

GM622

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Massage Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, PAULA BEHNKEN, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Report Title: Board of Massage Therapy

Description:

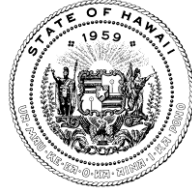
Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
4/6/2015	S	Received.
4/6/2015	S	Referred to CPN.
4/16/2015	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 04-22-15 8:30AM in conference room 016.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR
JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2015
Wednesday, April 22, 2015
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 622**, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO **THE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **PAULA BEHNKEN**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018.

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. 622, nominating Ms. Paula Behnken for membership on the Board of Massage Therapy ("Board") for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

Ms. Behnken has lived and worked on the Island of Maui since the 1990s, becoming well-rooted in the neighbor island community and the different businesses that serve its people. Most recently, Ms. Behnken has come to work for a Maui-based

therapeutic massage school in an operational support capacity, gaining exposure to the training and operations that massage therapists undertake. With this background, the Department believes that Ms. Behnken has the ability to effectively serve as a public member on the Board, also lending the perspective of a long-time Maui resident to the Board's deliberations.

Ms. Behnken has a keen interest in the different functions performed by the Board, including setting procedures and overseeing the license application and revocation/suspension process, establishing rules concerning massage therapist training and apprenticeships, and other tasks necessary to ensuring proper licensing of the massage therapy industry in Hawaii. The different time and preparation requirements that come with Board service – such as regular attendance of Board meetings – are also understood and accepted by Ms. Behnken.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of Ms. Behnken's nomination to the Board of Massage Therapy.

From: [Frances Salvato](#)
To: [CPN Testimony](#)
Subject: Paula Behnken Nomination # GM622
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 9:55:32 AM

April 13, 2015

To Whom It May Concern

I whole-heartedly recommend Paula Behnken's nomination to the Board of Massage Therapy! She is one of the kindest, most loving souls I have ever encountered. Perhaps this is due to her background as a teacher of children here in Hawaii. I have observed her extend her mothering attentions to people from all walks of life. She is a bridge builder and a beacon of hope and peace. She is honest and humorous in establishing clear and professional boundaries while still extending a warm and caring aloha to the people she encounters.

I think Paula would make an excellent member to the Board of Massage Therapy because of her connections with the Maui community, her deep respect for Hawaiian culture, and the responsibility of fostering career paths for individuals that are empowering and pono. Paula understands the value of massage therapy in helping others receive nurturing, healing and support. She is a powerful listener and keen observer of people. She often notices what many miss and reaches out to people in a way that respects privacy and dignity. Paula understands the challenges of running a small business as well as the intricacies involved with larger governing bodies making decisions that affect the lives of individuals.

Having Paula on the Massage Board will be an empowering choice for all involved.

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Thank you,

Frances Salvato
Director of Education
PO Box 1891, Makawao, HI 96768
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www.massagemauui.com
Phone: (808) 572-1888
Fax: (808) 572-2274

Good morning

I am writing this morning with the honor of recommending Paula Behnken for the position available with your organization.

I have know Mrs. Behnken for the past 15 years and throughout that time have been amazed at her constant devotion to whatever it is at the time she is working on.

My first interaction with Mrs. Behnken was as the Head Teacher for Carden Academy of Maui... she was an extremely positive person and key in the education for both of my daughters who have since graduated with honors and are currently attending very well respected Colleges.

Over the years I have had the pleasure of seeing Paula Behnken in other roles including friend, mentor, mother and all around "great person". I think looking at the incredible children she has raised is a testimony to her true values and dedication to offering everything she has to give.

My children still call her Mrs. Behnken even though it has been over 10 years since she had them in the Classroom. I feel this is a very important statement to who Paula Behnken is... whether she is in the Classroom environment or just seeing you on the street in Makawao she gives you the confidence needed (wanted) on an everyday level.

My hope is you will chose Paula Behnken for your vacancy as I know you will be extremely pleased with this decision.

Please call or write if you have any other question or need more information.

With my warmest aloha

Penni

Penni M. Egger R(S)
Island Sotheby's International Realty

1-808-281-2765

Top 100 Realtors - State of Hawaii 2012
Realtor Sales Person of the Year - Maui 2012

D. J. Construction
P. O. Box 1720, Makawao, HI 96768
License #BC 12112
808-878-8882

April 12, 2015

The Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Re: Nomination for **Paula Behnken – Nomination #GM622**

Dear Honorable Members:

I have worked closely with Paula over the past two years and I highly recommend her for a position on the Board of Massage Therapy.

Paula has proven to be a dependable, hardworking and conscientious worker. When given a project or task, she gets the job done in a timely matter with attention to detail and accuracy. She understands the importance of being meticulous in all things job related.

I have found Paula easy to work with. She is open and honest – truly an upstanding person.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding Paula.

Sincerely,

Vicki Jones, co-owner
D. J. Construction

April 8, 2015

To: The Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Paula Behnken Nomination # GM622

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection;

This letter is in support of my nomination to the Board of Massage Therapy. I have lived and worked in Maui for the past 25 years. I practiced dental hygiene and transitioned into teaching elementary school, which I continued to do until my own children reached middle school age. At that time, we decided to begin home schooling. I home schooled my son and daughter through high school; they are now both attending college and working on their degrees.

I accepted a position at the Maui School of Therapeutic Massage in an administrative roll in 2013. I have had the opportunity to experience and learn the value of massage therapy. My background in healthcare has ingrained in me the importance of preventative medicine; massage therapy should certainly be an integral part of overall health care, both as a preventative measure and as treatment for a number of maladies and conditions. Massage therapy has become more recognized as a medically valid treatment option and some health insurance plans now list massage as a covered benefit. It is increasingly more important to standardize and regulate the practice in order to maintain a high standard of care, thus protecting the consumer and further validating the profession.

I feel that my background in healthcare, desire to contribute and strong work ethic would help me to bring a relevant perspective to the Board of Massage Therapy. I would enjoy the opportunity to become part of this important regulatory body. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Paula Behnken