

LATE

Testimony
of
Neil K. Shimabukuro
to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
on
April 3, 2012

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Physical Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, Neil K. Shimabukuro, for a term to expire 6-30-2016

Chair Baker and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I want to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me to this position. It is an honor to be considered as a member of the Board of Physical Therapy.

I'd also like to share my appreciation to those who have submitted letters of support on my behalf.

I have a vested interest in the current and future state of my profession. I have been a physical therapist for 12 years and I have recently started my own private practice in 2011 in Liliha. Prior to this, I have worked in a variety of practice settings including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, private practices, and home physical therapy companies.

I have been a per diem employee, staff physical therapist, supervisor, manager, and now owner of my own business. I have acted as a clinical instructor for PT students on affiliations, and have served as a Center Coordinator of Clinical Education. In addition, I have supervised the work of other allied health professionals, including athletic trainers and physical therapy assistants.

Through all of these experiences and interactions, I have a working knowledge of the policies and regulations that my colleagues and I live by. I am intimately aware of the current and potential issues that concern licensed physical therapists daily.

I love Hawaii. I am born and raised here and consider it a privilege to raise my children with my family and friends surrounding us. Serving my community as a volunteer is something that is second nature to me. In the past, I have volunteered at my local church, sporting events, Mililani Middle School, Moanalua Elementary School, Moanalua High School, and the Next Step Homeless Shelter in Kakaako.

In seeking this appointment, I am stepping out to serve. You have my commitment to always have our communities' best interest in mind when making decisions regarding the practice of physical therapy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.