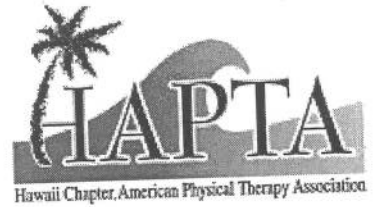


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**Testimony by:
Patti Taira-Tokuuke, PT
GM 686, Rachelle Iopa
Board of Physical Therapy Confirmation
Sen CPN, Weds. April 13, 2011
Room 229, 9:15 am**

Position: Support

Chair Baker and Members of the Sen CPN Committee:

I am Patti Taira-Tokuuke, P.T., Co-Chair of the Reimbursement Issues Committee and member of HAPTA's Legislative Committee. I live on the Big Island and regret that I am not able to be present to testify.

HAPTA represents 250 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants employed in hospitals, nursing homes, the Armed Forces, the Department of Education and Department of Health (DOH) systems, and private clinics throughout our community. Physical therapists work with everyone, from infants to the elderly, to restore and improve function and quality of life. We are part of the spectrum of care for Hawaii, and provide rehabilitative services for infants and children, youth, adults and the elderly. Physical therapy services are a vital part of restoring optimum function from neuromusculoskeletal injuries and impairments, improving wellness, and teaching prevention.

HAPTA supports Rachelle Iopa's confirmation to the Board of Physical Therapy. Ms. Iopa and I worked together prior to each of us starting our own private practices. She graduated from University of Southern California's physical therapy program and has been a small business owner for about seven years.

During the time we worked together, I have found Ms. Iopa to be an efficient, consumer-centered physical therapist. Her professional as well as small business experience brings a practical perspective to the Board.

On behalf of HAPTA, we request your support and consideration of Ms Iopa to the Board of Physical Therapy.

I can be reached at 808-969-3811 if you have any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.