

GM562

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Physical Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, JILL WAKABAYASHI, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Report Title: Board of Physical Therapy

Description:

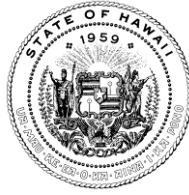
Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
4/1/2015	S	Received.
4/1/2015	S	Referred to CPN.
4/2/2015	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 04-17-15 8:30AM in conference room 229.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Regular Session of 2015

Friday, April 17, 2015

8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 562**, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO **THE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **JILL WAKABAYASHI**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, 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. 562, nominating Ms. Jill Wakabayashi for membership on the Board of Physical Therapy ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

Ms. Wakabayashi has been and continues to be a leader in physical therapy education on Oahu, working as an assistant professor since 1999 and Program Director since 2002 of the Physical Therapy Assistant Program at Kapiolani Community College.

Prior to her time spent training and educating local physical therapy assistants, Ms. Wakabayashi worked for several years as a physical therapy assistant at Saint Francis Medical Center West, during which time her duties were centered around providing acute and outpatient physical therapy to patients. Ms. Wakabayashi has also been recognized for her work as a physical therapy assistant and educator from different organizations such as the Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, which highlights her many accomplishments while on the job. As demonstrated by her dedication to the field, Ms. Wakabayashi is committed to furthering the practice of physical therapy assistants, in particular, by serving on the Board.

In addition, Ms. Wakabayashi has a good understanding of what is required of the Board, including licensing reviews and determinations, consideration of physical therapy policy, and taking actions to enforce Board policies where necessary. This understanding includes a recognition and willing acceptance of the time and preparation requirements that Board service demands. Ms. Wakabayashi would, therefore, make an outstanding addition to the Board and would, in the Department's opinion, serve the State well as the Board's physical therapy assistant representative.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of Ms. Wakabayashi's nomination to the Board of Physical Therapy.



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII'S
KAPĪOLANI
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

April 8, 2015

RE: Jill Wakabayashi, GM562,
Nomination Physical Therapy Board

I have known Jill Wakabayashi for over 10 years. My primary association with her has been as her colleague in the Health Sciences Department at Kapiolani Community College (KCC).


As the program director for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at KCC, Jill has maintained the accredited status of the program at a high level. She is a dedicated and seasoned educator, and if one accesses rehabilitation services in Hawaii, one is very likely to encounter one of her graduates. Beyond the college, Jill has also served on various panels and boards of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) which, at both the national and state levels, is focused on promoting the professionalism and best practices of this discipline. Throughout her academic career, then, Jill has championed her profession and served as an advocate for the advancement of physical therapy practice.

What impresses me most is the time and effort Jill devotes to patients afflicted with Parkinson's disease, especially the elderly and chronically ill who are at the fringes of the health care system. For several years now, Jill has run a no-charge, voluntary Saturday clinic with her students to improve exercise tolerance, share tips on preventing falls, etc. Jill, then, has gone beyond the walls of academia—she brings a great deal of integrity to those of us at KCC who teach in various allied health fields. And, as in the case of the APTA, Jill is not just a member, but has served as the past president of the Hawaii chapter of the National Parkinson Foundation and participated as a volunteer in numerous events and activities sponsored by this foundation.

Jill Wakabayashi will bring this same passion for her profession and dedication to excellence during her tenure as a member of the Physical Therapy Board. I endorse her nomination to be a member of the Board without hesitation, and with great enthusiasm.

Please contact me if you have further questions about my endorsement at 734-9244 or akoseki@hawaii.edu.

Respectfully,


Aaron K. Koseki, Ph.D., RRT
Professor, Health Sciences

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April 6th 2015

Dear Sirs,

My name is Ann Low and I am the Academic Coordinator for Clinical Education (ACCE) in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at Kapiolani Community College ((KCC). It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the nomination of Jill Wakabayashi PTA., MPH to fill the new PTA board member position on the Hawaii State Board of Physical Therapy.

I have worked with Jill at KCC in the PTA program for the last 12 years. As a graduate of the program she has a unique perspective of the educational requirements and job opportunities available in Hawaii. She has a long clinical practice at the old St Francis West Hospital before becoming the PTA program director.

Her passion for the profession is evident in her high expectations and standards for the students. She has ensured that along with skills and knowledge, legal and ethical practice is woven into every PTA course though out the program. She brings a down to earth and practical approach to her teaching.

She has been instrumental in the licensing of PTAs in Hawaii. She was and is, the 'go to' person for information regarding all facets of the licensing process. Her involvement in the American Physical Therapy Association ensure that she has the contacts to keep Hawaii up to date in the ever changing field of health care. Jill is also responsible for program accreditation so that her students graduate from an accredited program and are able to work anywhere in the US.

Jill puts her heart and soul into everything she does; she works well with groups and has many great ideas. But the most important thing is that she loves the profession of physical therapy and is proud to be a part of the health care team.

I whole heartedly recommend her for the PTA position on the board.

Yours sincerely

Ann M. Low

ACCE

DATE: April 8, 2015

TO: Senate President, State of Hawaii

SUBJECT: Jill Wakabayashi, PTA appointment to the Hawaii State Board of Physical Therapy

FROM: Brad Thuringer, PTA

It is without hesitation that I endorse the nomination of **Jill Wakabayashi, PTA** to the Hawaii State Board of Physical Therapy to fill the new PTA board member position.

Jill is an exemplary member of her community and role model in the physical therapy profession. As the Program Director of the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program at Kapi'olani Community College, Jill has long been interested in serving on the Board of Physical Therapy. Rather than concerning herself with being the best, Jill's focus is making sure her students contribute to the profession and adhere to the ethical standards of the profession – a subtle but crucial aspect of Jill's teaching.

Leader for Patient Protection and Professional Responsibility. Jill has served on several panels and boards for the profession at the local and the national. As a board member, Jill will be able to share her knowledge of the profession and further assist the board in the development of PTA practice requirements and standards.

Exemplary Member of the Physical Therapy Community. Jill has worked as a PTA since 1991, initially working in acute care prior to teaching. Jill has worked on several committees' for PTA licensure and she currently serves as past president of the National Parkinson Foundation Hawaii chapter.

I have known Jill professionally for 16 years and I cannot over emphasize what her past and current professional experiences would add to the current board of examiner's.



Brad Thuringer, PTA

Testimony for Jill Wakabayashi for Hawaii State Board of Physical Therapy to fill the new PTA board member position.

We have known Jill here at Diamond Head Theatre for many years due to her outstanding work as a volunteer...so note-worthy that she was recently named volunteer of the year here at DHT.

Jill keeps her commitments, takes volunteering seriously and is fine upstanding member of our theatre community. I imagine that would translate equally well to service on the State Board of Physical Therapy as once Jill agrees to take on a task, you know it will be completed on time and perfectly. You would be well served to appoint her.

aloha, Deena Dray

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Deena Dray  
Executive Director  
Diamond Head Theatre  
520 Makapuu Ave, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816  
Tel: 808-733-0277 ext: 301  
Find us at [www.diamondheadtheatre.com](http://www.diamondheadtheatre.com)

***Celebrating 100 years of theatre in Hawaii***



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII\*  
**KAPĪOLANI**  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

April 7, 2015

TO: Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
 FROM: Jill M. Wakabayashi, PTA, MPH  
 RE: Support of Jill M. Wakabayashi to Hawaii PT Board

My name is Jill M. Wakabayashi and I am honored to be nominated for the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) position on the Hawaii Physical Therapy Board. I am a graduate of the Kapiolani Community College (KapCC) PTA program and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am the PTA Program Director at KapCC and an Assistant Professor in the PTA program. I would like to support my nomination to this Board membership.

I was born and raised in Hawaii and educated through the Hawaii Public school system then the University of Hawaii Manoa and Kapiolani Community College. After my degree as a PTA, I was employed for 10 years at St. Francis Medical Center West and started teaching in the PTA program in 1999. I have the experience and knowledge needed to protect the public on the education and clinical practice of physical therapy.

I have a strong passion for this career in Physical Therapy. Physical therapy (PT) is a health care service that involves the person in his or her own healing process. The reward of helping someone regain strength or mobility cannot be expressed in words. I maintain a high standard in the quality of care a patient receives in PT. I emphasize the ethical and practice standards in teaching the PT skills to the PTA students. I have become the 'go to' person in Hawaii when it comes to information about PT practice, licensing, education and standards.

I have been actively involved in the profession of PT since 1990 when I was a student PTA. My activities involved working on the committees in the Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), to being the first PTA on the Hawaii Chapter board, the first PTA to represent Hawaii at the APTA Annual meetings to serving in leadership roles in the APTA. I will also represent Hawaii PTAs at the annual conference in June 2015 and attend meetings involving the education in PT.

Being able to serve on the Hawaii PT Board has been a dream for me for many years. I put my heart and soul into everything I do. This position will allow me to protect the consumer in regards to PT services and help the board with the latest information on PT education standards for the maintenance of licensure and consumer safety. My role would be to represent PTAs and the importance of physical therapy team of Physical therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants.

I humbly ask for your confidence in me by confirming my nomination to the PT board. I would like the opportunity to serve the State of Hawaii to the best of my ability based on my vast experience in PT.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jill M. Wakabayashi'.

Jill M. Wakabayashi, PTA, MPH  
 KapCC Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director

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