



Pacific Islands Health Officers Association

Board Resolution #46-02

“Supporting the development of a regional dental paraprofessional training program as formally proposed by the Pacific Basin Dental Association at the 46th PIHOA Meeting”

WHEREAS, there continues to be an extremely high prevalence of dental caries, especially among children, along with a low number of experienced providers within PIHOA Member States;

WHEREAS, PIHOA has identified primary health care as one of ten priority areas in its current strategic plan and also recognizes that dental health is a key component of primary health care;

WHEREAS, through Resolution #43-04, PIHOA committed itself to advocating, supporting, and assisting with the development and establishment of a formal dental paraprofessional training program in the region;

WHEREAS, since that time, PIHOA and the US Health Resources and Services Administration provided funds to support the Pacific Basin Dental Association (PBDA) with developing the proposal, budget, and curriculum for said training program;

WHEREAS, PBDA recruited and facilitated a Dental Workforce Development Advisory Board to assist with this effort, which included representatives from PBDA, PIHOA, the University of Washington; Otago University in New Zealand; and Griffith University in Australia;

WHEREAS, the results of this planning effort were presented in 2008 to the PIHOA Committee for Human Resources for Health, which responded with three recommendations, all of which have been addressed;

WHEREAS, the final results of this planning effort were presented at the 46th PIHOA Meeting, in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands;

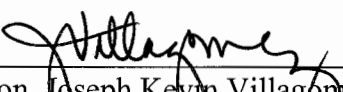
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that PIHOA endorses the general proposal for a Regional Community Oral Health Professionals Training Program, as presented at the 46th PIHOA Meeting in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PIHOA recommends Pohnpei State, in the Federated States of Micronesia, as the site of the program;


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PIHOA requests that PBDA continue to work in close coordination with PIHOA and its Committee on Human Resources for Health, as PBDA and its advisory group refine and develop the program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PIHOA commits itself to assisting PBDA with finding the necessary financial and human resources necessary to implement the program effectively;

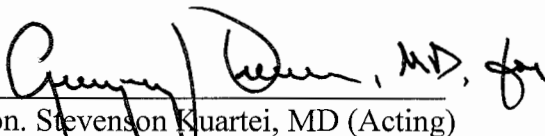
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PIHOA commends PBDA, along with the its Dental Workforce Development Advisory Board, for their hard work and commitment to this project and to the cause of oral health in the region.



Hon. Joseph Kevin Villagomez, MA
Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
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Republic of the Marshall Islands
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