

GM 636

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology, Gubernatorial Nominee, GARY BELCHER, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Report Title: Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology

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
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
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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 NO. 636

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 No. 636, regarding the appointment of Gary Belcher to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology ("Board"). My name is Keali'i Lopez, Director of the Department. The Department strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. Belcher's appointment to the Board as a public member for a term to expire on June 30, 2016.

Mr. Belcher fully understands the role and various responsibilities of the Board including the review and approval of new licensees, or the revocation and suspension of existing licensees for violations, receiving and investigating complaints, and interpreting and enforcing the applicable statutory laws and administrative rules. Mr. Belcher brings

administrative medical experience to the Board through his work experience and affiliation with the University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Mr. Belcher understands that the appointment to the Board comes with the responsibility to attend and participate. Mr. Belcher is committed and able to attend the Board's scheduled meetings. Mr. Belcher feels that as a personal matter, volunteering on the Board is a meaningful way to share his work experience and knowledge so that it may have a positive and beneficial impact upon the community.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the appointment of Mr. Belcher to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology.



Hawaii Residency PROGRAMS, INC.

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, John A. Burns School of Medicine · The Queen's Medical Center · Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children
Straub Clinic & Hospital · Kuakini Medical Center · Wahiawa General Hospital · Kaiser Foundation Hospital

April 8, 2014

VIA E-MAIL: CPNTestimony@capital.hawaii.gov

Senate Committee on
Commerce and Consumer Protection
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: Mr. Gary Belcher, Governor's Nominee for
Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology**

Dear Members of the Senate:

The purpose of this letter is to provide my strongest possible professional and personal endorsement for Mr. Belcher's nomination.

I have known Mr. Belcher for 18 years. For the last eight years, I have been his second level supervisor in his role as Program Administrator, General Surgery Residency Program, Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc. Prior to that time, I worked with him as legal counsel for Hawaii Residency Programs.

Mr. Belcher is intelligent, conscientious and eminently fair. He is a model of professional diligence and integrity. He enjoys the respect of his staff, the residents for whom he is responsible, and the University of Hawaii Faculty who train those residents. Because of these duties, he is very familiar with the licensure and credentialing processes for medical professionals.

I have often – and will again – entrusted him with decisions requiring the highest level of discretion, judgment, and fairness. He has consistently performed at an exemplary level.

His temperament, insight, and trustworthiness commend him as a superior candidate for this Board Appointment.

Senate Committee on
Commerce and Consumer Protection
April 8, 2014
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Please feel free to contact me at 586-2895 if I can provide further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Philpott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Richard Philpott, JD, LLM
Chief Executive Officer and
General Counsel

RP:cmj

April 9, 2014

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Mr. Gary F. Belcher's appointment to the Speech and Audiology Board

Dear Chair Baker,

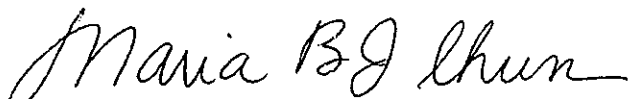
I am writing in support of Mr. Gary F. Belcher's appointment to the Speech and Audiology Board. I believe that he has the requisite qualifications both professionally and personally to serve as a public member on the board.

I have known Mr. Belcher since April 2006 when I joined the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Department of Surgery to serve as the Associate Chair for Administration and Finance. At the time, Mr. Belcher served as the Information Technology Manager for the Hawaii Residency Programs, Inc. He was always very service-oriented and committed to doing a good job no matter how small the task. He has continued this dedication and hard work when he came to our department the following year as the Program Administrator for the general surgery and orthopedic residency programs, and the surgical critical care fellowship.

Mr. Belcher always goes above and beyond the call of the duty. He is always available to our surgical faculty and has an excellent relationship with his supervisors and his staff. Since I myself serve as one of the public members for the Hawaii Medical Board, I know that Mr. Belcher will do an outstanding job as a public member for the Speech and Audiology Board. He is extremely orderly, detail-oriented, and punctual.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,



Maria B.J. Chun, Ph.D., CHC. CPC-A
Specialist and Associate Chair,
Administration and Finance
UHM Department of Surgery

In my capacity as Professor of Surgery for the University of Hawaii John A Burns School of Medicine I have known and worked with Gary Belcher for approximately 30 years. He is one of the most dedicated individuals I know and does everything with an enormous amount of self-pride and commitment to excellence. In whatever role he is assigned, he excels so I have no reservations about recommending him highly for the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. He will serve the people of Hawaii with distinction and to the best of his ability.

--

Mihae Yu, MD, FACS, Professor of Surgery
Vice-Chair of Education,
University of Hawaii Department of Surgery
Program Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
Director of Surgical Intensive Care,
The Queen's Medical Center
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mihaey@hawaii.edu

Lamont Dahlquist
1424 Ainapua St
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

April 8, 2014

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
415 S Beretania St
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT - TESTIMONY - BELCHER SP and AUD

Dear Senator Baker ,

I am writing on behalf of Gary Belcher regarding membership on the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. Gary and I have been lifelong friends since seventh grade in Ewa Beach, Hawaii. We attended high school and the University of Hawaii together and have at times been members of the same associations and clubs. During college we were also roommates for part of that time. With a life time of shared experiences I can thoroughly vouch for his character and abilities.

Gary is extremely conscientious and thorough in all that he does. Once Gary makes a commitment he will meet the due date and he will produce an A+ deliverable. His skill at production of presentations is excellent. But I am sure many of his peers and the doctors and other professional he works with and has helped over the years could attest to his work force excellence skills, I however am uniquely qualified to attest to his personal and friendship skills.

Gary is a true leader, people follow him because they trust him and they trust him because he cares about them. I know of no one who can better step in to calm animosity, I know of no one who can better listen and create understanding and I know of no one who can better support a friend in need.

As a juniors and seniors in high school Gary and I were on the wrestling team and football team together and naturally when as a junior Gary was appointed to be the Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper he appointed me to be the Front-Page-Editor. Gary set high standards for himself and others and led by example thus we spent many hours during and after school perfecting our craft. While we have aged and gained valuable experience over the years, Gary has become more dedicated to the pursuit of excellence and a flame has always burned inside of him to excel and to give back to the community.

Thus I recommend whole heartedly that you appoint Gary Belcher to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology and allow him to make this contribution to the people of the State of Hawaii.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the above address or by phone at (808) 227-6282.

Aloha and Mahalo,
Lamont Dahlquist, P.E.
Senior Supervising Electrical Engineer
Hawaiian Electric

April 9, 2014

Henry Lee
94-354 Aaahi Street
Mililani, Hawaii 96789

Attn: Senator Baker

Subject: Gary Belcher on the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology

I've known Gary for over forty years, he's been a loyal and trustworthy friend. He's a person I can rely and depend on if any problem arises.

He's a good advisor, and was there when I was in the hospital and needed assurance to help me through my recovery.

He is dedicated to his career and family and after putting in extra hours at work, still manages to balance personal obligations. His knowledge and experience has helped him develop a true concept of wanting to help others.

Your time and attention is greatly appreciated.

Thank-you

Henry Lee

Gary F. Belcher, Testimony, Statement as to Ability to Serve on the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology

- (1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology?

Becoming a member of the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology would provide a most valuable means by which I could make an uncompensated contribution to the people of the State of Hawaii. It would be an honor and I would appreciate the opportunity to use my life experience, professional experience and educational background to help positively affect the lives of people that require and utilize the services of Speech Pathologists and Audiologists. The Board would also serve, both directly and indirectly, to improve the professions and their capabilities to help members of the public who need their services. I would place great value on being a part of that contribution.

- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

My understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the members of the Board is that there are many and they are important. Largely, the Board accepts, reviews and renders decisions on applicants for licensure as Speech Pathologists and Audiologists. The Board also reviews concerns brought forth by members of the public regarding individual clinicians. The Board may have to make recommendations for sanction against practitioners who hurt or injure their patients/clients. Additionally the Board, at its bi-monthly meetings, responds to public concerns about technological and practice-based developments within both domains. The Board also communicates with specialty organizations that have an interest in Speech Pathology and/or Audiology and determines whether proposals or desires on the part of those entities should be forwarded to state lawmakers and/or those who develop public policy.

- (3) 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.

I have lived in the State of Hawaii for 47 years and have a good understanding of public need in the area of healthcare. I have worked in health education since 1977 and despite not being a practitioner I have a very good understanding of clinical health care and health care delivery systems. My role as a residency program administrator with the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine lends itself to my being highly functional in healthcare environments. I feel that I have an excellent understanding of the healthcare paradigm from physicians and other clinical providers through the level of patient, including the underserved patient. I am generally seen as a compassionate person, this may be one of the more important qualifications.

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

I would hope to help maintain the high level of service and activity currently provided by the Board. As a public member I would hope to acquire a strong understanding of the needs of patients being treated by Speech Pathologists and Audiologists and advocate for those special

needs. I would anticipate that both professions will gain increased substantiveness as the population ages.

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

Three qualities that describe me are:

1. Willing and Eager to Serve – I am a hardworking individual and my work output and quality largely define who I am as a person. I am able to successfully navigate through familiar and less-familiar territory – I consider myself a pragmatist and am able to get the job done.
2. Competent and Inquisitive – I am of above average intelligence and have received a good education (both at James Campbell High School and the University of Hawaii). I pride myself on being admired for my work quality and my work ethic.
3. Honesty and Integrity – My honesty and integrity supersedes all other qualities and characteristics I possess.

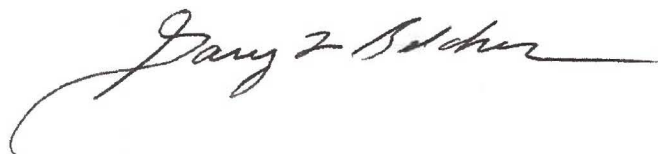
(6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I think my professional role as a Residency Program Administrator and my many years in healthcare education would be the most valuable contributors to success as a Board member. My post-graduate training is in Education. I have a Masters of Education from the University of Hawaii which provided the training to observe and absorb from different perspectives and to see things from a systems perspective. On the personal side, I have had many opportunities to help others negotiate complex healthcare issues and have found this to be tremendously rewarding.

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

I cannot foresee any conflicts of interest that may arise from being on the Board, but at the same time I have no experience as a Board member. In my professional role I am required to monitor healthcare trainees and their interactions with industry and believe that I am very capable of recognizing such conflicts. If I believed I was in a controversial position I would likely discuss the situation with the Chairperson of the Board or perhaps the Executive Director and ask for guidance. In the absence of such guidance I would declare myself as unable to participate; I would recuse myself.

Sincerely,



Gary F. Belcher

April 2, 2014