

# **Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council Item ID 55708 Agenda Number 4.

Meeting Date: 3/3/2016 Department: Health and Human Services

### Subject

Approve the reappointment of Philip P. Huang, M.D., M.P.H., as the Health Authority and designate Birch Duke Kimbrough M.D. as the Alternate Health Authority for Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department.

### Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	The City Council first approved the appointment of Dr. Philip P. Huang as Health Authority in April 2008. He and three alternates were reappointed in March 2010 and again in March 2012. Per State statute, Dr. Huang's reappointment is now due March 31, 2016.
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, HHSD Director, 512 972-5010; Dr. Philip Huang, Medical Director/Health Authority, 512-972-5855; Belinda Hare, Dr. Huang's assistant, 512-972-5855; Belinda Hare, Administrative Assistant to Medical Director/Health Authority, 512-972-5855; Elena Lloyd, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5033.
Council Committee, Boards and	
Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

## Additional Backup Information

The Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) requests approval for the reappointment of Dr. Philip P. Huang as the Health Authority for another two-year term, from April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2018. Philip P. Huang, M.D., M.P.H., is the current Medical Director and Health Authority for HHSD. As the Medical Director, Dr. Huang will provide medical leadership in monitoring and responding to potential disease outbreaks, and ensure all medical-related activities are performed in accordance with applicable license, regulatory, and accreditation standards. As the Health Authority, Dr. Huang will perform the duties required under State statutes, City ordinance, and County regulations, including those related to quarantine, required reporting of infectious diseases, and the management of birth and death records.

Under State law (Health and Safety Code Section 121.029), the Health Authority may delegate any power or duty imposed on the Health Authority to a properly qualified physician who may act when the Health Authority is absent or incapacitated. The physician(s) designated by the Health Authority must:

Meet license and residence requirements

- Be appointed as a designee in the same manner as the Health Authority, and
- File the Oath of Office, executed by a duly appointed Notary Public, with the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

The Health Authority is responsible for the acts of the physicians to whom the powers have been delegated and the entity that appoints the Health Authority must have procedures in place to prevent duplication of authority. Also, the HHSD Director must be notified of the delegation of authority to the Alternate Health Authority. HHSD has had a "Delegation of Back-Up Health Authority" since July 1, 2000. The upcoming term of the Alternate Health Authority extends from April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2018. With the approval of Shannon Jones, HHSD Director, Dr. Philip Huang has designated Dr. B. Duke Kimbrough as the Alternate Health Authority qualified to act in his absence.

#### **ELIGIBLE APPOINTEES:**

Philip P. Huang, M.D., M.P.H., received his medical degree from The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and his Master's in Public Health, with a concentration in Health Policy and Management, from Harvard. Dr. Huang also received an undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering from Rice University. He is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Texas and is a Diplomate with the American Board of Family Practice. His clinical experience includes internship and residency in family practice at Brackenridge Hospital where he also served as Chief Resident in Family Practice. Prior to holding his current position, he served as Medical Director for Chronic Disease Prevention at the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and Chief of the Bureau of Chronic Disease and Tobacco Prevention at the former Texas Department of Health (TDH).

Dr. Huang meets all the requirements of the Health and Safety Code to be reappointed Health Authority by Shannon Jones.

Dr. B. Duke Kimbrough received his medical degree from The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He interned and served as resident in general surgery at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He also served as resident in general surgery at Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, Washington. Dr. Kimbrough is a Diplomate in general surgery with the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Emergency Medicine. Since March 1993, he has served as Staff Physician in the Emergency Department of the South Austin Medical Center.

Dr. Kimbrough meets all of the requirements of the Health and Safety Code to be designated as an Alternate Health Authority.

### **PERFORMANCE**

Related Department Goal: Promote a healthy community by preventing chronic and communicable diseases and promoting improvements in social/economic/environmental factors that will result in an improved overall health status and a reduction of health disparities.