

SB223

Measure Title: RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE.

Report Title: Naturopathic Physicians; Controlled Substances; Naturopathic Formulary; Testosterone; Prescriptive Authority

Description: Authorizes a naturopathic physician to prescribe controlled substances that are consistent with naturopathic medical practice. Clarifies that narcotic drugs shall not be included within the naturopathic formulary.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH/PSM, JDL/WAM

Introducer(s): BAKER, GABBARD, IHARA, KIDANI, TOKUDA, S. Chang, Taniguchi



DAVID Y. IGE
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
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR
JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESENTATION OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

AND

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

TWENTY-NINTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2017

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2017
1:15 P.M.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 223
RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR,
AND TO THE HONORABLE GLENN WAKAI, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 223, Relating to Naturopathic Medicine. My name is Daria Loy-Goto and I am the Complaints and Enforcement Officer for the Department's Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO"). RICO offers the following enforcement-related comments on the bill, with a requested amendment.

Senate Bill No. 223 authorizes naturopathic physicians to prescribe controlled substances consistent with naturopathic medical practice.

RICO defers to the Board of Naturopathic Medicine ("Board") on the issue of prescriptive authority of controlled substances for naturopathic physicians. Should this measure move forward, however, RICO notes that a specific reference to a violation of Chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") should be included in §455-11, HRS, the subsection that sets forth the grounds for discipline against naturopathic physicians. As such, RICO respectfully requests that Senate Bill No. 223 contain the following amendment to be inserted in §455-11(a), HRS, where appropriate:

Violation of chapter 329, the uniform controlled substance act, or any rule adopted thereunder except as provided in section 329-22

This language will ensure that RICO can pursue disciplinary action against naturopathic physicians who violate Chapter 329, HRS, when prescribing any controlled substances.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 223. I will be happy to answer any questions the Committees may have.

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

AND

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2017

Thursday, February 9, 2017
1:15 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 223, RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC
MEDICINE.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is David Kern and I am a naturopathic physician and the Chairperson of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine ("Board"). The Board thanks you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill No. 223, Relating to Naturopathic Medicine. For the reasons set forth below, the Board supports this measure, subject to certain important amendments.

Senate Bill. No. 223 authorizes a naturopathic physician to prescribe controlled substances that are consistent with naturopathic medical practice and clarifies that narcotic drugs shall not be included within the naturopathic formulary. Regarding controlled substances, the Board suggests that the bill be amended to provide that prescriptive authority of controlled substances be limited to testosterone rather than all

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 223
Thursday February 9, 2017
Page 2

controlled substances, and agrees that narcotic drugs should not be included within the naturopathic formulary.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill No. 223.



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 9, 2017

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Re: SB 223 – Relating to Naturopathic Medicine

Dear Chair Baker, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Glenn Wakai, and Committee Members:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on SB 223, which authorizes a naturopathic physician to prescribe controlled substances that are consistent with naturopathic medical practice and clarifies that narcotic drugs shall not be included within the naturopathic formulary. HMSA has concerns with this Bill, but we offer comments and a suggested amendment.

In 2016, HMSA became the first health plan to include naturopathic physicians in its primary care provider network. This affords our members more and better access to the care they want. Working with members of the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians, we were able to align the role of the naturopathic physicians with HMSA's vision of a transformed healthcare system for Hawaii.

That said, this Bill proposes to expand prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians beyond their current scope of practice. We would want to ensure the safety of our members are secured with the naturopathic physician having the appropriate training, registration, and education to prescribe controlled substances as contemplated under this Bill.

We understand the Bill's intent is to allow naturopathic physicians to prescribe testosterone and codeine-like substances. However, the Bill provides for them to prescribe controlled substances, with the exception of narcotic products. Since codeine is considered to be a narcotic, to clarify this discrepancy, the Committee may wish to consider including a provision such as:

Controlled substance prescriptions are limited to testosterone and codeine-containing substances in Schedules III-V.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and offer comments on SB 223.

Sincerely,

Mark K. Oto
Director, Government Relations

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:05 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: drterij@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teri Jackson	Wailea Pharmacy	Support	No

Comments: To whom it may concern, I am licensed Naturopathic Physician practicing on Maui, and am the staff physician at Wailea Pharmacy. The ability to prescribe testosterone is consistent with our training as primary care providers, and most NDs practicing in the state of Hawaii went to naturopathic medical schools in states where testosterone is in our formulary (WA, OR, AZ). Naturopathic Physicians have an excellent track record regarding the safe and effective use of pharmaceutical medications, and when they are used appropriately, make a huge difference in the outcomes of our patients' health. Testosterone is one such medication that is indicated in a growing segment of the population, and trained, licensed Naturopathic Physicians are qualified to safely prescribe this controlled substance. As such, I support the passage of SB223 to allow testosterone to be included in the formulary of NDs licensed in the state of Hawaii. Thank you so much for your time, Teri Jackson, ND Wailea Pharmacy

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 4:37 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: naturadoc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie Marsh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support Naturopathic Doctors to be able to prescribe controlled substances that are part of their training and standard of practice. Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 8:55 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: drstrong@hilonaturalhealth.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr Sarah Strong, ND	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a naturopathic physician practicing in Hilo for nearly a decade I urge you to support this bill. I have treated hundreds of patients throughout the years with bioidentical hormone therapy and the inability to prescribe testosterone has made treatment very difficult in many cases, often resulting in the patient needing to see another doctor (typically with very little experience in hormone therapies) to get their needs met. If this bill passes it would be a seemingly small change in our scope of practice and yet would allow us to help more people with less hassle for everyone involved. Please support SB223 and I thank you for your time and service.

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Dr. Nathan Ehrlich, N.D.

Licensed Naturopathic Physician
PO Box 756 • Makawao, HI 96768
808.572.1388 • fax 808.572.1389
email: nat@maui.net

February 6, 2017

Hawaii State Legislative Session 2017

To: Senate CPH Committee Senator Rosalyn Baker Chair and Senator Clarence Nishihara
Vice Chair
RE: testimony for SB223
Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 1:15 pm at the State Capital Building,
Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street.

Dear Honorable Senator Roz Baker, Senator Clarence Nishihara and fellow committee members,

My name is Dr. Nathan Ehrlich, N.D. I am a naturopathic physician practicing in Hawaii on the island of Maui since 1989. I am submitting my testimony to urge you to support SB223 which would grant prescriptive authority to Naturopathic Physicians in the state of Hawaii for Testosterone. Testosterone is an example of a controlled substance that is consistent with the practice of naturopathic medicine and naturopathic physicians are known for their expertise in bio-identical hormone replacement therapy. Naturopathic physicians have a track record of safety and of being the leaders in the field of bio-identical hormone therapy and though we have been prescribing estrogen and progesterone in this state, we are limited in providing complete hormonal protocols on men and women patients when testosterone production is insufficient. Testosterone is safe to prescribe by trained physicians and we as Naturopathic physicians are trained to implement this form of therapy with our patients.

Testosterone is classified as a controlled substance and is the only substance in this category that would be added to our formulary. Including Testosterone in the Hawaii Naturopathic Physician Formulary allows me to better serve the needs of my patients.

Thank you for hearing my testimony and for your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan Ehrlich, N.D.

Michael Traub, ND
LOKAMI HEALTH CENTER
75-165 Hualalai Rd. Suite 301
Kailua Kona, Hawaii 96740
Phone 808-329-2114
Fax 808-326-2871
mtraubnd@me.com

Testimony in support of SB223

February 4, 2017

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of CPH and PSM:

As stated in the preamble of this bill, testosterone is an example of a controlled substance that is consistent with the practice of naturopathic medicine, and naturopathic physicians are known for their expertise in bio-identical hormone replacement therapy. It is incongruous that naturopathic physicians cannot prescribe testosterone when medically necessary, simply because it is classified as a controlled substance.

Testosterone deficiency in both males and females increases risk for obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, dyslipidemia (abnormal blood cholesterol and fats), inflammation, endothelial dysfunction, hypertension, loss of lean body mass, muscle volume and strength, and bone mineral density.

Naturopathic physicians have a clean record regarding prescriptive authority. There have been no disciplinary actions taken by the Board of Naturopathic Medicine, nor any malpractice awards against a naturopathic physician regarding harm from the prescription of any drug included on the naturopathic formulary.

Testosterone is the only controlled substance that the Board of Naturopathic Medicine would consider adding to the naturopathic formulary at this time.

Naturopathic physicians are acutely aware of the widespread abuse and overuse of narcotic pain medicines and do not seek authority to prescribe these substances.

The overwhelming majority of naturopathic physicians licensed in Hawaii have trained in naturopathic medical schools in Oregon, Washington, and Arizona where controlled substances are within the prescriptive authority of naturopathic physicians, and students receive sufficient classroom education and clinical training for their safe and appropriate use.

Thank you for your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Michael Traub ND

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 4, 2017 11:12 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: doctordarrow@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/4/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darrow Hand	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Baker, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee Members of CPH & PSM: I am a naturopathic physician, practicing on O'ahu. I support SB 223 relating to Naturopathic Medicine. The use of testosterone as a bioidentical hormone is something we learn about in our training and in continuing education courses we take on bioidentical hormones. This bill would allow more patients to get the care they need. Please pass SB 223. Thank you, Darrow Hand, ND

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Dr. Allison Bachlet PhD, ND
7007 Hawaii Kai Drive, C22
Honolulu, HI
96825

Feb 3, 2017

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker, Senator Clarence Nishihara, and Committee Members,

I would like to voice my support for **SB223 Relating to Naturopathic Medicine**.

I am a Naturopathic Physician on Oahu and work to improve the health and lives of my patients every day. Currently, I am not allowed to prescribe testosterone, and this greatly limits my ability to optimally help some of my patients.

I have an ND from the Boucher of Naturopathic Medicine and a PhD in Clinical Medicine from the University of Oxford (UK). I have done additional specialized training in the prescription and monitoring of bio-identical hormone therapy. Testosterone is an example of a bio-identical hormone and having this one substance excluded from our Naturopathic formulary in Hawaii hinders my ability to provide the best possible care to my patients.

Thank you very much considering supporting our request to expand our formulary to include testosterone.

Sincerely,
Dr. Allison Bachlet

Karen Mackovjak
414 ILIMANO Street
Kailua, HI 96734

Dear Committee for SB 223,

7 February 2017

I want to share with you that I fully support this Bill, SB223, relating to Naturopathic Medicine. I am 51 and have seen Naturopathic physicians all my life for different reasons, and have found them to be competent, well versed in recent research concerning meds and alternative medicine, and generally are interested in the patient getting better and not just getting the patient out the door. This bill offers a tremendous opportunity to recognize Naturopathic Physicians for their value in our medical community and to give them the tools and authority they need to continue to contribute to the community and the health of patients.

Please support and pass the SB 223 Bill.

Very respectfully,
Karen Mackovjak
mackovjak@yahoo.com
Cell: 808.372.5500

To: Hawaii Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Re: SB223, Relating to Naturopathic Medicine

February 6, 2017

Dear Honorable Senators Rosalyn Baker, Chair, Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of SB223 to expand the Hawaii Naturopathic Formulary to include controlled substances (especially testosterone) that are consistent with Naturopathic practice.

I have owned a private practice on Maui since 2010, but have been a licensed Naturopathic Doctor (ND) for twenty years, having also completed a two-year Residency upon graduation from medical school. In addition to my solid academic and clinical foundation, I annually pursue continuing education with a focus on endocrinology, specifically for the management of peri- and post-menopausal women. Some of these women have significant hormone deficiencies (discovered through laboratory testing) with debilitating symptoms for which I prescribe bio-identical hormone replacement.

The unfortunate truth is that these women are not only commonly deficient in estrogens and progesterone (that are within the prescriptive authority of NDs), but are often also deficient in testosterone (which NDs in Hawaii cannot yet prescribe). This discrepancy forces patients to make additional appointments with a Medical Doctor (MD) merely to acquire a prescription for testosterone.

Including testosterone and other non-narcotic controlled substances in the Hawaii Naturopathic Formulary would allow me to better serve my patients with these hormonal deficiencies in a more efficient and cost-effective manner, rather than requiring patients to duplicate services with a MD.

Thank you for your support on this bill, and for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Dr Karen Frangos

Karen M. Frangos, PT, ND
Past President, Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians
Owner, Maui Natural Medicine & Physical Therapy, LLC
30 E. Lipoa St, Ste 4-108
Kihei, HI 96753
p: 808-891-1111
f: 808-442-9938
e: drkmfrangos@aol.com

TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 223

According to Wikipedia: Naturopathy or naturopathic medicine is a form of alternative medicine employing a wide array of pseudoscientific practices branded as "natural" and as promoting "self-healing," including homeopathy, herbalism, and acupuncture, as well as diet and lifestyle counseling.^{[1][2][3]} Naturopathic medicine is considered by the medical profession to be ineffective and possibly harmful, raising ethical issues about its practice.^{[2][4][5]} Naturopaths and naturopathic doctors have repeatedly been accused of being charlatans and practicing quackery.^{[2][6][3][7][8][9]}

The ideology and methods of naturopathy are based on vitalism and self-healing, rather than evidence-based medicine.^[10] Naturopathic education contains little of the established clinical training and curriculum completed by primary care doctors, as naturopaths mostly study unscientific notions and learn unproven diagnoses and treatments.^{[2][11]} Naturopaths generally recommend against modern medicine, including surgery, drugs, and vaccinations, in favor of methods claimed to be holistic and non-invasive. Naturopaths tend to oppose vaccines and teach their students anti- and alternative vaccine practices, resulting in lower vaccination rates.^{[12][13][14][15]} According to the American Cancer Society, "scientific evidence does not support claims that naturopathic medicine can cure cancer or any other disease."^[16]

My comments:

Based on the above stated description, I do not see any reason why naturopaths would seek to have expanded authority to dispense legitimate drugs such as testosterone since they do not believe in modern medicine. I strongly recommend that you DO NOT pass SB 223 but let it die a natural death in committee.

Melinda Wood
Mwood17@hawaii.rr.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 8:39 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: rebecca.a.pang@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB223

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 8:21 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: catherineishida@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Catherine Ishida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Practitioners of functional and integrative medicine are my preferred primary care providers. Allowing the professionals broad prescription authority within the scope of their expertise would improve the quality of care they could provide.

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Karen Tan, ND, MAcOM, Lac.
Center for Innovative Medicine, LLC
320 Ward Ave, Suite 105
Honolulu, HI 96814
(808) 591-8778

Hawaii State Legislative Session 2017
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI

Feb 7, 2017

RE: SB 223

To: Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Dear Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair, Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair, and Committee members:

As stated in the preamble of this bill, testosterone is an example of a controlled substance that is consistent with the practice of naturopathic medicine, and naturopathic physicians are known for their expertise in bio-identical hormone replacement therapy. It is incongruous that naturopathic physicians cannot prescribe testosterone when medically necessary, simply because it is classified as a controlled substance.

Testosterone is the only controlled substance that the Board of Naturopathic Medicine would consider adding to the naturopathic formulary at this time.

Naturopathic physicians are acutely aware of the widespread abuse and overuse of narcotic pain medicines and do not seek authority to prescribe these substances.

The overwhelming majority of naturopathic physicians licensed in Hawaii have trained in naturopathic medical schools in Oregon, Washington, and Arizona where controlled substances are within the prescriptive authority of naturopathic physicians, and students receive sufficient classroom education and clinical training for their safe and appropriate use.

Thank you for your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Karen Tan, ND, MAcOM, LAc.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 5:33 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: surf77@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROBERT DUERR	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I use Naturopathy as my first care physician. My HMSA is \$750 a month with a \$6000 deductible. I pay cash for Naturopathy because it is cheaper than HMSA. Support Naturapathy as first care of choice.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:58 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: sd3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Douglas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a patient who is very sensitive/allergic to most allopathic meds, I can usually only use naturopathic meds and see ND's and it would make my life a lot easier if my ND could Rx testosterone and other natural meds so I wouldn't have to see two doctors to get the same thing done. Mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:49 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: dorisresch@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB223

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doris Resch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:48 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: zenyokai@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve McLaughlin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I completely support this bill. RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE: Authorizes a naturopathic physician to prescribe controlled substances (like Testosterone) that are consistent with naturopathic medical practice. Clarifies that narcotic drugs shall NOT be included within the naturopathic formulary. This is a bill to expand the ND formulary for those who use bioidentical hormones. It is also a bill to deepen our credibility while reflecting our skill set as primary care physicians. Steve McLaughlin, Professor - L.Ac.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:14 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: skwsith@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB223

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sterling Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony in support of SB223

February 8, 2017

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of CPH and PSM:

Testosterone is a controlled substance that is consistent with the practice of naturopathic medicine. Naturopathic physicians are known for their expertise in bio-identical hormone replacement therapy which makes it a disservice to patients treated by naturopathic physicians in Hawaii who could benefit from the medically necessary use of testosterone.

Testosterone deficiency is a hormonal phenomenon that happens in both males and females. Evidence clearly supports that deficiencies in testosterone can lead to an increased risk of obesity, depression, type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, elevated cholesterol, hypertension, and bone loss.

Testosterone deficiency is a medical condition commonly treated in an out-patient, primary care setting. Naturopathic physicians are licensed as primary care physicians in the State of Hawaii and are well equipped to responsibly prescribe this controlled substance.

There have been no disciplinary actions taken by the Board of Naturopathic Medicine for improper use of prescriptive authority, suggesting that naturopathic physicians in the State of Hawaii are prescribing pharmaceutical medications safely and responsibly.

The overwhelming majority of naturopathic physicians licensed in Hawaii have trained in naturopathic medical schools in Oregon, Washington, and Arizona where controlled substances are within the prescriptive authority of naturopathic physicians, and students receive sufficient classroom education and clinical training for their safe and appropriate use.

Thank you for your support of this measure.

In Health,

Landon Opunui ND
Honolulu, HI

Laurie Steelsmith, N.D., L.Ac.
Steelsmith Natural Health Center
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 314
Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 943-0330
LaurieSteelsmith@gmail.com

Testimony in support of SB 223

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of the CPH and PSM:

I am writing in support of SB 223 which would allow licensed naturopathic doctors to prescribe the hormone testosterone. I am an expert in women's health and bioidentical hormone replacement therapy and have been in practice in Honolulu for 24 years. I have treated many of my female patients for complaints associated with perimenopause and menopause with bioidentical estrogen and progesterone, but there are many conditions which require low dose testosterone therapy. These include advanced vulvovaginal dryness and atrophy, low libido and decreased sexual response. I have had to resort to using an alternative androgen, DHEA, in an effort to achieve similar results, but more often than not, DHEA is not strong enough to achieve the therapeutic results necessary. There have been many cases where I have to refer the patient out to an M.D. in order for the patient to have testosterone prescribed. I feel compelled to add here, that on numerous occasions, I have had to educate the medical doctor I've referred the patient to on how to prescribe the bioidentical testosterone because they have not had the medical training that I have had.

Every year I attend multiple continuing medical education courses. In 2016, I attended 5 courses, 3 of which were focused on bioidentical hormones including testosterone. I also have held a Washington State naturopathic license for the past 24 years. During this time, I had considered having a part time practice in Seattle, and in preparation for my practice I took an extensive course on controlled substances, including testosterone prescribing, and passed a WA State exam that allowed me to have a DEA license. Since I did not move up there part-time, I let that license lapse. I am clearly qualified to prescribe this controlled substance.

Please pass this bill so that I can offer my patients the full spectrum of bioidentical hormone replacement therapy available. Senator Baker said in one of our meetings a few years ago that she would like to see practitioners working at the highest level of their training; adding testosterone to the our formulary would enable us to serve our patients to the best of our education and expertise. It will also enable us to best serve our patient's needs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Laurie Steelsmith, N.D., L.Ac.

2/8/2017

From: Alex Steelsmith
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 314
Honolulu, HI 96815

To: The Committee on CPH/PSM

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and other Committee members:

Please support SB 223, which authorizes naturopathic physicians to prescribe controlled substances consistent with their practice and training. Naturopathic physicians are known for their expertise in bio-identical hormone replacement therapy, and it is unreasonable that they cannot currently prescribe a specific hormone when medically indicated for both their female and male patients, simply because it is classified as controlled substance.

Naturopathic physicians licensed in Hawaii have trained in naturopathic medical schools in many states where controlled substances are within the prescriptive authority of naturopathic physicians; as students they received sufficient classroom education and clinical training for their safe and appropriate use.

Thank you for your support of SB 223.

Sincerely,
Alex Steelsmith

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:37 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: wild_wahine@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Scharein	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of CPH & PSM, I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone. I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician & support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust and my ND and the quality of care she provides. As a result of the care I've received and the improvement in my health, I support NDs as primary care providers. I want my ND to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide. I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices. Thank you for your consideration.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:32 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: mkrb@portroofing.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MK Barnett	Individual	Support	No

Comments: View this email in your browser Dear Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of CPH & PSM, I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone. I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician & support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust my ND and the quality of care she provides. As a result of the care I've received and the improvement in my health, I support NDs as primary care providers. I want my ND to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide. I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices. It is an individual's God given right to choose the type of health practioners and forms of treatment they belive is in their best interest. Please dont take the power from the people. Thank you for your consideration, Mary K Barnett Lahaina HI

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:21 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: marsha.lowery@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB223 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB223

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for CPH/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marsha Lowery ND	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Letter of Support for SB 223 Committee Hearing Hawaii State Legislative Session 2017 Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu Hawaii Re: SB 223 Dear Honorable (Senator John Doe , Representative Jane Doe , etc) I am writing in support of SB 223. My name is Dr. Marsha Lowery, I am a Naturopathic Primary Care Physician on Maui. I support SB 223 to offer an expanded formulary to include those natural substances such as Testosterone that may be both of natural origin and categorized as controlled substance. When necessary I prescribe hormone replacement, and testosterone is an essential medication to return hormone levels to normal for some patients. Currently Testosterone is currently not in our formulary, and it makes it challenging to properly treat patients who are low in this hormone. I currently have to refer my patients to another provider in order to get their prescription. Including Testosterone in the Hawaii Naturopathic Physician Formulary allows me to better serve the needs of my patients. Thank you for your consideration Sincerely, Dr. Marsha Lowery ND 1135 Makawao Ave #101 Makawao, HI 96768 808-633-8177 marsha.lowery@gmail.com

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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Kristen Coles, ND, LAc
Steelsmith Natural Health Center
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 314
Honolulu, HI 96815
Phone 808-943-0330
Fax 808-943-0334
kristencolesnd@gmail.com

February 8, 2017

Testimony in support of SB 223

Dear Senator Baker, Senator Nishihara, and members of CPH -

I am a Naturopathic Physician and have been practicing in Honolulu for 5 years. I received my doctorate in Naturopathic Medicine at Bastyr University in Seattle, WA and completed a 2 year residency here in Honolulu. I currently use prescription hormones for women's health concerns and have a number of patients both male and female with diagnosable testosterone deficiency. The clinical side effects of testosterone deficiency include diabetes, metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, decreased bone density, loss of muscle, and changes in cholesterol.

Naturopathic physicians in this state and across the country have a clean record regarding prescriptive authority. There have been no disciplinary actions taken by the Board of Naturopathic Medicine against a naturopathic physician regarding the prescription of any drug included on the naturopathic formulary.

Where I attended medical school in the state of Washington, testosterone and other controlled substances are within the prescriptive authority of naturopathic physicians. We are trained extensively in both the classroom and clinical education on the appropriate use of these drugs. However, at this time testosterone is the only controlled substance that the Board of Naturopathic Medicine would consider adding to the formulary at this time.

Thank you for your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Kristen Coles, ND, LAc

From: [Mike Latif](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: bill 223
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 8:59:12 AM

Dear Honorable Committee Chair, Co Chair and Committee Members of CPH and PSM
Testimony in Support of SB 223 for Naturopathic Physicians
Hearing in CPH/PSM Feb 9, 2017

I am Michael Latif, Registered Pharmacist, owner of North Shore Pharmacy , and my pharmacy has filled Prescriptions for Naturopathic Physicians in our community for several years. Naturopathic Doctors fill a well needed niche for the public, and I support the passage of SB 223 offering Naturopathic Physicians the limited use of Controlled substances, specifically Testosterone.

Sincerely,

Mike Latif
Northshore Pharmacy
2460 Oka st #100
Kilauea, HI 96754
Phone 808-828-1844

From: [Steven Benchouk](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#); [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: Support of SB223
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:55:56 AM

Testimony in support of SB223

February 7 2017

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of CPH and PSM:

I am writing in support of SB223.

My name is Stephen Benchouk I am a Naturopathic doctor practicing in Oahu for the past 5 years. I would like to support the expansion of our formulary natural substances with testosterone

Our holistic approach makes the exclusion of testosterone an impediment to treating our clients health concerns; such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, dyslipidemia (abnormal blood cholesterol and fats), inflammation, endothelial dysfunction, hypertension, loss of lean body mass, muscle volume and strength, and bone mineral density.

I would also like to state that in the previous state where I practiced, Naturopaths have DEA privileges, and can freely prescribe testosterone. Naturopaths also have a proven track record of safe responsible use of testosterone therapy without disciplinary actions.

In addition, since hormones are a natural substance, and testosterone is an essential component to any hormone balancing, naturopaths receive intensive classroom and clinical training in safe and appropriate use of hormone replacement therapy.

Thank you for your support of this measure.

Regards,

Dr. Stephen Benchouk

--



Dr. Stephen Benchouk, N.D.

hawaiinaturalmedicine.com

1330 Ala Moana Blvd., 4th Fl. Honolulu, HI 96814

E steven.benchouk@hawaiinaturalmedicine.com

P [808.945.5433](tel:808.945.5433)

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From: [gail bergson](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#); [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: Bill SB223
Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:23:57 AM

Dear CPH & PSM members, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs,
I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician on Maui and support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust and have had great results with my Naturopathic doctors care.

I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone.

I want my naturopathic doctor to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide.

I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices.

Thank you,
Gail Bergson

From: [Britta Zimmer](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#); [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB223
Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:29:18 AM

Dr. Britta Zimmer • 70 Olona St. Hilo, Hawaii 96720 • 808-218-1222

Testimony in support of SB223

February 6, 2017

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of CPH and PSM:

I am writing in support of SB223.

Testosterone is the only controlled substance that the Board of Naturopathic Medicine would consider adding to the naturopathic formulary at this time.

Naturopathic physicians are acutely aware of the widespread abuse and overuse of narcotic pain medicines and do not seek authority to prescribe these substances.

Naturopathic physicians have a clean record regarding prescriptive authority. There have been no disciplinary actions taken by the Board of Naturopathic Medicine, nor any malpractice awards against a naturopathic physician regarding harm from the prescription of any drug included on the naturopathic formulary.

The overwhelming majority of naturopathic physicians licensed in Hawaii have trained in naturopathic medical schools in Oregon, Washington, and Arizona where

controlled substances are within the prescriptive authority of naturopathic physicians, and students receive sufficient classroom education and clinical training for their safe and appropriate use.

Thank you for your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Britta Zimmer, ND

--

Britta Zimmer, ND
Naturopathic Physician
Hilo, Hawaii
808-218-1222

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Feb 6, 2017

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of CPH and PSM,

I am writing in support of SB223.

I am a naturopathic physician who has been practicing on Kauai for 15 years offering naturopathic health care to my community. I support SB223 to offer an expanded formulary to include those natural substances, such as testosterone, that may be both of natural origin and categorized as controlled substance. Testosterone is an example of a controlled substance that is consistent with the practice of naturopathic medicine.

I offer bioidentical hormone replacement for my patients, and testosterone is an essential ingredient in physiological preparations to return hormone levels to normal. Including testosterone in the Hawaii Naturopathic Physician Formulary allows me to better serve the needs of my patients.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carrie Brennan, ND

From: [Nancy Lins](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB 223
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 4:55:51 AM

February 4, 2017

Hawaii State Legislative Session 2017 Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu Hawaii

Re: SB 223

Dear Honorable Senator Roz Baker,

I am writing in support of SB 223.

My name is Dr Nancy Lins and I am a Naturopathic Physician on Maui with 15 years of practice, offering naturopathic health care services to my community.

I support SB 223 to offer an expanded formulary to include those natural substances such as Testosterone that may be both of natural origin and categorized as Controlled substance.

As part of my practice, I offer BioIdentical Hormone Therapy for my patients, and Testosterone is an essential ingredient in physiological preparations to return hormone levels to normal. By including Testosterone in the Hawaii Naturopathic Physician Formulary I can better serve the needs of my patients.

Thank you for your consideration and all you do for this beautiful state!

Sincerely,
Nancy Lins, ND
180 Dickenson St #218
Lahaina, Hawaii 96761

(808)667-9554

DrLins@DrNancyLinsHawaii.com

Mahalo, Dr. Nancy Lins ND

From: [Margo Curb-Aitken](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#); [PSMTestimony](#)
Subject: SB223
Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:36:27 AM

Dear Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of CPH & PSM,

I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone.

I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician & support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust my ND and the quality of care she provides. As a result of the care I've received and the improvement in my health, I support NDs as primary care providers. I want my ND to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide. I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices.

Thank you for your consideration.

Margo Curb-Aitken
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: [mark.haddad](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB 223
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 2:22:37 PM

I am in support of Senate Bill 223. I practice medicine on Maui and Lana'i and am aware of Naturopathic Physicians offering many important services for our community. They are very knowledgeable on the efficacious use of BioIdentical Hormone Replacement Therapy (BHRT) and should have full access to the preparations that include Testosterone.

Sincerely,

Mark E Haddad, M.D.
Board certified in emergency medicine

CPH Testimony

From: Joan Sizemore <captsize@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:37 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Subject: Support SB223

Dear Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of CPH & PSM,

I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone.

I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician & support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust and my ND and the quality of care she provides. As a result of the care I've received and the improvement in my health, I support NDs as primary care providers. I want my ND to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide. I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices.

Thank you for your consideration.
Joan Sizemore

Sent from my iPhone

CPH Testimony

From: gail bergson <travlyngb@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:23 AM
To: CPH Testimony; PSMTTestimony
Subject: Bill SB223

Dear CPH & PSM members, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs,
I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician on Maui and support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust and have had great results with my Naturopathic doctors care.

I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone.

I want my naturopathic doctor to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide.

I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices.

Thank you,
Gail Bergson

To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB223
Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:17:00 AM

Dear Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of CPH & PSM,

I support SB223 which expands the Naturopathic Formulary to include testosterone.

I am a patient of a Naturopathic physician & support Naturopathic Medicine. I trust and my ND and the quality of care she provides. As a result of the care I've received and the improvement in my health, I support NDs as primary care providers. I want my ND to be able to practice and provide the full compliment of skills which they have been trained to provide. I support the inclusion of testosterone as it is consistent with naturopathic practices.

Thank you for your consideration.

TO: The Senate Joint Committees on Commerce, Consumer Protection ,
Health, (CPH) AND Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
(PSM)

TWENTY-NINTH HAWAII LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2017

Thursday, February 9, 2017 1:15 pm

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 223, RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC
MEDICINE**

DEAR HONORABLE COMMITTEE CHAIRS, CO-CHAIRS AND
MEMBERS:

My name is Dr Steve Dubey , Naturopathic Physician and Licensed
Acupuncturist, practicing on Kauai for the last 36 years. I am the Vice
President of the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians. Our group is in
support of Senate Bill 223.

We agree that SB 223 be amended as recommended by the Naturopathic
Board of Examiners , to include Testosterone (a Class 3N Controlled
Substance), for it to be among the natural medicines we are able to
prescribe , and be part of the Naturopathic Formulary.

Modern Naturopathic Physicians are primary Care Providers. Besides
passing rigorous Board Examinations for licensing, we are required to
satisfy Continuing Education Requirements of 35 total hours Biennially,
with 15 of them in Pharmacy.

The Naturopathic Formulary , established in 2010 by our Board, does
include many prescription medicines of natural origin such as hormones as
well as the so-called “legend” or prescription drugs.
Thus Naturopathic physicians in Hawaii , and well as other states (such as
Oregon and Washington, Arizona for example) , have the ability to
prescribe the majority of medicines commonly prescribed in family practice.

We have excellent rapport and support from Pharmacists and our MD colleagues, and overwhelming support from our patients who appreciate the complementary approach of balancing natural therapies and remedies with more conventional medicines.

As primary care practitioners, we use standard Physical Examination, Laboratory and Radiological assessments, as well as special studies to make a diagnosis. To diagnose a patient deficient in Testosterone and not be able to prescribe that medicine for them is incongruous with our practice and philosophy.

Continuing education is available for all health care practitioners that includes training and certification in the use of evidence based Bio-Identical Hormone Replacement Therapy (BHRT) .

As the life expectancy of our population extends, there are more patients requesting supportive “Age Management Care” - (the newer term for “Anti-Aging Medicine”) and BHRT. Testosterone , alongside Thyroid, Estrogens, and Progesterone are among the substances prescribed in this therapy, based on increasingly more accurate biological testing to pinpoint imbalances and deficiencies, thus further insuring safety and efficacy.

I conclude :

Testosterone is listed in the World Health Organization’s “Model List of Essential Medicines” , 19th edition , published in April of 2015, and should be included in the Naturopathic Formulary.

Respectfully submitted ,
Thank you

Steve Dubey ND LAc

3093 Akahi St
Lihue , Hi 96766

Hawaii State Legislative Session 2017
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu Hawaii

Re: SB 223

Dear Honorable Senator and or Representative,

I am writing in support of SB 223.

My name is April Fountain and I have been using bioidentical hormones for several years under the care of an MD doctor who specialized in hormone care for menopausal women. She has recently passed away and there is currently no other MD hormone doctor on the Big Island of Hawaii.

After my doctor passed away I tried stopping the bioidentical hormone and I was unable to sleep and suffered 20 to 30 severe hot flashes during the day which is why I started using the formula. If you have never experienced this, let me just say that my life is not manageable with those symptoms.

When I rub the simple bioidentical cream into my arms at night I am able to sleep and suffer no hot flashes. My original prescription included Testosterone.

My current Naturopathic doctor can prescribe the formula but without the Testosterone. It is not nearly as effective for me and my life has once again become difficult.

Please allow my very skilled Doctor Sarah Strong and other Naturopathic Doctors, be able to prescribe me the Testosterone and the formulas they feel I need to be healthy.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely
April Fountain
13-3988 Honuaula St.
Pahoa, Hawaii, 96778
(808) 965-0221
Email: Aprilfountain@gmail.com

Dr. Chandy Lopes, ND



180 Dickenson Street, Suite 218 • Lahaina, HI • Phone: 808-667-9554 • Fax: 877-533-0405
E-Mail: DrLopes@Naturopathicaloha.com Web: NaturopathicAloha.com

February 7, 2017

Committee on CPH & PSM

RE: Testimony in support of SB223

Dear Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs & Members of CPH & PSM,

My name is Dr. Chandy Lopes & I am a Naturopathic Physician from Maui. I support SB223 to include testosterone within our formulary.

I believe that Naturopathic physicians are well versed and trained in prescribing and integrating bio-identical hormones such as testosterone, into safe, effective & comprehensive treatments for our patients. Within my own training and by working with other doctors, MD's & ND's, I have seen how the appropriate use of testosterone can greatly improve treatment outcomes and the quality of life for men & women. In brief, some positive outcomes in men include maintaining muscle mass, improving metabolism and increasing energy. In women, testosterone therapy is effective in treating peri- and menopausal issues such as hot flashes, sleep disturbance & moodiness.

Our patients are often paying out of pocket for their visits and it is a grave disservice to their health care that we cannot prescribe testosterone when medically necessary. By including testosterone into our formulary this will ensure that our patients have access to comprehensive Naturopathic care. SB223 allows me to better serve the needs of my patients and community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Chandy Lopes
Naturopathic Physician
1427495860
ND-246