

GM 607

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology, Gubernatorial Nominee, KRISTINE M. TAKEKAWA, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.

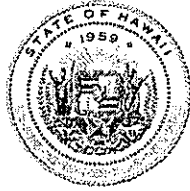
Report Title: Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

Tuesday, April 5, 2011
9:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 607.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Candace Ito and I am the Executive Officer for the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 607, regarding the **reappointment** of Kristine Takekawa, Au.D. to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Dr. Takekawa's reappointment to the Board.

Dr. Takekawa is being reappointed as an audiologist member. She has been licensed since July 1, 1988, and her license is current, active, and in good standing. She has served on the Board since July 1, 2008, and is currently the Board's Chairperson. Dr. Takekawa is a diligent member of the Board and has attended 7 of 8

meetings. With her 23 years of experience as a practicing audiologist, Dr. Takekawa brings to the Board her knowledge of the field of audiology. She also contributes her own time to the Board by gathering information for discussions such as potential administrative rule updates. Dr. Takekawa's dedication, experience and positive attitude allow her to be an effective Chairperson and sets a good example for the Board.

The Department supports the confirmation of Kristine Takekawa, Au.D. to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Kristine Takekawa, AuD.
Audiologist
GM607 Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology

Testimony/Written Statement

TO: The Honorable Senator Baker, Chairperson
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

It has been an honor and a privilege to work for the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. Consumer protection from unqualified professionals is the main focus of the Board, assuring that the professionals in our community meet the highest standard of education and professional practice for licensure. For the last couple of years we have been working on updating the administrative rules to assure that those Audiologists with the new entry level Doctor of Audiology degree can be licensed in this state. Hawaii needs to be ready to encourage new professionals to apply for licensing and work for our citizens. We have lost the local training program for audiologists, and recruitment from the mainland may become essential in the near future. I believe the amended Administrative Rules will soon go out for public hearing and comment, and I would like to follow through to the end of this process.

A member of the Board must always remember that our primary "client" is the people of Hawaii who need the services of a Speech Pathologist or Audiologist. We must do our best to assure that the services that they receive are from a qualified and ethical individual. We must work together as professionals, parents and community members to understand and address the different perspectives each of the members of the Board represents. I think that Hawaii has been well served by the Board. I also believe the proposed changes to the administrative rules continue to protect the Hawaii community.

Honestly, I do not think that I have any special skills, talents, expertise or knowledge that uniquely qualify me to be a member of the Board. I am concerned about my specific profession, about keeping qualified audiologists practicing in Hawaii, and assuring that the public receives the best services available to them from qualified individuals that hold a license in this state. I am willing to serve on the Board for as long as I am eligible, and to provide my knowledge as an audiologist, and as a public servant.

I thank you for your consideration.