

GM602

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Pharmacy, Gubernatorial Nominee, KERRI OKAMURA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Report Title: Board of Pharmacy

Description:

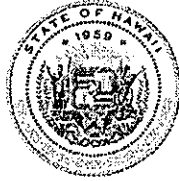
Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
1/29/2013	S	Received.
1/29/2013	S	Referred to CPN.
2/15/2013	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 02-27-13 10:00AM in conference room 229.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
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JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Wednesday, February 27, 2013
10:00 a.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO.602

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 the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 602 regarding the nomination of Ms. Kerri Okamura to the Board of Pharmacy. The Department respectfully requests the Committee to recommend that the Senate advise and consent this appointment to the Board.

Ms. Kerri Okamura is Hilo born with a B.S. in Pharmacy from Purdue University and currently serves as Director of Pharmacy Operations/Privacy Officer for KTA with responsibility for all KTA pharmacy operations, as well as compliance with all federal, state, and local privacy laws for the entire company.

Ms. Okamura has been actively involved in both her professional field, as well as her community through such activities as the Hawaii Pharmacist Association in various leadership positions including immediate past president and neighbor island director. Ms. Okamura serves on the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Council, as

well as Preceptor for the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy. Among her community activities include the E.B. DeSilva Elementary School PTA; PTA Vice President-Membership and a 4-H Leader from 2010 to the present time.

Ms. Okamura is readily recognized by her professional affiliations with awards such as the UHH Cop Preceptor of the Year award in 2008; HPhA Pharmacist of the Year in 2009 and the Good Neighbor Pharmacy Caring for the Community Award in 2011.

In light of her background, I am confident that given the opportunity, Ms. Okamura will prove to be an asset to the State and to this Board. I respectfully request the Committee recommend that the Senate advises and consent to this appointment. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Barry K. Taniguchi
50 E. Puainako Street, Hilo Hawai'i 96720
Phone (808) 959-2817, Fax (808) 959-8050
E-mail: barry_taniguchi@ktasuperstores.com

February 22, 2013

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on
Commerce and Consumer Protection
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

RE: GM 602

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Pharmacy,
Gubernatorial Nominee, KERRI OKAMURA, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

We are submitting testimony in support of Kerri Okamura's nomination as a neighbor island member of the Board of Pharmacy.

We have known Kerri since 1994, when she worked as an Intern at our Pharmacy in Hilo. She worked her way from Intern to Pharmacist, Assistant Pharmacy Manager, Pharmacy Manager and is currently our Director of Pharmacy Operations and Privacy Officer.

She has earned the respect of her co-workers as well as her peers, and is a very ethical practitioner. She is knowledgeable in all aspects of Pharmacy rules and regulations, and stands up for what is right.

We believe Kerri is an excellent candidate to serve as a neighbor island representative to the Board of Pharmacy.

If you have any questions regarding our testimony, please feel free to contact me at 959-2817 or on my cell at (808) 987-9583.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry K. Taniguchi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barry K. Taniguchi
President

2/23/13

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write in support of Kerri Okamura who was nominated to serve as a neighbor island member of the Board of Pharmacy. I have known Kerri for over 15 years and she is involved in our local community, her church, and her children's school. Kerri has shown a very high commitment to our community and is an active participant in many community endeavors.

Kerri is organized, efficient, extremely competent, and has an excellent rapport with people of all ages. Her communication skills, both written and verbal, are excellent.

In all aspects of her work, Kerri has demonstrated remarkable leadership and organizational abilities. Her duties included both managing one Pharmacy and a chain of Pharmacies within our company. Kerri is very dedicated to the community she serves. Her cheerful attitude, dedication, and desire to serve our customers and community is impressive.

Kerri is unquestionably an exceptional person and I would therefore highly endorse Kerri Okamura as a member of the Board of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,

Richard K. Chinen Jr.
Store Manager
KTA Super Stores
50 E. Puainako St,
Hilo, HI 96720

Toby B. Taniguchi
PO Box 7001, Kamuela, HI 96743
Phone: 808-989-5466
Email: toby.taniguchi@gmail.com

February 22, 2013

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection
State Capitol, Rm 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 602
Consideration and confirmation of KERRI OKAMURA R.PH., Gubernatorial Nominee to the Board of Pharmacy, with a term expiring June 30, 2016.

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

I am submitting written testimony in strong support of Kerri Okamura R.Ph.'s nomination as neighbor island member of the state Board of Pharmacy.

I have had the great pleasure of knowing Kerri both personally and professionally for over 30 (thirty) years. During this time, I have come to respect and admire her work ethic, impartialness, caring/inclusive approach and vast knowledge of the pharmacy profession. Kerri consistently works collaboratively, communicates well and is truly a stand-up community member beyond reproach.

Thank you for considering my testimony. Should you have any questions relative to this matter, please feel free to contact me on my cellular phone at 808-989-5466.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Toby B. Taniguchi', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Toby B. Taniguchi

GM602

Submitted on: 2/16/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a highly respected and well qualified candidate at both the community and professional levels.

GM602

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Hu	Individual	Support	No

Kerri has been instrumental in creating educational and community outreach programs within her community to ensure her patients' overall and well being. Not only has she been involved with community and her patients, she was also recognized for outstanding service for developing the profession of pharmacy in Hawaii. In August of 2007, the University Of Hawaii- Hilo College Of Pharmacy became the first accredited pharmacy program in the State of Hawaii. Kerri has worked with the University of Hawaii Hilo Pharmacy students by mentoring them and allowing them to work side by side with her on the pharmacy line at the KTA Puainako Pharmacy in Hilo. With the many students that Kerri has worked with over the years, she was honored by the University Of Hawaii College Of Pharmacy as Pharmacy's first Preceptor of the Year.

Kerri also conducts immunization training for Hawaii Pharmaceutical Association and encourages other pharmacists to become certified. Kerri also works closely with the Hawaii Pharmaceutical Association on pharmacy initiatives.

Kerri and the pharmacists at the KTA stores educate patients and address their questions by offering the personalized consultations by appointment, "brown bag" medication reviews, where they assume a proactive role utilizing the - Outcomes (Medication Therapy Management program).

Kerri has created Wellness Event days for their patients/community and a separate events for the KTA Stores employees. The types of services that they offer during these events are, medication therapy review, bone density scans, flu shots, H1N1 shots, A1C screenings, blood pressure readings, glucose testing, pharmacy consultations, diabetes classes, smoking cessation classes, nutritional grocery shopping tours, where she involves the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, and American Heart Association, and the health related vendors (such as Lifescan, Abbott etc). No other pharmacy on the island provides these types of community based Wellness Events.

In 2011, Kerri won the prestigious Good Neighbor Pharmacy Caring for the Community Award (which is a National recognized award among Community Pharmacies) and in March 2013 she will be recognized by the American Pharmacist Association as the Immunization Champion (which is also a National recognized award).

GM602

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camlyn Masuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To CPN Committee, I am submitting my testimony to support the nomination of Kerry Okamura to the Board of Pharmacy (measure GM602). I have known Mrs. Okamura for about 3 years. In addition to her duties as a manager for KTA Pharmacy, she has volunteered for the Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA). She has been a board of director and President of the HPhA. She has been active in promoting the pharmacist and seeks ways to increase the role of the pharmacist to help with patient care. She was instrumental in providing testimony and discussion for the recent pediatric immunization bill that was passed by the legislature. Kerry will be instrumental in supporting the Board of Pharmacy's mission. She is fair and takes the time to hear all sides of an issue before she makes a decision. Sincerely, Camlyn Masuda Ambulatory Care Pharmacist

GM602

Submitted on: 2/23/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynda Dolan MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a practicing physician in Hilo for the past 15 years I have had the pleasure of working with Keri Okamura in my private practice setting and collaborating on patient care. Over the past few years we have worked on quality improvement projects to streamline pharmacy care, prescriptions and education. Keri is an active community member and has the best interest of our community health always in mind.
Lynda Dolan MD

GM602

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of Kerri Okamura being appointed to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy. Kerri is constantly involved in the education of new pharmacists, whether it is taking students on rotation, teaching immunization skills and classes, or helping out with wellness fairs, Kerri is more than willing to help out. She leaves a lasting impression on students and is someone I personally look to for information and clarification on current laws. Kerri is always up to date on current laws and happenings in pharmacy practice. She has dedicated a great deal of time and effort in the advancement of pharmacy and would be a perfect member for the board.

GM602

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Nash	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support the nomination of pharmacist Kerri Okamura to serve on the Board of Pharmacy. I worked with her during her Presidency of the Hawai'i Pharmacists Association. Kerri demonstrated her knowledge, organizational skills and commitment to her patients and her profession during her service. She has also supported the UHH College of Pharmacy by precepting pharmacy students. Kerri is an excellent candidate for the Board of Pharmacy position.

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Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lara Gomez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support Kerri Okamura's nomination as a member of the Hawai'i Board of Pharmacy. Lara Gomez, Pharm.D. Director of Clinical Education University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy

GM602

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Snider	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the nomination of Kerri Okamura to the State Board of Pharmacy. She is knowledgeable in the area of pharmacy, capable of serving as a member of the Board of Pharmacy, and devoted to the profession of pharmacy. I have known her for over a decade and am impressed by her commitment to her community, her family, and her profession of pharmacy. She has served her company well as a pharmacist and as a pharmacy manager and further risen to district supervisor and privacy officer. She is professional and has as high level of commitment to detail and fairness. I am convinced she is an ideal candidate for the position and assure you she will perform the duties of a member of the State Board of Pharmacy in a positive and constructive manner. Please confirm her nomination to the State Board of Pharmacy of Hawaii.

GM602

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Pagoyo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have worked with Kerri through various community organizations and projects; she is a strong leader for our profession and would make an excellent representative on our state board.

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Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lianne Chung	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am providing testimony in support of the confirmation of Kerri Okamura for appointment to the Board of Pharmacy. I have known Ms. Okamura for several years and I know her to be of the highest ethical and moral character. She possesses a strong sense of service to the public and is recognized in the community for providing healthcare education and services with professionalism and enthusiasm. Ms. Okamura is a person of integrity, committed to advancing the practice of pharmacy to more effectively contribute to today's evolving healthcare environment. I am confident that Ms. Okamura would serve the Board of Pharmacy well and I wholeheartedly support her nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM602

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Fuchigami	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kerri Okamura is a very clear thinking individual with a character of high integrity and moral value. She has a solid understanding of the industry and will be a great asset as a member of the board.

GM602

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig Hamamoto	Individual	Support	No

GM602

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Kadokawa	Individual	Support	No

GM602

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brent Nakamura	Individual	Support	No

GM602

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for CPN on Feb 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiara-Lei Kim	Individual	Support	No

Kerri Okamura, R.Ph.

- (1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Pharmacy?

I wish to serve as a member of the Board of Pharmacy because I would like to see the practice of pharmacy in Hawaii continue to move forward. I believe I have a good grasp of where pharmacy practice is headed and the knowledge to see that the evolution of pharmacy practice in Hawaii occurs in a manner that is safe and beneficial to the public.

- (2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Pharmacy?

The members of the board of pharmacy are asked to make decisions and interpret the rules and regulations of our profession. The interpretations made by the board of pharmacy must be logical, sensible and must always take into consideration the safety of our patients.

- (3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities as a member of the Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board.

I believe I am qualified to serve on the board of pharmacy because I believe I have a good moral compass and understand the laws and regulations involving pharmacy practice. I currently serve as Director of Pharmacy Operations and Privacy Officer for KTA Super Stores. I take very seriously my responsibility of making sure my pharmacies are in compliance with Federal and Local laws. Being the Director requires me to understand pharmacy rules and regulations and answer questions from my staff as they arise. If I am unclear of the answer, I do not hesitate to contact the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Health or NED to obtain the correct answer. If I cannot get an answer right away, I base my decision on what makes sense based on the law, science and what I believe is morally and ethically correct.

- (4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

During my term on the board of pharmacy, I would like to see our pharmacy rules rewritten in a clear and concise manner. Our current rules are written in a manner that leaves a lot of room for misinterpretation.

- (5) Name three qualities that best describe you and how will these qualities benefit the Board?

I would describe myself as a person with high moral standards, high expectations and community-minded. I believe these qualities will help guide me to make sound decisions affecting pharmacy practice and the safety of our patients.

- (6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member?

My participation on the Immunization Task Force in 2011 and board of directors of the Hawaii Pharmacists Association are two experiences that I believe will help me in serving on the Board of Pharmacy. One thing I learned through my involvement was the importance of making my beliefs very clear. I learned the hard way that silence is implied consent and if I believe strongly about an issue, I should make it known. I also learned to look at all issues in

Kerri Okamura, R.Ph.

a broader perspective. This is especially important because the practice of pharmacy is very diverse and although a decision might benefit one aspect of pharmacy practice, it may not be a positive change for others. It's very important to look at things from all angles.

- (7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

The only conflict of interest I can foresee would involve an issue that may directly affect KTA or the employees of KTA. If I felt my judgment would be shaded by a possible conflict, I would recuse myself from discussion or voting so as not to undermine the process.