

# GM686

**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Physical Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, RACHELLE IOPA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

**Report Title:** Board of Physical Therapy

**Description:**

**Companion:**

**Package:**

**Current Referral:** CPN



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ  
LT. GOVERNOR

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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2011

Wednesday, April 13, 2011  
9:15 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 686**

**WRITTEN ONLY**

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

My name is Keali'i S. Lopez, and I am the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA" or the "Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 686, regarding the appointment of Rachelle Iopa to the Board of Physical Therapy ("Board"). The Department supports Dr. Iopa's appointment and respectfully requests the Committee to recommend that the Senate advise and consent to her appointment to the Board.

I have spoken with Dr. Iopa regarding her candidacy for appointment to the Board, and based on my discussion with Dr. Iopa, I believe that she possesses the qualifications, background, and experiences to serve on the Board, and to contribute in a positive and constructive manner on matters that will come before the Board.

Dr. Iopa received her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Southern California. She is currently the President of Kaimuki Care, a professional state of the art physical therapy clinic dedicated to the rehabilitation of Hawaii's injured. Through her professional experience she has been exposed to many critical components in the field of physical therapy.

Dr. Iopa is a member of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Hawaii Chapter of American Physical Therapy Association. Her affiliations with these organizations will enable her to share her wisdom and expertise with the Board. By becoming a member of the Board, Dr. Iopa hopes to make a great impact by influencing the physical therapy profession in a meaningful way.

Dr. Iopa also feels that a major role of the Board is to help shape the future of physical therapy in Hawaii. Recently the Board approved direct access to physical therapy, making Hawaii the 46<sup>th</sup> state in the country to achieve this milestone. She is looking forward to serving on the Board.

Considering her extensive experience, I am confident that if given the opportunity, Dr. Iopa 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 Dr. Iopa's appointment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.