

Testimony of the Board of Physical Therapy

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection
Friday, March 21, 2024
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 708, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JILL WAKABAYASHI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029**

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 Jill Wakabayashi's appointment to the Board as a licensee member.

Mrs. Wakabayashi has been licensed as a physical therapist assistant in Hawaii since December 1, 2014, and her license is current, valid and in good standing.

Mrs. Wakabayashi previously served as a physical therapist assistant member on the Board. She comes well prepared for all meetings and actively contributes to Board discussion. Her contributions and insights have assisted the Board in its decision-making review of applications as well as other matters. The Board supports her confirmation as it will help ensure the continuity of the Board's efforts to effectively oversee the practice of physical therapist and physical therapist assistants in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-708

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:06:08 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Miyao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Committee Members!

I am writing in support of Jill Wakabayashi's membership to the State of Hawai'i Physical Therapy Board. I have know Jill through our volunteer work as Board members for Castle Performing Arts Center (CPAC) Enccore. Jill has assisted with planning fundraisers, worked with students and faculty at Castle High, and has led the Non Profiit Board in its activities. She will definitely be an active participant in the Physical Therapy Board. She is dependable and trustworthy with her many years of experience as a physical therapist I know she will be an asset to the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Miyao

GM-708

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 12:40:17 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheryl Kozuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Jill Wakabayashi since July 1990 when we were classmates at Kapiolani Community College in the Physical Therapist Assistant program. We attended weekday classes and also completed multiple clinical rotations. During this time Jill demonstrated diligence as a student, as a team player and held high standards of excellence. After graduation, we both continued on our educational as well as career paths, and Jill continued to consistently participate in the professional organization, as well as increase her knowledge and value in the marketplace by taking additional classes and obtaining certifications in specialty areas.

When Jill was offered the position at Kapiolani Community College's PTA Program Director role, I believed she was the perfect fit. As a former student of the program, as well as her credibility and connection to many in the industry she intimately knew the multiple responsibilities as well as possessed the passion to do the job well, tirelessly providing the leadership needed to guide the program as well as its students.

Jill has maintained her professional affiliation with various organizations, continuing to serve, as well as be a voice of wisdom and experience. Her credibility, steadfastness and passion for the physical therapy profession is unquestionable and I believe she will be an asset to the board. I recommend her nomination wholeheartedly without reservation.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Kozuma