

Honolulu, Hawa<u>ii</u> , 2013 **Invia**

RE: H.B. No. 843 H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2013 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 843, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the licensing of physical therapist assistants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Tripler Army Medical Center, the Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, the Board of Physical Therapy, the Queen's Medical Center, the Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii, Ho'okahi Leo: Physical Therapist Assistants of Hawaii, and thirty-one individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is the only state that does not regulate physical therapy assistants by means of licensure or certification. Your Committee notes that Medicare requires licensed personnel to perform all physical therapy treatment. Consequently, physical therapy assistants trained and residing in the State must travel to another jurisdiction to obtain a license necessary for employment in Hawaii facilities that treat Medicare patients. This unnecessary burden causes some properly trained physical therapy assistants to forgo obtaining a license or remain on the mainland after obtaining a license, causing a drain on skilled physical therapy assistants in Hawaii and compounding the current shortage of skilled physical therapy assistants. Your

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Committee finds that licensure of physical therapy assistants will help to address the personnel shortage while also protecting the public by providing definite guidelines for regulation, increasing accountability, and providing a framework for disciplinary action by the Board of Physical Therapy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 843, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,

ANGUS L.K. McKELVEY, Chair



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-seventh Legislature

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Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

HB 843 HP1	Committee Referral: HLT ₁ CPC, FIN			Date: 2/13/13		
□ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.						
The recommendation is to: Image: Pass, unamended (as is) Image: Pass, with amendments (HD) Image: Hold Image: Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)						
CPC Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)		Nays	Excused
1. McKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)						
2. KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K. (VC)		\checkmark				
3. BELATTI, Della Au						
4. BROWER, Tom		r				
5. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.		\checkmark				
6. CACHOLA, Romy M.		r				
7. CARROLL, Mele		V				
8. EVANS, Cindy		<				
9. HAR, Sharon E.						
10. ITO, Ken		~				
11. LEE, Chris		V				· •
12. TSUJI, Clift		1				
13. YAMANE, Ryan I.						
14. MCDERMOTT, Bob						
15. THIELEN, Cynthia						
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TOTAL (15)		11	1			3
The recommendation is: Adopted D Not Adopted						
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.						
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:						
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO						