

Testimony:

I testify in support of HCR 20. In 2010, I had the opportunity and privilege to attend the American Music Therapy Association Annual Conference, and met music therapists from all over our nation. The profession of music therapy is a viable way to serve the people of Hawaii, in terms of mental health needs. The music therapists I have met, both at the AMTA Annual Conference and here in Hawaii, are mental health therapists of high integrity and commitment to the populations they serve. The music therapists of Sounding Joy, for example, are compassionate, caring professionals who would be a great asset to the helping community here in Hawaii. As a master's level therapist working with the families of our state, I would be proud to work alongside a board-certified, licensed music therapist, and would refer clients to such a professional, whenever the unique interventions of music therapy are appropriate.

I support, as a logical first step, a "sunrise audit," so that legislators may analyze the viability of music therapy as a recognized licensed profession in the State of Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Respectfully,  
Elizabeth K. Lyons, MA  
Therapist – HI-IMPACT  
Catholic Charities Hawaii

## **Testimony on HB 559 and HCR20**

**As the Director Lifestyles at Hi'olani Care Center at Kahala Nui I have had the pleasure and the opportunity to work with Board Certified Music Therapists through Sounding Joy Music Therapy Inc. The therapeutic aspects of music therapy greatly enhances our activities program for our elderly residents at Hi'olani. Music Therapy is so much more than playing relaxing music or learning to play an instrument. A Music Therapist is able to make a connection through music to increase an elder's interaction with others, increase their level of alertness, provide solace and relaxation, and as a tool for reminiscing. Many of the elders that the music therapist may work with are nearing the end of life and may no longer be able to communicate with their families and caregivers. Music is often the only bridge left to these elders. The music therapists also work with our residents who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, a progressive deterioration of the brain. Music therapy can provide a way to use the abilities these residents still have to feel successful and connected to their surroundings. I support HB 559 and the HCR20 that will recognize Music Therapy and the credentialed Music Therapists that are an integral part of the healthcare profession.**

**Thank you,**

**Laurie Chivers,ACC  
Director of Lifestyles  
Hiolani Care Center at Kahala Nui  
4389 Malia St.  
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## CUAtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2011 8:20 AM  
**To:** CUAtestimony  
**Cc:** exec@ehcc.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR20 on 3/28/2011 11:00:00 AM  
**Attachments:** Music Therapy support.docx; Music Therapy support.docx

Testimony for CUA 3/28/2011 11:00:00 AM HCR20

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Dennis Taniguchi  
Organization: East Hawai'i Cultural Council  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [exec@ehcc.org](mailto:exec@ehcc.org)  
Submitted on: 3/24/2011

Comments:

I am writing to support Music Therapy because it has proven to be an important and unique tool for helping At Risk youth. At the East Hawai'i Cultural Council (EHCC), we feel strongly that music (and art) reaches everyone in a unique way and can help break down barriers that can impede their progress towards living a better life.

Sounding Joy, Inc. came to Hilo from Honolulu for over six months to conduct their Music Therapy Workshops. They were a valuable asset to our programs. They proved that Music Therapy is an established profession and is beneficial to the various types of clients such as At Risk youth who came to EHCC.

Please support Music Therapy as a way to improve life here in Hawai'i.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Yoshimi Otake, a program coordinator at Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc. I strongly express significant effectiveness of music therapy for various clients from age 0 to 100. For example, we found surprisingly high satisfaction rate of at-risk youths in Hawaii who received music therapy in the following paragraph.

According to our survey from over 300 participants, about 95% of the participants expressed that they felt supported by the music therapists. Our dropout rate was fewer than 5%, significantly low. The overall satisfaction rate was about 85%. We witnessed our clients making improvement in their decision making and social skills and self-empowerment and made new friends in a therapeutic process. Their positive outcome generalized to their everyday life such as positive relationship with school friends, teachers, community, and significantly with their parents.

Applying music in a therapeutic setting may appear easy especially because a lot of people in Hawaii are musically talented. However, it will not be clinically effective or ethical without required music therapy clinical coursework and internship followed by the national examination administered by the independent Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT). By making sure to have a valid credential from CBMT and the state of Hawaii, I believe the mental healthcare field will be significantly enriched and balanced in the state of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Yoshimi Otake

Yoshimi Otake, MA, MT-BC  
Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist  
Program Coordinator  
Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc.  
[www.soundingjoymt.org](http://www.soundingjoymt.org)

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## CUAtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2011 9:26 PM  
**To:** CUAtestimony  
**Cc:** akocurtiss@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR20 on 3/28/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for CUA 3/28/2011 11:00:00 AM HCR20

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: curtiss ako  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [akocurtiss@gmail.com](mailto:akocurtiss@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/23/2011

**Comments:**

I support sunrise analysis for music therapy; I am a public school teacher.

## CUAtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2011 2:53 PM  
**To:** CUAtestimony  
**Cc:** erudnick@usvetsinc.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR20 on 3/28/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for CUA 3/28/2011 11:00:00 AM HCR20

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Elizabeth Rudnick  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [erudnick@usvetsinc.org](mailto:erudnick@usvetsinc.org)  
Submitted on: 3/24/2011

Comments: