

# GM582

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine, Gubernatorial Nominee, KRISTEN COLES, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: State Board of Naturopathic Medicine

Current Referral: CPH

Kristen Coles, ND, LAc

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

I am interested in continuing to support naturopathic medicine in the state of Hawaii. I recently stepped down from the Executive Committee of the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians. In order to continue to serve the profession I would like to volunteer my time to serve as a member of the Board.

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

As a member of the Board I am taking on the responsibility to be able to respond to any complaints made regarding naturopathic physicians in the state of Hawaii. It is also the responsibility of the Board to respond to various pieces of legislature that may involve or impact the practice of naturopathic medicine.

- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

I feel that I have a duty to my profession and to the public to ensure that the way naturopathic medicine is practiced is congruent to the laws and ethics surrounding the practice of naturopathic medicine. I will do my best to ensure that the consumer is protected under the laws set forth by the state for naturopathic physicians.

- (4) 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 previously served as the Secretary for the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians for 2 terms and also worked closely on the Legislative Committee of the HSNP. During this time of service I was able to gain an understanding of the role of the Board and the importance of a functioning Board to be able to evaluate pieces of legislation that might change the scope of naturopathic medicine. I am very passionate about naturopathic medicine and I do believe that part of my responsibility to the profession is to serve in whatever capacity I can, whether that be on the state association or the state board. My specific skills that would aid me as a member of the Board are that I am responsible, reliable, organized, fair and ethical.

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

I hope to provide policy leadership, support, and advocacy during my term of service.

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

Ethical - I believe in the law and believe that Board members need to be ethical and fair

Responsible - I hold myself accountable for my own actions and follow through on my word. This is important for other Board members to be able to rely on each other.

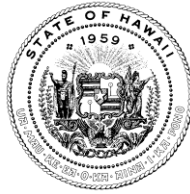
Organized - I believe organization is key and to accomplish anything successfully there needs to be good organization.

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

I served as the secretary to the state association - the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians for 2 years. I had to be organized and had to work well alongside other committee members. It also allowed me to gain a lot of experience in advocacy and the workings of the state legislature. This experience will be beneficial for my service as a Board member.

- (8) 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 work alongside and am employed by another Naturopathic Physician. If for some reason a complaint came to the Board regarding this ND, I would need to excuse myself from any discussion or decision making due to bias. I have no problem being honest and open regarding any potential conflicts of interest.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
LT. GOVERNOR

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

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2018

Wednesday, March 7, 2018  
10:00 A.M.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 582, SUBMITTING FOR  
CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE BOARD OF  
NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KRISTEN COLES, FOR  
A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COMMITTEE:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 582, which nominates Ms. Kristen Coles for membership on the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

Ms. Coles has been a licensed and practicing naturopathic doctor since 2012, seeing an average of sixty patients a week. She is a member of the American Associations of Naturopathic Physicians, as well as the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians, where she previously served as Secretary of the Executive Committee. She understands the commitment involved and her responsibility to attend and prepare for the Board's periodic meetings.

Given Ms. Coles' experience and dedication to this field of medicine, the Department believes she is in a good position to positively contribute to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Coles' nomination to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine.

**GM-582**

Submitted on: 3/6/2018 10:01:45 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [Dr. David Kern](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony; baker3 - Veronique](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Dr. Coles, ND  
**Date:** Monday, March 5, 2018 5:53:09 PM

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Senator Baker and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health:

I am writing in support of Dr. Kristen Coles, ND for a position on the Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I have previously served on the Board of Naturopathic Medicine for 8 years and currently serve as the Chair of the Board. I believe Dr. Coles is an excellent candidate to fill the vacant position. I have known Dr. Coles for 5 years and have worked with her for two years on the executive board of the HSNP, state association. Dr. Coles is a doctor of high integrity and a person of quality who has shown her commitment and dedication to naturopathic medicine in Hawaii. She is a highly regarded practitioner as a result of her intelligence and the quality of the service she provides to the community she serves. I believe she would be a valuable asset to the Board, providing the many assets she already brings to her practice and has shown with her work for our profession in Hawaii.

If I can offer any additional information in support of Dr. Colles, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David Kern, ND, LAc.

Dr. David Kern, N.D., L.Ac.  
Grace Health Centers  
Makawao: 808-572-6091  
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**From:** [Laurie Steelsmith](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Letter of Recommendation for Dr. Kristen Coles to Serve on the Naturopathic Board  
**Date:** Monday, March 5, 2018 10:24:09 PM

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Laurie Steelsmith N.D., L.Ac.  
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 314  
Honolulu, HI 96815

March 5, 2018

RE: Kristen Coles N.D., L.Ac. - To Serve on the Naturopathic Board

I would like to recommend Dr. Kristen Coles to serve on the Board of Naturopathic Physicians. I have known Dr. Coles for over five years and have found her to be of the highest integrity. She has dedicated her life's work to serving patients with the best in naturopathic medicine. She has also contributed a tremendous amount of her free time and energy to help support the naturopathic profession. I know that Dr. Coles would do an excellent job serving on the Board of Naturopathic Physicians.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Laurie Steelsmith

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Dr. Laurie Steelsmith N.D., L.Ac.  
Naturopathic Physician, Acupuncturist, and Author  
Medical Director of Steelsmith Natural Health Center  
[www.DrSteelsmith.com](http://www.DrSteelsmith.com); [www.SteelsmithHealth.com](http://www.SteelsmithHealth.com)  
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**From:** [baker3 - Veronique](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Recommendation for Dr. Kristen Coles to Serve on the Naturopathic Board  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 6, 2018 8:18:24 AM

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**From:** Laurie Steelsmith [mailto:lauriesteelsmith@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 10:22 PM  
**To:** baker3 - Veronique <baker3@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter of Recommendation for Dr. Kristen Coles to Serve on the Naturopathic Board

Laurie Steelsmith N.D., L.Ac.  
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 314  
Honolulu, HI 96815

March 5, 2018

RE: Kristen Coles N.D., L.Ac.

Dear Senator Roz Baker,

I would like to recommend Dr. Kristen Coles to serve on the Board of Naturopathic Physicians. I have known Dr. Coles for over five years and have found her to be of the highest integrity. She has dedicated her life's work to serving patients with the best in naturopathic medicine. She has also contributed a tremendous amount of her free time and energy to help support the naturopathic profession. I know that Dr. Coles would do an excellent job serving on the Board of Naturopathic Physicians.

Sincerely Yours,  
Dr. Laurie Steelsmith

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

Naturopathic Physician, Acupuncturist, and Author

Medical Director of Steelsmith Natural Health Center

[www.DrSteelsmith.com](http://www.DrSteelsmith.com); [www.SteelsmithHealth.com](http://www.SteelsmithHealth.com)

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Letter of Recommendation  
For  
Kristen Coles ND  
For  
Board of Naturopathic Medicine

Senator Roz Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S Beretania St # 231  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker:

I have known Dr. Kristin Coles for since she joined the Steelsmith Natural Health Center in 2002. She has always impressed me with her professionalism, intelligence and kindness. I have recently succeeded her as secretary of the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians, and I can attest from the records she has passed on to me that she carried out the responsibilities of secretary with a high degree of competency and organization. Her communications both internally with the HSNP as well as with external parties were articulate and helpful.

Having previously served for 16 years on the Board of Naturopathic Medicine, I know of no better-qualified naturopathic physician in the state to serve on the Board. I am delighted that she has applied to be appointed to the Board.

With warm regards,



Michael Traub, ND