



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I. HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, April 10, 2025
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229, and Via Videoconference

On the following measure:
G.M. 748, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE HAWAII BOARD OF OPTOMETRY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ASHLEY PORTER,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Nadine Y. Ando, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the appointment of Ashley Porter, O.D., as a licensed member for the Hawaii Board of Optometry (Board).

Dr. Porter earned her Doctor of Optometry degree from the Illinois College of Optometry in 2016 and has practiced in Hawaii since then. Currently, Dr. Porter serves as an optometrist at Jenkins Eye Care in Honolulu, where she manages ocular surgery and disease, emergency care, and specialty hard contact lenses. She has also worked at Kaiser Permanente in Waipio, the Hawaii Eye Institute, and Dane Casuga & Associates, gaining broad experience in primary care, ocular disease, emergency care, and specialty contact lenses.

Dr. Porter is equally dedicated to community service. She has volunteered as a speaker for the Lions Club, educating the public on eye health, and has participated in mission trips to Guatemala and Mexico, providing free eye exams and care to underserved populations.

Additionally, Dr. Porter has volunteered at Special Olympics events, conducting vision screenings for athletes. Her leadership skills are demonstrated by her role as Fundraising Chair for Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, where she successfully organized and managed fundraising initiatives.

Dr. Porter's diverse clinical experience, commitment to community service, and leadership make her an ideal candidate for the Hawaii Board of Optometry. Her appointment would bring valuable expertise to the Board and advance optometric care in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-748

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 1:21:46 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee:

I would like to provide public testimony in support of Dr. Ashley Porter for the Hawaii Board of Optometry. I have known Dr. Porter for 2 years and believe she is of good moral character and will be an asset to the Board with her 5 years in practice.

I have personally worked with Dr. Porter for 2 years, and her clinical skills and judgement should prove beneficial for her duties on the Board. She is adept at managing ocular disease, including surgery care, pediatrics, binocular vision, urgent care and routine care, along with contact lenses and specialty contact lenses.

In addition, she has been actively involved in medical mission trips since 2017.

She enjoys giving back to the public and helping the community.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Peterson, MD, PhD

GM-748

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 8:56:45 AM

Testimony for CPN on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tyrie Jenkins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Re: Ashley Porter, OD

Consideration for confirmation to the Hawai'i Board of Optometry

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing to support Dr. Ashley Porter's confirmation to the Hawai'i Board of Optometry.

I have a very busy ophthalmology practice and Ashley is an optometrist in my office.

She is an excellent practitioner with a superior skill level in primary and secondary optometric care

She is compassionate and a lifelong learner.

I support her nomination with no reserves.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Tyrie Jenkins, MD

615 Piikoi St.

Suite 205

Honolulu, HI 96814

8083666113

GM-748

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 6:09:42 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liane Nalani Casuga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: Hawaii Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

Jarrett Keohokalole Chair

FROM: Liane N. Casuga, O.D.

95-550 Lanikuhana Avenue, Mililani, Hawaii 96789

(808)623-0702

RE: Testimony in support of Dr. Ashley Porter, Board of Optometry GM748

Dear Honorable members of the Hawaii Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee,

I would like to provide public testimony in support of Dr. Ashley Porter for the Hawaii Board of Optometry. I have known Dr. Porter for 9 years and believe she is of good moral character and will be an asset to the board with her 9 years of experience in Optometry. She has a wealth of knowledge in surgery care, pediatrics, and binocular disease as well as proficient in general optometry, contacts and speciality contacts.

I have personally worked with Dr. Porter for several years and her clinical skills and judgement should prove beneficial for her duties on the Board of Optometry.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Liane N. Casuga, O.D.

GM-748

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:46:59 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the pleasure of working with Ashley Porter for ten months and can confidently say that she is a true professional. Ashley possesses a remarkable blend of expertise, dedication, and a collaborative spirit that makes them an asset in any professional setting. Her ability to tackle complex challenges with compassion and thoroughness has consistently impressed me.

What sets Ashley apart is her optimism and capacity to bring out the best in those around her. Whether it's seeing complicated patients, working on a project, or simply being a reliable team player, Ashley is always dependable and positive. It's rare to find someone with such a high level of professionalism and genuine kindness. I would highly recommend the Board of Optometry to consider her for this position.

Sincerely,

Nicole Chang, OD

GM-748

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 7:24:02 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Neda Nikpoor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong support of Dr. Ashley Porter, OD, for the Hawaii Board of Optometry. As an ophthalmic surgeon, I have had the privilege of working directly with Dr. Porter at Jenkins Eye Care since August 2024 and have been continually impressed by her dedication to patient care. She is a compassionate and caring clinician, and she connects easily with both patients and staff.

With nine years of experience in a variety of clinical settings, Dr. Porter brings a well-rounded perspective that allows her to represent optometrists across different practice environments. She is eager to learn and deeply committed to serving her community, both locally and globally. Her volunteer work includes providing eye care on mission trips to Guatemala and Mexico, educating the public on eye health through organizations like the Lions Club and Project Vision, and actively participating in community service initiatives across Hawaii.

Dr. Porter's clinical expertise, integrity, and dedication to service make her an outstanding candidate for the Hawaii Board of Optometry. I fully support her appointment and am confident she will be a valuable advocate for the profession.

Sincerely,

Neda Nikpoor, MD