

GM 629

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.

Report Title: Board of Massage Therapy

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

GM 630

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Report Title: Board of Massage Therapy

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):



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
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESENTATION OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2014

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014
9:00 A.M.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NOS. 629 AND 630

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND TO THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message Nos. 629 and 630, regarding the appointment of Stephanie Bath to the Board of Massage Therapy ("Board"). My name is Keali'i Lopez, Director of the Department. The Department strongly supports the confirmation of Ms. Bath's appointment to the Board as a massage therapist member for a term to expire on June 30, 2014, and for a term to expire on June 30, 2018.

Ms. Bath has maintained a massage therapist's license since July 9, 1981, and a massage establishment's license since December 27, 1984. Her licenses are current, valid, and in good standing.

The nomination of Ms. Bath to the Board under Governor's Message No. 629 is to complete the term of the incumbent who passed away in April 2013; which term will expire on June 30, 2014. And the nomination of Ms. Bath under Governor's Message No. 630 is for the next full-term that will expire on June 30, 2018.

Ms. Bath fully understands the role and various responsibilities of the Board including the review and approval of new licensees, the revocation and suspension of existing licensees for violations, receiving and investigating complaints, and interpreting and enforcing the applicable statutory laws and administrative rules. Ms. Bath brings past experience to the Board having previously served as a member of the Board from 1987 to 1992 under the appointment of Governor John Waihee. Ms. Bath currently serves as a member of the Hawaii State Massage Therapy Advisory Board. Because the advisory board advises the Regulated Industries Complaints Office, Ms. Bath plans to resign from the advisory board if confirmed to avoid any conflict of interest.

Ms. Bath understands that the appointment to the Board comes with the responsibility to attend and participate. She is committed and able to attend the Board's scheduled meetings and believes that representation on the Board from the neighbor islands is important. Ms. Bath feels that as a personal matter, serving on the Board is her way of giving back to the industry. She also believes that since the industry has grown so much since she last served on the Board, there is a greater need to ensure and support the professionalism of the industry and its licensees.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the appointment of Ms. Bath to the Board of Massage Therapy.

Aloha,

My name is Susan Langer and I am a long time resident of Mountain View Hawaii. I am contacting you to support the nomination of Stephanie Bath to the Board of Massage Therapy.

Ms. Bath was my elderly, disabled mother's massage therapist for some period of time and we were both very grateful to her for the compassionate and competent care she provided Mom. I also know Ms. Bath in her role as a very active community volunteer. She has served her community energetically in many capacities. I have no doubt she would serve on this professional board enthusiastically and with great integrity.

Sincerely
Susan Langer
langew001@hawaii.rr.com
808 315 8645
PO Box 733
Mountain View, HI
96771

TESTIMONY
OF
STEPHANIE BATH
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ON
April 11, 2014

G.M. 630

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage therapy,
STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire July 1, 2018.

Chair Baker and committee members,

My name is Jacqueline van Loon. Presently I work as a family counselor, however in 1984 I received a Hawaii Massage license and practiced massage on the Big Island for several years.

Stephanie Bath was one of my instructors at the Hilo Massage School when I attended in 1983. We have remained friends and I have seen her positive characteristics in action over the years.

Stephanie Bath has a strong sense of right and wrong tempered by fairness. She is a deep thinker and thinks issues through with care. When she undertakes a task, she sees it through with exactness and honor to the best of her ability. Stephanie would bring to the board many years of working in the field with an understanding of the joys and challenges associated with providing therapeutic massage services. She is an intuitive person and in my experience acts with integrity. When she believes in a cause, she proves to be a diligent worker.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline van Loon
187 Halai Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
STEPHANIE BATH
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ON

April 10, 2014

G.M. 630

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the **Board of Massage therapy,**

STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire July 1, 2018.

Chair Baker and committee members,

My name is Patti Pinto, I am the chairperson of the Action Committee of the Puna Community Development Plan. I have known and worked with Stephanie Bath for several years in the Community Planning process in Puna. Stephanie and I have worked together on two research committees: *Connectivity and Emergency Response* and the *Mass Transit Committee*. Stephanie has taken on and managed several projects, working well with her colleagues, documenting her work and bringing her intelligence and vision to all she does.

The Board of Massage Therapy would be fortunate to have Stephanie Bath as a member.

She is precise in attention to the essentials of a project, maintains the integrity of the work and is sensitive to the diverse needs of her community. It is a pleasure to work with Stephanie Bath.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Pinto

PO Box 711382

Mountain View, HI 96771

TESTIMONY
OF
STEPHANIE BATH
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ON
April 11, 2014
G.M. 630

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage therapy,
STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire July 1, 2018.

Chair Baker and committee members, my name is Peggy Gentle. I am a retiree who has worked with many people in my community. Stephanie Bath has given a lot of time and energy to projects such as CERT and Red Cross. I believe she will work to do an excellent job on the Board of Massage Therapy. Please consider her an asset to be appointed to this board.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Gentle
PO Box 459
Mountain View, HI 96771

TESTIMONY
OF
STEPHANIE BATH
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ON
April 11, 2014

G.M. 630

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage therapy,
STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire July 1, 2018.

Chair Baker and committee members, My name is Marvin Kitchen. I have known Stephanie Bath for about 10 years as a friend and someone who has used her services. She has given me massage therapy and I have been very pleased with her service. I have found she has been very helpful to me. I feel it she would make a very good board member because of her skills, positive attitude and honesty. These values will help her to do a great job as a board member which will in turn help many who use massage therapy.

Thank you
Marvin Kitchen

TESTIMONY
OF
STEPHANIE BATH
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ON
April 11, 2014

G.M. 630

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage Therapy,
STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire July 1, 2018.

Chair Baker and committee members,

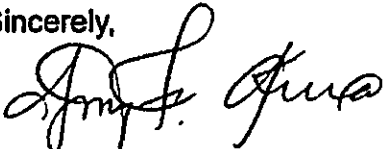
My name is Amy Okura, formerly known as Amy Adair. I have held an active license in good standing for Massage Therapy in the State of Hawaii since July 1, 2001. In the early 2000s I practiced massage part time. I hold an active license and currently only practice massage free of charge for family and friends. I now work with my family's estate planning law firm.

Stephanie Bath and I have been exchanging massages since 2001. Over the course of these past 13 years, I have come to know Stephanie very well and consider her one of my most loyal friends.

As a massage therapist, Stephanie is consistent, reliable, professional, skilled, and displays excellent judgment. Stephanie is knowledgeable about anatomy, physiology, structural kinesiology, contraindications to treatments, and Hawaii Administrative Rules regarding massage. She has also educated herself in ways that allow her to be aware of and sensitive to many different kinds of people who may struggle with, but can benefit from receiving therapeutic massage. Stephanie is very well organized, communicates clearly and in a timely manner, diligent in all her responsibilities, and is an active participant in community organizations. I believe that the level of Stephanie Bath's, honesty, work ethic, and steadfast integrity are seldom matched and would be a great asset to the entire massage profession in the State of Hawaii, as a member of the Board.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,



Amy F. Okura
P.O. Box 2154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785
(808) 345-5823

April 10, 2014

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, chair of the State of Hawaii Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Leigh Critchlow, Mountain View, Hawaii

Testimony: In support of the nomination of Stephanie Bath to the Board of Massage Therapy, for a term to expire July 1, 2018. This testimony is in reference to G.M. 630, to be presented at the April 11, 2014, meeting of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Dear Senator Baker and fellow members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

I would like to support the appointment of Stephanie Bath to the state Board of Massage Therapy.

I have known Stephanie for several years and have worked with her in a number of capacities.

She is a seemingly tireless community volunteer and has played a significant role in community planning for the vast Puna district of the Big Island of Hawaii. A draft plan to guide the future of the district is being developed, and work on it continues today. As part of this effort, Stephanie was one of the key coordinators of last August's inaugural Puna Regional Emergency Preparedness Fair, a huge event involving many, many organizations and agencies and drawing lots of area residents to the fun, educational, hands-on event. The second annual event is set for this August. Stephanie's main focus is the identification of existing emergency access routes and the pinpointing of locations where additional roadways can be created to let people evacuate during a crisis. At present, many thousands of Puna residents live in areas served by a single access road, thus putting their lives at risk.

I served with Stephanie on committees for the PREP Fair, and I also am a member and secretary of the Volcano Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), whose membership also includes Stephanie, her husband, Roy, and daughter, Katrina. CERT is a nationwide community resiliency program being set up in communities across America under the auspices of FEMA, and administered locally by Civil Defense. And, as part of CERT, we've been through Red Cross training together, and have participated in assorted emergency response exercises.

I know Stephanie Bath would be an honest, reliable, hard-working member of any board or committee on which she serves.

Aloha,

Leigh Critchlow

P.O. Box 1067

Mountain View HI 96771

lcritchlow@mac.com

930-7330 (daytime work nu

HARRY KIM
471 HO'OKINA PLACE
HILO, HAWAII 96720

April 10, 2014

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Re: G.M 630
Hearing date: April 11, 2014
SUPPORT OF STEPHANIE BATH

Dear Chair Baker and Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure, and a privilege, to present testimony to you in support of Stephanie Bath's nomination to serve on the State of Hawaii Board of Massage Therapy.

I have known Ms. Bath for many years, beginning while I was Civil Defense Administrator for the County of Hawaii, and continuing through the time I was Mayor and during my retirement. Ms. Bath is so well respected and admired by so many in the Big Island community. This respect is not only because of her long, capable, and professional work as a massage therapist, but also for her involvement in community issues, and her deep love and care for this community.

Her appointment to the State of Hawaii Board of Massage Therapy will be so well received and appreciated by all who know her, and will enhance the credibility of this important board.

Thank you very much for your support of Ms. Stephanie Bath.

Aloha,

Harry Kim
808-933-9208

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
REGARDING CONFIRMATION OF STEPHANIE BATH TO THE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
G.M. 630

Chair Baker and Committee Members,

My name is Merrily Wolf. I am a home-owner in Hawaiian Acres in the Puna District on the Island of Hawai'i. I urge you to confirm Stephanie Bath to the Hawai'i Board of Massage Therapy for the term to expire July 1, 2018. I have known Ms Bath for more than two years and have consistently been impressed by her involvement in and dedication to community organizing. She generously contributes her time, energy, and talents to issues that can make Hawai'i a better place for all residents. She demonstrates a willingness to listen, creative problem-solving, a strong work ethic, and an attitude of inclusion. Her experience both as a successful massage therapist and as a community advocate uniquely qualify her for this position.

Mahalo,

Merrily Wolf
PO Box 1499
Kurtistown, HI 96760

TESTIMONY
OF
STEPHANIE BATH
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
ON
April 11, 2014

G.M. 630

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage therapy,
STEPHANIE BATH, for a term to expire July 1, 2018.

Chair Baker and committee members:

During the past 35 years, I have been a resident of the Big Island of Hawaii and worked in health care as an advanced practice nurse and educator. I know the work of Stephanie Bath closely and have referred my patients to her because of her professional, ethical, and skillful practice. I urge you to consider her for confirmation in this nomination as you will undoubtedly find her dedication to bringing therapeutic massage into our communities, her zeal for the clinical practice, and her ability to inspire and work with teams extremely helpful to the mission of the board.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Ananda-Stout, PhD(c), PMHCNS-BC, CNM, FNP
Keaau, Hawaii 96749

Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Massage Therapy?

Hawaii is one of the 50 states to have a Board of massage therapy. In the 30 plus years that I have been practicing massage therapy in Hawaii, I have witnessed the profession take its place in the health care industry as a viable modality for patient preventative maintenance and restorative care. With this global recognition comes the responsibility of health care providers practice in a way that is professional and insures the safety of those they serve. If confirmed to serve on the Board of massage therapy I will have the privileged of assisting in the regulatory matters that insure that both massage therapy clients/patients and providers will be safe.

What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

Board of Massage therapy members assist in the administration of massage therapy related matters such as license application review, applications for apprenticeship, workshop application review, educational consideration, etc. There may arise circumstances when Board members are asked to assist RICO where violations of HRS Chapter 452 and HAR Chapter 84 may have occurred.

Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

Having practiced massage therapy in Hawaii for over 3 decades I am aware of Hawaii's cultural diversity and what is required to have a massage therapy practice here from a business perspective. Having served on the massage therapy advisory board I have experience in review of violations. I am well versed in the laws and rules governing massage therapy. My skills include both stress release (relaxation) and restorative/medical massage therapy. As a CERT and ARC volunteer I am accustomed to working as a team.

What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

As a board member I hope to work with others in creating a Board of massage therapy, which others desire to model theirs after. I want to fulfill all responsibilities required of me. Setting high goals gives us something to strive for.

Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board

I have integrity. The people of Hawaii can count on me to be honest as I serve them. I am an optimist (most of the time) There are times when challenges present themselves. Working through these with hope and a positive attitude can make a big difference on the journey. I am reliable. When asked to do something, I will complete the job. If unable to complete it I will report back ASAP so the task can be completed.

Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I am a mother. I can multitask. I know when to listen and when to share my thoughts and feelings. I can make tough choices when needed.

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

Currently I am serving on the massage therapy advisory board. If confirmed I will be submitting my resignation. If a conflict of interest arises, I will disclose the situation to determine if in fact there is a conflict. If there is I will abstain from any decision making process relating to the situation. I understand there is an ethics video on how to manage these kind of situations. I hope to view this.

Thank your for your consideration. I am hopeful that my answers will assist you in this confirmation process.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bath