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GOVERNOR

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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & THE ARTS

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012

Monday, February 13, 2011  
8:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41, REQUESTING THE  
AUDITOR TO PERFORM A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF THE REGULATION OF THE  
PROFESSION OF MUSIC THERAPY.**

TO THE HONORABLE JESSICA WOOLEY, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator for the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on H.C.R. No. 41.

The concurrent resolution requests that the Auditor perform a sunrise analysis pursuant to section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), of the regulation of the profession of music therapy, as proposed under House Bill No. 2062, introduced during the Regular Session of 2012. The Auditor's analysis would set forth the probable effects of the proposed regulatory measure, assess whether its enactment is consistent

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Monday, February 13, 2011  
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with the purposes of section 26H-2, HRS, and assess alternate forms of regulation. The Department agrees that a sunrise analysis should be completed by the Auditor before regulating the profession of music therapy.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on H.C.R. No. 41.

**belatti2 - Kate**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2012 12:31 PM  
**To:** CUAtestimony  
**Cc:** pkaraffa@soundingjoymt.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR41 on 2/13/2012 8:30:00 AM  
**Attachments:** Sunrise Audit Testimony.doc

Testimony for CUA 2/13/2012 8:30:00 AM HCR41

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Patricia Blair, MT-BC  
Organization: Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc.  
E-mail: [pkaraffa@soundingjoymt.org](mailto:pkaraffa@soundingjoymt.org)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2012

Comments:

I am a board certified music therapist working in Hawaii, and I would like to support this bill for professional recognition of music therapists. I work for Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc., currently the only organization in Hawaii that provides music therapy services by trained professionals for individuals with special needs. We are currently funded through grants and private pay clients, which allows us to reach some clients in Hawaii, but does not nearly cover services for all the potential clients in Hawaii who could benefit from music therapy services. Music therapy has many health benefits, such as improving motor skills for individuals with physical disabilities, increasing emotional expression in people with emotional disorders or who have experienced trauma, increasing social interactions and communication skills in children with autism, and increasing reminiscing and memory in adults with Alzheimer's and dementia. I realize that services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, and counseling are available for these individuals. However, many of these same goal areas can be reached more effectively by using musical interaction with a trained music therapist. I have seen music therapy open doors for clients who otherwise cannot communicate with the outside world. It is essential that this service be available in Hawaii for those clients, parents, and facilities who want it, regardless of their ability to pay for sessions out of pocket. The only way to do this on a long-term basis is for board certified music therapists to become licensed by the state of Hawaii, as many other health care professionals currently are.

As a board certified music therapist (MT-BC), I have received a four-year degree in music therapy, completed a clinical training internship consisting of 1,200 hours of supervised music therapy work, and passed an examination administered by the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT). I am also required by CBMT to meet re-certification requirements every 5 years, which involves taking continuing education courses and training. All these educational and professional requirements are met by all board certified music therapists. Because a national certification process already exists for music therapists, there would be relatively little cost to the state of Hawaii to simply recognize this existing certification and implement licensing for music therapists. The standards for music therapy education and certification are already established to ensure that those practicing music therapy are using current techniques for therapy and documentation and follow a code of ethics and standards of practice.

**belatti2 - Kate**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2012 1:00 PM  
**To:** CUAtestimony  
**Cc:** yotake@soundingjoymt.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR41 on 2/13/2012 8:30:00 AM  
**Attachments:** HCR41 2-13-12.pdf

Testimony for CUA 2/13/2012 8:30:00 AM HCR41

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Yoshimi Otake  
Organization: Sounding Joy Music Therapy  
E-mail: [yotake@soundingjoymt.org](mailto:yotake@soundingjoymt.org)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2012

Comments:

Regarding: HCR41  
Hearing scheduled on 2/13/12 at 8:30am in Room 329  
by House Committee on Culture& the Arts

To Rep. Wooley and Rep. Belatti,

Aloha. My name is Yoshimi Otake, a program coordinator at Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc. I would like to share information about how we maintain our professionalism as a board certified music therapist. There is the national board certification and credentialing system already in place in the US, the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT). When we meet all the qualifications below, we will receive a title, MT-BC (Music Therapist - Board Certified)". The details of the qualification are below:

- Successful completion of an American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) approved academic and clinical training program.
- Successful completion of a written objective examination demonstrating current skills in the profession of music therapy.
- Recertification every five years through re-examination or upon the successful completion and documentation of 100 recertification credits, and through the completion of the CBMT Application for Recertification and payment of an annual certification maintenance fee.

We also have an organization called American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), which promotes the progressive development of the therapeutic use of music in rehabilitation, special education, and community settings. Since music therapists are strictly monitored by the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT), there is no need for the State to create licensing board for the music therapists.

For more information about the above organizations please visit the following website:

CBMT: [www.cbmt.org](http://www.cbmt.org)

AMTA: [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

This bill is extremely important to enhance people's quality of life in Hawaii. I appreciate your time reading this testimony and if you have any question, please feel call me at the hearing on 13<sup>th</sup> or you can reach me by call (808) 593-2620 or email at [yotake@soundingjoymt.org](mailto:yotake@soundingjoymt.org)

Sincerely,

Yoshimi Otake, MA, NRMT, MT-BC  
Program Coordinator  
Sounding Joy Music Therapy  
[www.sounding joymt.org](http://www.soundingjoymt.org)

(808) 593-2620

belatti2 - Kate

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2012 10:35 PM  
**To:** CUAtestimony  
**Cc:** juvyh@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR41 on 2/13/2012 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for CUA 2/13/2012 8:30:00 AM HCR41

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Ramon & Juvy Hollander  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [juvyh@aol.com](mailto:juvyh@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2012

Comments:  
To Whom It May Concern:

Music Therapy and the professionals that provide it are important because of the opportunity for social interaction and structure which is distinctly one of the major problems faced by individuals with Autism like our 8 year son Matias. He has been attending sessions at Sounding Joy Music Therapy since December 2011 and because of this and his other therapies has become calmer and more attentive.

My wife and I feel very strongly that the continued non-regulation of this profession poses a potential great misfortune to our children and in fact, all the citizens of Hawai'i.

We hope the members of the committee recognize the importance of this profession and will vote in support of HCR41.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Ramon and Juvy Hollander  
Email [juvyh@aol.com](mailto:juvyh@aol.com)

Testimony Submitted by:  
Linda Elento, Kaneohe Constituent

**HCR 41 Sunrise Analysis: Profession of Music Therapy**

Hearing: :Monday, February 13, 2012, 8:30am

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Belatti, and Members of the Committee on Culture & the Arts:

Where some therapies for children who need special education fail, music therapy will be effective in children reaching their special education goals and objectives in their federally-mandated Individualized Education Programs.

My son Jason who was born with Down syndrome has received music therapy to meet goals such as behavior, speech and language, social interaction and following directions. His strengths include responding to music and developing skills through music. His greatest need is communication and language development. Music therapy has proven to help him understand and to be understood by others.

Recently, the Department of Education's speech language pathologist no longer recommended her individual therapy sessions for my son because they were not effective. Music therapy has proven effective. But without the state's recognition and licensing of a music therapist, students such as my son will not be able to benefit from a special education as mandated under federal special education law.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony **IN SUPPORT** of HCR 41 Sunrise Analysis: Profession of Music Therapy.