dental industry since the late 1970s to now. In addition to her work, Ms. Arrington has demonstrated her desire to improve the dental practice in Hawaii by previously serving as a member of the Dental Advisory Committee that serves to advise the Department's Regulated Industries Complaints Office in carrying out its investigatory duties. Given Ms. Arrington's extensive experience and interest in maintaining a strong, safe local dental services market, the Department believes that she is in a good position to offer many valuable insights while serving on the Board.

With respect to the practical requirements of serving on the Board, such as making the time to regularly attend meetings, preparing for Board business, and participating in discussion, Ms. Arrington is aware of these various requirements and remains willing and enthusiastic about being given the opportunity to serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of Ms. Arrington's nomination to serve on the Board of Dental Examiners.



August 27, 2017

Dear Senator Baker and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association, I respectfully request and encourage your consideration of Pearl Arrington, RDH, BS as a dental hygiene member appointee to the Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners.

Pearl has been in the dental field for over 40 years and a licensed dental hygienist for thirty-four years. She is a graduate of the University of Hawaii Manoa where she obtained her Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene. She has been practicing full time on Oahu where she is an active member of the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association (HDHA). Pearl has served as President for HDHA in 1991, as well as, holding several Board positions and committee appointments throughout the years.

Pearl has an intense passion for her profession and it shows in her willingness to serve as a clinical examiner for the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) for the last 10 years. Before that she served for over a decade, as an examiner for the Hawaii State Dental Hygiene Exam. Pearl is currently willing to serve on the Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners, and her input will bring a much-needed point of view relating to the profession of dental hygiene as it relates to the public's safety. The Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association respectfully solicits your consideration of Pearl Arrington for appointment to the Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Respectfully,

Justin Stanton, RDH, BS, EPP

HDHA President 2016-2017

RELATING TO APPOINTMENT OF DENTAL HYGIENIST TO HAWAII BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: August 29, 2017

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Senate Conference Room 229

Dear Honorable Senator Baker, Chair, Senator Tokuda, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

This testimony is in **SUPPORT of Pearl Arrington, RDH, BS, for Appointment to the Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners.**

My name is Diane Brucato, RDH, EF, BS, FAADH. I have been a practicing Dental Hygienist in good standing on the island of Hawaii since 1992. Living in Hilo, I have had the privilege to practice in both Kona and Hilo. In addition, I have taken an active role in leadership; volunteered in my community, island, and state; attended almost every Board of Dental Examiners meeting since 2007 (and many before that); and applied twice for a position on the Board of Dental Examiners. Presently, I am serving my eighth year on the Regulated Industries Complaints Office's (RICO) Dental Advisory Committee. I have been a dental hygienist since 1979, am a former Anesthesia Examiner for Western Regional Examining Board, and a longstanding member of the American Association of Dental Boards.

As a professional dental hygienist, I have attended all, but one of the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association's (HDHA's) Annual Scientific Sessions since relocating to Hawaii in 1992 from Arizona. I will attest that Ms. Arrington, too, has been consistent in her attendance to continuing education courses on every subject at HDHA Annual Scientific Sessions. I have noted her attendance at Hawaii Dental Association's (HDA's) Annual Meetings, as well. Ms. Arrington is a long standing member and Past President (1990) of HDHA.

Upon conversations with Ms. Arrington over the years, I have found her to be intelligent, knowledgeable, well read, experienced, current, and up to date about Periodontics, Caries Prevention, Public Health, Access to Care, Evidence Based

Practice, and Best Practices. She believes in a high standard of care, is open-minded, level-headed, and will research in consideration of all aspects in any decision making process. She upholds the values of an exemplary, true professional.

In short, I support the appointment of Pearl Arrington, RDH, BS, to the HBODE, as Dental Hygienist member.

Sincerely,

Diane Brucato, RDH, EF, BS, FAADH

d.bt@live.com (808) 937-7282

Member, Regulated Industries Complaints Office's (RICO) Dental Advisory Committee

Member, American Association of Dental Boards

Former Anesthesia, Examiner Western Regional Examining Board

Past President, American Academy of Dental Hygiene, 2010-12

Past President, Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association, 2009

ADHA/Hu-Friedy Master Clinician Award 2008

Sunstar/RDH Award of Distinction 2002

August 26, 2017

Dear Senator Roz Baker and Committee Members

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Pearl Arrington, RDH. As a previous Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners dental hygiene member and Vice Chair, I am well aware of the importance of this position. With only two hygienists on the twelve member board, the dental hygienist member serves as a voice for the profession and champion for the protection of the public interest and safety.

I have known Pearl for over 20 years. She has shown professionalism, leadership and focus in all her endeavors. I have worked with her in the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association (HDHA) activities where she served as President and Treasurer. Also through Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS), where I serve as Coordinator (in charge of dental hygiene exams) and have personally witnessed her abilities as a clinical examiner for over 10 years. Previously, she served as an examiner in the Hawaii State Dental Hygiene Examination for more the 10 years.

Pearl's nomination to the Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners is a welcome new addition as a dental hygiene member. She will be an asset to a very important position and will bring knowledge, critical thinking and decisive judgement.

If you have any additional questions please contact me by email:
gaylechang@pacific-ocean.com

Sincerely,

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August 26, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Ms. Pearl Arrington for your consideration. Pearl has told me she is applying for the hygiene position on the Hawaii Dental Board and I cannot think of a better candidate.

As Director of Dental Hygiene Examinations Development and Administration with Central Regional Dental Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS), I have known Pearl for several years as a dental hygiene examiner for our organization. Pearl was recommended to serve as an examiner by the Hawaii State Dental Board and she has fulfilled her duties in exemplary fashion.

The responsibilities associated with being a dental hygiene examiner are tremendous. Organization, professionalism and maturity are paramount. Pearl has met and exceeded the expectations required for this position.

In addition, Pearl has shown the ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing. She works hard, is always punctual, demonstrates strong interpersonal skills and most importantly (to our organization) is her ability to adjust and be flexible to the demands and changes related with being an examiner.

On a personal note, I very much enjoy working with Pearl. She is confident, good-natured and always sensitive to the needs of her fellow examiners. She is sometimes too hard on herself but that is because she has set high expectations for herself and I have no doubt she will accomplish all she sets out to do.

Therefore, it is without reservation or hesitation that I strongly endorse and support Pearl Arrington in her desire to serve on the Hawaii Dental Board.

Respectfully,

Kim Laudenslager, RDH, MPA

Kim Laudenslager, RDH, MPA
Director; CRDTS Hygiene Examinations

From: [M.Roberts Nonaka](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Supportive testimony appointment to Board of Dentistry
Date: Monday, August 28, 2017 5:28:27 AM

To the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health, The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair and Distinguished Members of The Committee

Please accept my whole-hearted recommendation of Pearl Arrington to serve as a dental hygienist member of the Board of Dental Examiners. Pearl has professional qualities of years of experience and knowledge, and personal qualities of steady judgement and exemplary character that will serve Hawaii well in its charge to protect public safety while regulating the professions of dentistry and dental hygiene.

In addition, Pearl would be one of the few Dental Board members to be appointed of Hawaiian ancestry, and the first dental hygienist member of that distinction.

Pearl is very familiar with administering professional dental hygiene exams, having been one of the first dental hygienists to participate in the state-produced licensing exam, and now with the independent national exams that Hawaii accepts for dental hygiene licensure.

As a former member of the Board of Dental Examiners myself, it is with full confidence that I endorse Pearl Arrington as a dental hygiene member to the Board of Dental Examiners.

Thank you for the opportunity to address This Committee.

Marilyn R Nonaka, RDH, BS, MS
texaninhawaii@gmail.com

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

I have the time to devote to the position. I would like to make a difference to the citizens of Hawaii and the dental community. I am older and I think about how I will be remembered.

- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

The primary role of a member of the Board is to ensure the safety of the consumer. An additional role, is to be in communication with the dental community and be cognizant of their concerns.

- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

I can help the consumer by staying informed about what is going on in the community and by staying current and knowledgeable about dental standards, products and ethics.

- (4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I have been a private practice dental hygienist for over thirty years. I have been in the dental profession even longer primarily treating the senior population. I have been part of the examining process for licensure of dental hygienist for many years, working with the State of Hawaii and Central Regional Testing Service. I have been part of my professional organization (ADHA, HDHA) and served on the board on the local level. I am a board member on the AOA where I live. I developed a Standard of Dental Hygiene Care at the last practice I worked at.

All of these experiences will serve me well as a Board member.

- (5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I do not have any particular goals. I think access to care for Hawaii's children and senior population is important. Hawaii's children have the distinction of having the highest caries rate in the nation.

I celebrate that Hawaii's licensed dental hygienist are able to practice under general supervision. It took thirty years to accomplish this. I hope to see more improvements in the practice of dental hygiene in Hawaii.

- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

I am a thinker. I listen. I am not quick to respond. I research, weigh the facts and then make a decision. These qualities will enable me to make thoughtful, informed decisions as a Board member.

- (7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I was a driver for Lanakila Pacific, Meals on Wheels for three years, delivering hot meals to seniors in their homes. This gave me an additional perspective of the needs of seniors. As a private practice hygienist, the patients I treated had dental insurance or some other means to pay for their dental care. Most of the clients I delivered meals to were being subsidized by the state. They received housing, medical and meal assistance.

- (8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any possible conflicts. I would do whatever was necessary to resolve any conflict of interest during my service on the Board.