

testimony

From: JoAnn Yuen [joyuen@mac.com]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2008 1:02 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony for GM 569 Nomination: Kristine M. Takekawa

April 18, 2008

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony for GM 569 Nomination: Kristine M. Takekawa

I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Kristine M. Takekawa to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. I have known Dr. Takekawa for over 15 years and first met her while we both worked for the Hawaii 0-3 Early Intervention Project. Dr. Takekawa was in charge of implementing Hawaii's statewide newborn screening program: the first statewide effort in the Nation. She quickly and passionately became an advocate for newborn hearing policy, infants and toddlers with special needs, and their families.

Dr. Takekawa worked with each hospital and audiologist to ensure that every newborn would be screened and when needed, supports would be in place to support child development. My nephew is a beneficiary of this screening program: identified at 1-month, aided at 4 months, and today excelling in first grade in a private school.

Dr. Takekawa graduated from 0-3 to K-12 and now serves hundreds of hearing impaired and deaf students in public schools. She continues to screen and advocate for the rights and services of children, youth and their families (under No Child Left Behind) and has experienced the continuum of services needs in the public and private sector.

In an effort to strengthen her expertise and practice, Dr. Takekawa recently completed her doctorate while working full-time. Dr. Takekawa will provide thoughtful and disciplined leadership as an experienced audiologist. Her experiences have prepared her to understand complex issues, and provide well-informed recommendations. She is ready, able and willing to continue to serve the community on this Board, please confirm the nomination of Kristine M. Takekawa. If I can be of further assistance please call.

O wau iho no me ke aloha,

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GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2008

Monday, April 21, 2008
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 569.

WRITTEN ONLY

TO THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Ronald Boyer, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 569, regarding the appointment of Kristine M. Takekawa, to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology ("Board"). The Department supports Ms. Takekawa's appointment and respectfully requests that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to her appointment to the Board.

I am familiar with Ms. Takekawa and her candidacy for appointment to the Board in that I have spoken with her about the Board and her interest in serving there. Based on my discussion with Ms. Takekawa, I believe that she possesses the qualifications,

background, and experience to contribute in a positive and constructive manner on matters that will come before the Board.

Ms. Takekawa is currently an educational audiologist with the Department of Education at the Hawaii Center for the Deaf and Blind, where she is responsible for the audiologic evaluation of students. She earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from Whitman College and her master's from the University of Hawaii in speech pathology and audiology. Ms. Takekawa is currently in the Central Michigan University's audiology program and expects to receive her Doctor of Audiology next month.

Ms. Takekawa is also active in professional associations. She is a member of the Educational Audiology Association and the Hawaii Speech Language Hearing Association. She has been an American Academy of Audiology Fellow since 1995.

Ms. Takekawa is cognizant of the recent changes to the educational requirements of the profession and would be of value to the Board as it meets the challenges posed by those changes.

I am confident that if given the opportunity, Ms. Takekawa will prove to be an asset to the State through her service on the Board. I respectfully request that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to Ms. Takekawa's appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Ms. Takekawa's behalf.