

Testimony of the Board of Physical Therapy

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection
Friday, March 1, 2024
9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 612, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MICHELE CHEE,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rochelle Araki, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Physical Therapy (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Michele Chee, D.P.T.'s appointment to the Board as a licensed member.

Dr. Michele Chee has been licensed as a physical therapist in Hawaii since September 23, 1997, and her license is current, valid and in good standing. From 1998 to 2001, Dr. Chee worked as a physical therapist providing direct therapy for geriatric patients in a skilled nursing facility. Since 2001, Dr. Chee has been a physical therapist providing inpatient and outpatient therapy for Shriners Children's Hawaii, and is currently the Director of Rehabilitation Services for Shriners Children's Hawaii, a position she has held since 2019. She is a contributing member who is rapidly familiarizing herself with the Board's laws, rules, procedures, and protocol, as well learning the requirements for approving continuing education for physical therapists.

Since her interim appointment to the Board, Dr. Chee has attended all scheduled board meetings. Although new to the Board, Dr. Chee actively participates in discussions and offers valuable recommendations regarding the profession of physical therapy. Her contributions and insights have assisted the Board in its decision-making, review of applications, and other matters. For these reasons, the Board believes that Dr. Chee will continue to contribute to the Board while enhancing its effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-612

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 3:05:00 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/1/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyle Watterson	Testifying for Shriners Childrens	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to vote in support of Michele Chee for nomination to the Hawai'i State Board of Physical Therapy. Michele is an outstanding leader in the Therapy Services and Rehabilitation department within Shriners Children's. She serves on the Rehab Executive Council as one of five directors from across Shriners International. Those selected to the Rehab Executive Council guide the organization to the highest quality care and contribute to the governing the Therapy Services and Rehabilitation departments with committment to Shriners' core values. Michele is a humble leader that has championed efforts across our organization while respresenting our locaiton in Honolulu and other locations across the western United States. I expect that her effort will be equally up to the task on the Hawai'i Board of Physical Therapy. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kyle Watterson PT, PhD

Corporate Director of Rehabilitation, Therapy Services for Shriners Children's