



Akamai Cannabis Clinic

3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304
Honolulu, HI 96816

September 17, 2020

Elizabeth A. Char, MD
Director, Department of Health
1250 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Director Char,

Thank you for your comments at the Governor's Press Conference yesterday during your first day as director of the Department of Health (DOH).

I especially appreciated your remarks about the "need to make sure that we're paying attention to our health beyond COVID".

Our 30K+ medical cannabis patients are desperately in need of such attention. Fortunately, the Governor proclaimed dispensaries essential during the first shutdown, but we still have a long way to go in terms of protecting the health of our medical cannabis patients and ending the discrimination that they face every day because of the invalid assumption that the state-authorized medical use of cannabis in Hawaii violates federal law.

I have not had much success interfacing with DOH leadership in the past on these issues. I hope that under your leadership there will be greater transparency and open discussion with all stakeholders on steps that can be taken to improve our Medical Cannabis Program.

To that end, I would like to request an opportunity to discuss over the phone the issues that I see facing the department. I am a certifying provider and a Certified Cannabinoid Medicine Specialist, so I believe I have some useful insights to offer. Your source of input cannot be solely from behind-closed-doors meetings with dispensary CEOs.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Aloha,

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"An Accepted Medical Use Supporter"