



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

1301 Punchbowl Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • Phone (808) 691-5900

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

House Health Committee

February 1, 2013 – 8:30 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 329

In support of H.B. 843, Relating to Physical Therapy

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lucy Lessard, I am a physical therapist and the Manager of Inpatient Rehabilitation Services at The Queen's Medical Center. I would like to provide testimony in support of H.B. 843, Relating to Physical Therapy.

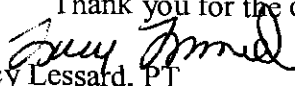
The Queen's Medical Center is the leading medical referral center in the Pacific Basin and offers a comprehensive range of primary and specialized care services, including acute care physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech language therapy. As the only Level II Trauma Center and only The Joint Commission-certified Primary Stroke Center and Hip and Knee Joint Replacement Center in the State of Hawaii, we specialize in the care of complex trauma, stroke, and orthopedics patients.

The Queen's Medical Center employs physical therapist assistants throughout our acute care and skilled nursing units. They provide a valuable service to our patients and work alongside physical therapists and other professionals as part of the multidisciplinary team. Hawaii has a school that trains physical therapy assistants, but there is an island-wide shortage of these therapists. We currently have 4 unfilled positions for physical therapist assistants in our department.

Hawaii is the only state in the nation where physical therapist assistants are not licensed. Nation-wide Medicare rules require that only licensed personnel treat Medicare patients. Without local licensing, we can only hire physical therapist assistants who are licensed in other jurisdictions – for example, California. This prevents our local new graduates from accessing work in our state unless they seek licensing in a state where they potentially will not practice. Unfortunately, it is felt that this leads to a drain of talent to other states and compounds our shortage of personnel. Further, without oversight of the Hawaii state licensing board of physical therapy, there is risk for potential harm if our jurisdiction does not have authority over the personnel who provide care in Hawaii.

The Queen's Medical Center urges you to pass H.B. 843, and appreciates the opportunity to express our support. I am available to respond to questions and can be reached at 691-8940 or llessard@queens.org.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.


Lucy Lessard, PT
Manager, Rehabilitation Services
The Queen's Medical Center

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.

In support of
House Bill 844

Kaniaupio, Cris T Ms CIV USA MEDCOM TAMC

From: Cris Kaniaupio [jus4cris@me.com] ✓
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 6:14 PM
Cc: Kaniaupio, Cris T Ms CIV USA MEDCOM TAMC
Subject: SB 1074 and HB 843 PTA License Bill introduced TODAY
Attachments: 2012 ho'okahi leo test flyer5 FINAL.pdf

+ PT continue
Education

Aloha.... Ho'okahi Leo is seeking support to House BILL 843 and Senate Bill 1074 Introduced today that will change the future of Physical Therapy in HAWAII.
We need your support more than EVER...ever.

House Speaker Joe Souki introduced the house bill 843 and Senate President Donna Mercado Kim introduced it as Senate Bill 1074 Both versions are assigned to committees for hearing and revision, finance review and the vote by the ENTIRE House and Senate.
Testimony can now be made via Internet. We need to solicit your support to PASS this Bill into LAW!

~~HB843~~ link

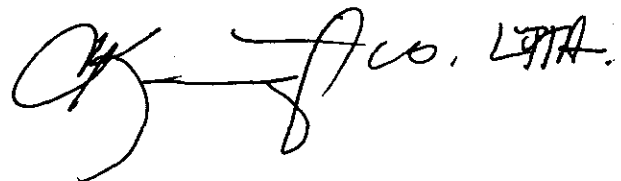
<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=843&year=2013>

Senate version link is SB1074

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=1074&year=2013>

If you feel you need support and more info please call any member of Ho'okahi Leo or email us. We have a next meeting in Aiea, February 4th Monday 630pm to rally our strategies.

Mahalo plenty,
Cris Kani'aupi'o ,LPTA
Future Hawaii Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant

Cris Kani'aupi'o, LPTA

Late Testimony

Good morning my name is Janet Crosier, PT and I am the lead PTA services specialist in the department of Academic Affairs at the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). APTA is the national professional association representing more than 80,000 physical therapists, physical therapists assistants, and students of physical therapy in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. The Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association is the Hawaii Physical Therapy Association. *I am also a resident and practicing physical therapist on the Big Island of Hawaii.*

I am here today to express the American Physical Therapy Association's strong SUPPORT for HB 843 which will provide for licensure of physical therapists assistants (PTAs). Hawaii is the **only state** that does not currently regulate PTAs. PTAs are licensed in 40 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and certified in 9 states.

Physical therapist assistants (PTAs) are health care providers that deliver physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of physical therapists. PTAs are responsible for providing, progressing, and, where appropriate, modifying physical therapy interventions to maximize patient/client safety, comfort, and response within the plan of care established by the supervising physical therapist. Additionally, PTAs use value-based behaviors in carrying out the plan of care, including communicating with the supervising physical therapist regarding patient/client status, treatment outcomes, and any other information that may impact the plan of care.

PTAs are graduates of Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education accredited 2-year PTA education programs and must pass the National Physical Therapy Examination – PTA as a minimum requirement for licensure/certification in all jurisdictions *except Hawaii*. In states where PTAs are regulated, PTAs must comply with all legal requirements of the jurisdictions regulating the practice of physical therapy, and with the American Physical Therapy Association's Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant.

PTAs work in many practice settings, including *hospitals, private practices,* schools and home health, and to many different patient populations, including children and the elderly. Some treatment provided by PTAs could cause harm to patients if not done correctly; therefore licensure is needed for physical therapist assistants in Hawaii to protect the public and ensure consumer safety.

HB 843 will protect against unqualified physical therapist assistants working in Hawaii or relocating to work here from other states requiring licensure. In addition, licensure will increase the accountability of physical therapist assistants by making complaints reportable to the Board of Physical Therapy. Licensure for PTAs will allow for disciplinary action of physical therapist assistants by the Board of Physical Therapy.

Again I urge your support for HB 843 – its time Hawaii joined the rest on the country in regulating PTAs. Mahalo.

Janet Moffitt Crosier, PT, DPT, MEd
APTA
1111 N. Fairfax St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

Home address:
73-1113 Ahulani Street
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 1:06 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: owl1964@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 1, 2013 08:30AM

HB843

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 1, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fernando Almeida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a licensed PTA practicing in the state of hawaii and would love to see hawaii join the rest of the country with licensed PTA's. Mahalo

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Matthew Carlson
914-A Punahale Pl.
Honolulu, HI 96821

January 31, 2013

Dear Representative Haschem and Senator Slom and Committee members,

I humbly ask you to support HB 843/SB 1074, as this important piece of legislation would provide licensure of Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) in the profession of Physical Therapy, here in Hawai'i.

Hawai'i, currently, is the only state that does not regulate/license PTAs. As a Physical Therapist Assistant, we work under the direction and supervision of licensed Physical Therapists in the provision of physical therapy treatment to patients in a variety of settings such as schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and home health with a range of ages from infants to the elderly. Some of the physical therapy interventions (treatments) we provide have the potential to cause adverse reactions if done incorrectly. Therefore, in order to protect the public and ensure consumer safety, licensure is needed for PTAs.

The proposed legislation will act as a safeguard so that only qualified, graduated PTAs working in, or relocating to Hawaii are providers of physical therapy along with the Physical Therapist. Licensure will furthermore protect the consumer by holding PTAs to the proper ethical and legal statutes of the state of Hawai'i and Medicare. In addition, licensure will increase the accountability of PTAs by making complaints reportable to the Board of Physical Therapy, which could result in disciplinary action if needed.

Again, I humbly ask you to support HB 843/SB 1074. It is time to be compliant with Medicare (CMS) regulation and unite with the other 49 states in the US. Let's keep licensure in Hawai'i rather than having local PTAs licensed elsewhere.

Mahalo for your support,

Matthew Carlson, PTA
Physical Therapist Assistant
2012 Graduate of the Kapi'olani Community College PTA Program

Lori Darlow
91-123 Apuu Place
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
lori.darlow@gmail.com

January 31, 2013

Dear Representative Ito and Senator Tokuda and Committee members,

As your constituent and a member of the Hawai'i Physical Therapy Association, I urge you to support HB 843/SB 1074. This important legislation would provide licensure of Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) in the profession of Physical Therapy.

Hawai'i is currently the only state that does not regulate/license physical therapist assistants. PTAs work under the direction and supervision of licensed Physical Therapist in the provision of physical therapy treatment to patients in a variety of settings such as schools, hospitals, nursing homes and home health with a range of ages from infants to the elderly. Some physical therapy interventions (treatments) have the potential to cause adverse reactions if done incorrectly. Licensure is needed for PTAs in Hawai'i to protect the public and ensure consumer safety.

The legislation will safeguard that only qualified graduated PTAs working in or relocating to Hawai'i are providers of physical therapy along with the Physical Therapist. Licensure will protect the consumer to receive the proper care following all ethical and legal statutes of the state of Hawai'i and Medicare. In addition, licensure will increase the accountability of PTAs by making complaints reportable to the Board of Physical Therapy including disciplinary action as needed.

Again, I urge you to support HB 843/SB 1074. It is time to be compliant with Medicare (CMS) regulation and unite with all 49 states in the US. Let's keep licensure in Hawai'i rather than have Hawai'i PTAs licensed in another state.

Mahalo for your support,
Lori Darlow
Student Physical Therapist Assistant
PTA Program at Kapi'olani Community College

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 01, 2013 2:45 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: w9w@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 1, 2013 08:30AM

HB843

Submitted on: 2/1/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 1, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kurt Hanson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I'm against licenser of occupations - why would a physical therapist need to be licensed? Milton Friedman was against licenses as they give control of occupations to the state and diminish the free market. "No licensure of physicians," because that would help to "reduce and eliminate the monopoly power of the American Medical Association. That monopoly power is derived almost entirely from the fact that the practice of medicine is an activity which can be engaged in by only those who have licenses from government. And the control over that licensure procedure is what has enabled the AMA to exercise its monopoly power for these many decades." Milton Friedman.

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