

SB307

Measure Title:	RELATING TO SPEECH PATHOLOGY.
Report Title:	Speech Pathology; Speech Pathologists; Licensure; Provisional License
Description:	Establishes a provisional license for speech pathologists. Takes effect on 10/01/19.
Companion:	HB252
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH, WAM
Introducer(s):	KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party)

Testimony of the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Thursday, February 7, 2019
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 307, RELATING TO SPEECH PATHOLOGY**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Christopher Fernandez, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology (Board). The Board supports this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to: (1) establish a provisional license for speech pathologists; (2) specify the requirements for a provisional license; and (3) limit the validity of the provisional license to one year with the ability to renew the provisional license for an additional one year if needed to fulfill the requirements of Hawaii Revised Statutes section 468E-5.

This provisional license would allow candidates for licensure to practice under the guidance of an American Speech-Language-Hearing Association certified supervisor. The Board believes that this would enhance the quality of supervision and therefore ensure public safety. The Board also acknowledges that individuals who apply for the provisional license should be those working towards eligibility for permanent licensure. Thus, the Board agrees that the term of the provisional license should be for a one-year period, with a possible extension of an additional year.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



February 7, 2019 at 9:30 am
Conference Room 229

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

To: Chair Rosalyn H. Baker
Vice Chair Stanley Chang

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Director of Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
SB 307, Relating to Speech Pathology

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 307, Relating to Speech Pathology. There is a shortage of speech language pathologists (SLPs) to serve in medical settings, which is likely in part because Hawaii is in the minority of states that do not issue a provisional license. (There are 42 states that issue a provisional license, with one more state in the process of implementing the law.)

The reason that provisional licenses are important is because SLPs must complete a clinical fellowship for a year to obtain their Certificate of Clinical Competence. As noted, Hawaii is one of the few states that does not have a provisional or temporary license during that clinical fellowship year. Unfortunately, without that provisional license, these fellows cannot bill Medicare and some other insurance providers for patient services provided under the direct supervision of a licensed SLP. This means that there are fewer Hawaii-based opportunities for SLP fellows, who often then go to the mainland for their training. This law would help to provide more opportunities for students to get training in Hawaii-based settings and help to increase access to needed services.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this legislation.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 4:50:22 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Mackey	Testifying for Hale Ho'ola Hamakua	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of SB no 307, relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing SB307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue. As Administrator for Hale Ho'ola Hamakua Critical Access Hospital and Regional Rehab Services Director for East Hawaii Region of HHSC I have personally had to turn down clinical fellow applicants due to not having provisional license opportunities in the state. Again - this bill has only positive implications.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 9:25:33 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Kakuda	Testifying for Hawaii Speech and Hearing Association	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). After attending my undergraduate at Pacific University in Oregon, I decided to continue my education back at home in hopes to lay a foundation for my future career as a speech-language pathologist in my home state. It is a dream of mine to work in the medical field and serve the geriatric population. More importantly, it was always a dream of mine to come back home to serve the people of Hawai'i and give back to the community that has given me so much while growing up. However, this dream of mine is harder to attain due to the fact that that I will not be able to gain the experience needed during my CF in a medical setting in Hawai'i. In order to get the sufficient experience to attain my dreams, I am required to move to the mainland to gain the medical skills needed for my future practice in a medical setting. Passing S.B No. 307 will not only provide a growing effect of employment opportunities for recent graduates, but it will also provide the necessary experience and knowledge needed to provide quality service for our community in Hawai'i.

Carly K.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD â„... 2020

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 5:00:09 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jan Amour Llorico	Testifying for Hawaiian Speech-Language Association	Support	No

Comments:

I am a graduate student in Massachusetts and want to have my CF in Hawaii to support the Native Hawaiian population. It is very difficult to do so with the lack of provisional licensure in Hawaii. Please consider approving this bill to help us help underserved populations in Hawaii and allow the flourishing of Hawaii with students coming to train and strengthen Hawaii as a state.

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jan-Amour Llorico

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 7:20:04 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Summer Rainbolt	Testifying for Oahu Speech Language Pathology Consultants	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:11:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanya Sasaoka	Testifying for Hawaii Speech-Language-Hearing Association	Support	No

Comments:

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Hawaii Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Thursday, February 7, 2019

Support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology

The Hawaii Speech-Language-Hearing Association is a professional non-profit organization of speech-language pathologists and audiologist that support providing quality service for those that we serve, and to promote excellence in our profession. As a member of Hawaii Speech-Language-Hearing Association I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 6:58:51 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Friscia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. 307, relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional licensure to clinical fellows. There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state- wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows being unable to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This delay creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, thus providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and for hearing my voice on this very important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 2:30:23 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raisa Soriano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and malpractice companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources. This is my first year with my speech licensure as I have graduated in 2017. Upon graduation, I have yearned to work in the medical setting. Because the state of Hawaii limits clinical fellow practices in the medical setting, I continued practicing within the department of education. My desire was to practice in the medical setting, which created a gap of lost skills between my medical externship up until a year later, now with my Certificate of Clinical Competence. I spent the first few weeks re-learning and trying to remember the skills that I have learned. Providing a provisional license for future Speech Language Pathologist Clinical Fellows would create an opportunity for others to practice after graduation. It would better prepare clinical fellows as they increase their competence to grow as a practicing speech pathologist. Many graduates move away because of the desire to work in the medical setting which then leads to a greater shortage of SLPs. To create a provisional license would fulfill the need in SLP shortage and to create local providers for the state.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 2:12:10 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracie Ibara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a department Rehab Manager, I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 11:04:31 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michiko Hammond	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue."

Thank you!

From: kbleada@hawaii.edu
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT OF SB819
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:48:02 AM

Katrina Obleada
1504 Magazine St.
Honolulu, HI 96822-3733

February 5, 2019

Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Dear Senator Baker:

SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara
Senator Laura H. Thielen
Senator Kurt Fevella

HEARING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019, 9:30 AM, ROOM 229

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB819
RELATING TO PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

Our communities are suffering because of the lack of access to comprehensive mental health care. Some of our most vulnerable citizens are unable to obtain the care needed to live healthy and functional lives. Often times, this leads to serious consequences such as drug overdose, suicide, and homelessness. The homelessness issue is a concern on every island and Psychologists are ready and willing to help. We already provide more access to care to Medicaid and Medicare patients than other prescribing mental health professionals, and are part of the coalition to address homelessness, and provide care along side of our colleagues and community partners.

Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists is a safe and already utilized option in the US military, the Public Health service, the Indian Health Service, Louisiana, New Mexico, Guam, and most recently in Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho. More and more, prescriptive authority is being authorized by states for specially trained advance practice psychologists to use as a tool in providing comprehensive, and integrative mental health care.

SB819 will provide the foundation to explore the suitability of Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists to be able to support psychotherapy with psychopharmacological support, and I am in full support of this effort.

Please vote YES on SB819 to allow greater access to care for those most in need.

Sincerely,

Katrina Obleada

From: drmrietary@gmail.com
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT OF SB819
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 11:08:06 AM

Marie Terry-Bivens Psy.D.
4401 kapuna rd
kilauea, HI 96754-5524

February 5, 2019

Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Dear Senator Baker:

SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara
Senator Laura H. Thielen
Senator Kurt Fevella

HEARING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019, 9:30 AM, ROOM 229

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB819
RELATING TO PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

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Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists is a safe and already utilized option in the US military, the Public Health service, the Indian Health Service, Louisiana, New Mexico, Guam, and most recently in Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho. More and more, prescriptive authority is being authorized by states for specially trained advance practice psychologists to use as a tool in providing comprehensive, and integrative mental health care.

SB819 will provide the foundation to explore the suitability of Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists to be able to support psychotherapy with psychopharmacological support, and I am in full support of this effort.

Please vote YES on SB819 to allow greater access to care for those most in need.

Sincerely,

Marie Terry-Bivens Terry-Bivens Psy.D.
8083327190

From: drjeffstern@gmail.com
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT OF SB819
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:53:03 AM

Jeffrey Stern
1433 Kamehameha IV Rd.
Honolulu, HI 96819-2583

February 5, 2019

Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Dear Senator Baker:

SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara
Senator Laura H. Thielen
Senator Kurt Fevella

HEARING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019, 9:30 AM, ROOM 229

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB819
RELATING TO PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

Our communities are suffering because of the lack of access to comprehensive mental health care. Some of our most vulnerable citizens are unable to obtain the care needed to live healthy and functional lives. Often times, this leads to serious consequences such as drug overdose, suicide, and homelessness. The homelessness issue is a concern on every island and Psychologists are ready and willing to help. We already provide more access to care to Medicaid and Medicare patients than other prescribing mental health professionals, and are part of the coalition to address homelessness, and provide care along side of our colleagues and community partners.

Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists is a safe and already utilized option in the US military, the Public Health service, the Indian Health Service, Louisiana, New Mexico, Guam, and most recently in Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho. More and more, prescriptive authority is being authorized by states for specially trained advance practice psychologists to use as a tool in providing comprehensive, and integrative mental health care.

SB819 will provide the foundation to explore the suitability of Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists to be able to support psychotherapy with psychopharmacological support, and I am in full support of this effort.

Please vote YES on SB819 to allow greater access to care for those most in need.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Stern, Ph.D.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 11:48:43 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Abigail Glick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. As Speech-Language Pathologists, we treat many populations in the medical setting through cognitive, feeding, swallowing, speech, and language rehabilitation. The training necessary during our Clinical Fellowship Year (CFY) is crucial to developing ultimate patient care for the citizens of Hawaii. As a current graduate student, we learn how critical it is to understand the culture and lifestyle of patients since this impacts our choices of treatment. According to the World Health Organization, clinicians need to treat the person according to their personal needs, cultural background, and lifestyle. If recent graduates are unable to practice their CFY in Hawaii, they are unable to receive proper training for treating this particular community. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Abby Glick

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD â„… 2020

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 1:22:03 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danica Nolan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 4:32:30 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eveline Koenig	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). I am a speech-language pathologist (SLP) on Hawai'i Island and have practiced at various hospitals here since 2012. During this time I had the opportunity to mentor and/or supervise five graduate SLP students. Three of them moved to the mainland, despite wanting to remain in Hawaii to pursue jobs in healthcare because they did not have opportunity here without provisional licensure. The fourth is a recent graduate who is likely going to follow the same path. We are losing talented University of Hawaii Speech-Language Pathology graduates, many who are also local residents to jobs on the mainland due to no provisional license for CFs in Hawaii. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

Thank you

Eva Koenig, MS, CCC-SLP, BCS-S

Speech-Language Pathologist

Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders

Waikoloa, HI

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 8:20:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gabriela Vasquez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 8:24:41 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Olivia Uchima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Olivia Uchima, a Speech-Language Pathologist working in Hawaii. I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). As a Speech-Lanaguage, there is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to CF not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

Olivia Uchima, MA CCC-SLP

My sister is currently pursuing her master's degree in Speech Language Pathology here in Hawaii. She discovered her passion in this field at a small college in California and has had the opportunity to continue to pursue her passion here in our home state. She is very interested in pursuing her clinical fellowship in the medical field of speech language pathology. I am in support of S.B. No. 307 because it would allow her to stay in the state to get the proper training she needs in a field she is so incredibly passionate about. Hawaii truly is a melting pot of cultures and the training one would receive here is absolutely paramount in becoming an even more invaluable resource here in the state. The population is undeniably one of a kind and for students to miss the opportunity to get their critical training here would be a loss on behalf of all parties.

I am a nurse in a local hospital and have seen the impact speech language pathologists (SLPs) have made on patients -- People who were unable to speak or swallow food without aspirating have left the hospital with the ability to do so; people who suffered a massive stroke and weren't able to communicate their basic needs with staff and family members grew increasingly frustrated but miraculously made a comeback after spending countless hours with skilled SLP's. We live in a time where people are living a lot longer than in the past. Our parents and their parents are living to be 80 and 90 years old and require more care than ever before. SLP's play an essential role in not only prolonging peoples' lives but also increasing the quality of life of those in our communities -- our grandparents, our aunts, our elementary school teachers, and so on. SLP's continue to be in high demand and passing S.B. No. 307 would be conducive in retaining highly qualified individuals here in the state of Hawaii.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 9:00:11 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanne Allagonez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB307 (Relating to Speech Pathology), which would provide a provisional license for speech-language pathologists during their clinical fellowship.

Currently, Hawai'i is one of the few states that do not offer licensure to Clinical Fellows, who are transitioning from being a speech-language pathology student to being a provider. When Clinical Fellows are not licensed, they are often not recognized as qualified clinicians for the purposes of reimbursement and are therefore unable to bill Medicare and most insurance companies.

The lack of a provisional license for Clinical Fellows also negatively impacts the shortage of speech-language pathologists here in Hawai'i, especially in the medical field, as recent graduates are more likely to look for jobs in states that offer licensure.

Passing SB307 would have positive effects in Hawai'i, including increasing the number of providers for speech-language services and growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates. This will improve our community resources and allow speech-language pathologists to provide faster, better quality services to adults and children in need of speech-language services in the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB307.

Sincerely,

Joanne Allagonez

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:30:36 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Firmin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support of SB 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for Clinical Fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists state-wide in Hawaii. Many health care systems are unable to hire clinical fellows because they are not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing SB 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates and providing quicker access to quality services for patients, improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 7:35:22 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Cappello	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii as clinical fellows are unable to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 8:14:43 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Bushman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). My classmates and I are graduate students at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. There will be 16 of us graduating as Speech Language Pathologist in 2020. Many of us are concerned that we will not be able to gain medical experience here in Hawaii, in the communities we entered this field to serve.

It is really important for Speech Language Pathology graduates to be able to do their Clinical Fellowship year in a medical setting in Hawaii so that we have Speech Language Pathologist's with that specialty when they get their credential. We currently lose a lot of our graduates to the mainland because they are interested in working in a medical setting and can't get that experience as a CF here. Our state currently has a shortage of SLPs, we can't afford to lose more of our graduates. We are doing the health of our communities a disservice by only allowing recent graduates to do their CF year in limited facilities. Passing S.B. 307 would have many benefits for our residents and SLP graduates.

Thank you for your time in considering this important matter.

Taylor, B.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD â„... 2020

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 8:34:21 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jasmin Ash	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. Not only does this deficiency create a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs, but pushes local graduate students and future speech-language pathologists out of the state of Hawaii to search for clinical fellowship positions elsewhere. The lack of provisional licensing continues to affect our professions ability to keep speech-language pathologists on the island, which may also be directly related to our shortage. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 8:49:55 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leah Paulino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of SB 307 which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows. There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for patients with speech therapy needs. Passing SB 307 would have a positive effect on employment opportunities for recent graduates and providing patients with faster, better quality services. Thank you for hearing my testimony.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 7:40:26 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 9:08:09 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Makayla Coyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307. As a speech-language pathology graduate student coming to Hawaii from a small town in Indiana, it was always my hope to be able to give back and serve the people of this community, as they not only played an integral role in my education here but have also shown me the true meaning of ohana. Unfortunately, without the possibility of obtaining my Clinical Fellowship Year in a medical setting in the state of Hawaii, it will force me, along with many other graduate speech pathology students to move back to the mainland. Medical professionals are becoming a farce, and the need for medical speech-language pathologists on the islands is growing at a rapid pace. However, by not allowing us the opportunity to attain our CFY here in a medical setting, it is forcing us to get our education elsewhere, leaving the islands with no intent on returning. By passing this bill we can truly give back to the wonderful people of Hawaii, in addition to educating and keeping the young professionals, such as myself, my cohort, and all of the speech-language pathology graduate students before us that this state has invested invaluable amounts of time, resources, and financial aid into.

Makayla C.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa- CSD â„‚... 2020

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:36:46 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon Nichols	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

*****Please Support SB 307*****

Dear Senator Keohokalole,

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

Thank you!

Sharon Nichols

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 11:16:38 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tonee Burley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources. As a current CF, I have been impacted in my job search as well as limited options in the field for summer employment which is a big stressor.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 11:43:50 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesscia Tindall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

Jessica Tindall, M.S. CCC-SLP/Lic.

Speech Language Pathologist

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 2:19:14 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Mitchell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) provide care to a wide range of people, from keiki to kupuna, in a variety of settings, including medical settings. Having grown up in Hawaii, my decision to earn my degree at the University of Hawaii at Manoa was part of my hope to live and work in my home state as a medical SLP. But, without a provisional license, provided by this bill, allowing speech-language pathology graduates to fulfill our clinical fellowship in a medical setting, I, along with my cohort and future graduates, are faced with the tough decision of leaving Hawaii so we can gain experience. The population needing SLP services in a medical setting is increasing, especially with the increasing elderly population in Hawaii, but the supply of SLPs is not keeping up with the demand. This is a rhetoric shared throughout Hawaii, leaving a shortage of qualified healthcare professionals to provide quality care to the people of Hawaii. Passing S.B. 307 would lessen caseloads and professional burnout for SLPs as well as provide better quality services to patients.

Ashley M.

Graduate Student

Communication Sciences and Disorders, focus on Speech-Language Pathology

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD â„‚... 2020

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 3:10:58 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Griswold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

A provisional license would also hold clinical fellows to a higher standard of ethical guidelines within our state as a whole as the current lack of provisional license allows for "loopholes" that (hopefully few) individuals can exploit to continue working without licensure.

Mahalo for hearing my voice on this important issue.

Lauren Griswold, MS/CCC-SLP

From: [Erin Firmin](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for SB 307
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:47:57 PM

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307. As a speech-language pathology graduate student coming to Hawaii from a small town in Indiana, it was always my hope to be able to give back and serve the people of this community, as they not only played an integral role in my education here but have also shown me the true meaning of ohana. Unfortunately, without the possibility of obtaining my Clinical Fellowship Year in a medical setting in the state of Hawaii, it will force me, along with many other graduate speech pathology students to move back to the mainland. Medical professionals are becoming a farce, and the need for medical speech-language pathologists on the islands is growing at a rapid pace. However, by not allowing us the opportunity to attain our CFY here in a medical setting, it is forcing us to get our education elsewhere, leaving the islands with no intent on returning. By passing this bill we can truly give back to the wonderful people of Hawaii, in addition to educating and keeping the young professionals, such as myself, my cohort, and all of the speech-language pathology graduate students before us that this state has invested invaluable amounts of time, resources, and financial aid into.

Makayla C.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa- CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). Clinicians strive to provide the best care possible for everyone in our settings. To reach this ultimate level of clinical expertise, clinical fellowship in the medical setting is vital. There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. We need as many speech-language pathologists to stay in Hawaii as possible. If they are unable to remain in the state to complete their education prior to entering the workforce, they will find the experience somewhere else. I was born and raised on the island of 'Oahu. The idea of leaving began as something far fetched and quite impossible. Then, I was forced to leave the state to attend school in Nevada as Hawai'i has no undergraduate program for speech-language pathology. I came home to further my education to begin my service to my state. However, it's becoming a real possibility of leaving again. The lack of educational opportunities has become a great barrier in servicing my home state. Working as a clinical fellow puts students into a setting where they begin to form professional relationships and establish bases of knowledge specific to the location they are in. How can we expect people who learned about other states with established relationships to

come back and start all over? The restrictions is pushing potential clinicians away creating a greater need for professionals. By passing this bill, we can do some justice to the people of this state. By allowing clinicians to practice in the medical setting, we can ensure a healthy future for Hawai'i and all of its citizens.

Kacie G

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) provide care to a wide range of people, from keiki to kupuna, in a variety of settings, including medical settings. Having grown up in Hawaii, my decision to earn my degree at the University of Hawaii at Manoa was part of my hope to live and work in my home state as a medical SLP. But, without a provisional license, provided by this bill, allowing speech-language pathology graduates to fulfill our clinical fellowship in a medical setting, I, along with my cohort and future graduates, are faced with the tough decision of leaving Hawaii so we can gain experience. The population needing SLP services in a medical setting is increasing, especially with the increasing elderly population, but the supply of SLPs is not keeping up with the demand. This is a rhetoric shared throughout Hawaii, leaving a shortage of qualified healthcare professionals to provide quality care to the people of Hawaii. Passing S.B. 307 would lessen caseloads and professional burnout for SLPs as well as provide better quality services to patients.

Ashley M.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). Due to current laws not allowing clinical fellows to bill Medicare and most insurance companies, there is a large shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii. Born and raised on O'ahu, I have always had a passion to find a career that would allow me to stay in my home state and serve the people of Hawaii. As a master's student at UH Manoa, graduating as a Speech Language Pathologist in 2020, I am concerned that I will not be able to gain the medical experience in my home state, and with the population I wish to serve. Speech Language Pathologists work in a variety of settings and have an important role in serving patients with speech, language, and communication needs. Our patients range in age from young keiki to the kupuna. It is vital that our cohort and future graduate students in the program have the opportunity to complete our clinical fellowship

year (CFY) in medical settings in Hawaii. It is a shame to think that the state of Hawaii has an outstanding SLP graduate program yet struggle to keep their graduates working in the state because of a deficiency in providing the proper opportunities for clinical fellowship in medical settings. As graduate students and future professionals, how are we to serve the people of Hawaii if we are not afforded the opportunities to do so? Unfortunately, the limitations on CFY in medical settings not only affects clinical fellows in Hawaii, but also the patients in Hawaii who need speech language therapy. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Kehau A.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. As Speech-Language Pathologists, we treat many populations in the medical setting through cognitive, feeding, swallowing, speech, and language rehabilitation. The training necessary during our Clinical Fellowship Year (CFY) is crucial to developing ultimate patient care for the citizens of Hawaii. As a current graduate student, we learn how critical it is to understand the culture and lifestyle of patients since this impacts our choices of treatment. According to the World Health Organization, clinicians need to treat the person according to their personal needs, cultural background, and lifestyle. If recent graduates are unable to practice their CFY in Hawaii, they are unable to receive proper training for treating this particular community. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Abby Glick

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates

a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. As a Hawaii resident for the past seven years, it is my dream to be able to give back to the community that taught me the meaning and importance of aloha. Unfortunately, without the opportunity to perform a clinical fellowship year (CFY) in a medical setting, the reality of not being able to serve the people of Hawai'i is sadly setting in. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

Anya M.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). My classmates and I are graduate students at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. There will be 16 of us graduating as Speech Language Pathologist in 2020. Many of us are concerned that we will not be able to gain medical experience here in Hawaii, in the communities we entered this field to serve.

It is really important for Speech Language Pathology graduates to be able to do their Clinical Fellowship year in a medical setting in Hawaii so that we have Speech Language Pathologist's with that specialty when they get their credential. We currently lose a lot of our graduates to the mainland because they are interested in working in a medical setting and can't get that experience as a CF here. Our state currently has a shortage of SLPs, we can't afford to lose more of our graduates. We are doing the health of our communities a disservice by only allowing recent graduates to do their CF year in limited facilities.

Passing S.B. 307 would have many benefits for our residents and SLP graduates.

Thank you for your time in considering this important matter.

Taylor, B.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am advocating for the passing of S.B. No. 307. I initially came to Hawaii for my undergraduate degree, upon completion I stayed. I had a career in social work to stay in Hawaii. After much deliberation, I returned to school to start a career that I am passionate about - Speech-Language Pathology. Communication is so important and failing to appreciate the capability is easy for many of us to do. Being able to assist in someone learning or relearning how to communicate in a manner that is best suited for that individual is a service like none other. It is disheartening that I cannot fully participate in a medical setting, where Speech-Language Pathologists are in such great need. Not being

allowed the opportunity to continue my career for my Clinical Fellowship Year, CFY, in a medical setting in the place that I now call my home is discouraging. Staying in Hawaii is particularly important to me because of all of the knowledge and growth that I have received from the community. Many of the recently graduated speech language pathologists in Hawaii have to move out of the state to complete their CFY in a medical setting and never return to work. There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to these recent graduates not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This is problematic. Our community needs us. We provide a skilled service that is in demand at every stage of life. The passing of S.B. No. 307 would enable speech-language pathologists to provide more effective services to the patients we care for. Thank you for your consideration on this crucial matter.

Marie J.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). When applying to graduate schools for communication sciences and disorders, I knew that the University of Hawaii would be my first choice. The convenience of staying with family and in my hometown was too good to pass up. Growing up in Hawaii I understand the importance of making connections and establishing good networking skills to get a well paid job on Oahu. Completing my CFY in the mainland to work in a clinical/hospital setting will not give me the same opportunities as if I were to do my CFY in a Hawaii clinical setting. Some graduates that decide to leave Hawaii for their CFY never come back. Thus there is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field statewide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources for the communities and people of Hawaii that desperately need services to live a happy and successful life.

Rachel O.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). I am currently a graduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Although new to the state of

Hawaii this bill is extremely important, not only to my cohort and myself, but to the community as well. Access to medically trained speech-language pathologists is limited state-wide because after completing our graduate programs we are unable to obtain medical fellowships in Hawaii. Due to the lack of medical opportunities young professionals, like myself, move to other states to get the experience our field requires. Unfortunately, my husband is in the military and I cannot leave the state to seek out other fellowship opportunities. I chose a career in speech-language pathology in order to help people. In medical settings patients are the most vulnerable and need the most support. I would love to be the person by their bedside aiding in their recovery. On paper speech-language pathologists treat communication and swallowing disorders, which is amazing and can make a world of difference to a patient and their families, but there is also another side most people don't see. We are a support system to these patients. On days when they feel like recovery is out of reach we are their cheerleaders, a listening ear, and a shoulder to cry on. All we ask for the opportunity to make a difference in this amazing state we all call home.

Nicole R.

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2020

From: [Erin Firmin](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for SB 307
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:46:50 PM

I moved from Minnesota to Hawaii three years ago. In three short years I've fallen in love with the culture and the people of Hawaii. As a future Speech-Language Pathologist I want to start my career here to give back to the people of Hawaii. Unfortunately, Hawaii does not offer a provisional license for recent SLP graduates in the medical setting. This means many of us (SLP graduate students) have to travel back to the mainland to obtain supervision in order to complete our licensure. With many of us leaving Hawaii to move to the mainland after graduation it leaves the state with a shortage of knowledgeable and dedicated SLPs. This licensure would allow University of Hawaii graduates who have become familiar with the state, the many cultures, and laws to gain the training we need to gain our credentials here in Hawaii and start our careers as fully licensed SLPs.

Respectfully,

Eliza Aul

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

As someone who was born and raised in Hawaii, I feel it is my kuleana to give back to my community. Because there are no local schools that offer Communication Sciences and Disorders as an undergraduate major, I was pushed to leave Hawaii to earn my Bachelor of Arts Degree. After finishing school, I eagerly accepted the opportunity to attend the University of Hawaii for Graduate school. My long-term goal is to work in the acute-care medical setting. Without a provisional license, I will not be able to complete the requirements to earn my clinical license in my preferred setting in Hawaii and will have to relocate once more.

Respectfully,

Haleigh Johnson

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

I have always felt a special connection to Hawaii. Although I was born and raised in Los Angeles, my family has been in Hawaii for generations stretching back to the sugar cane plantations on Kauai and Oahu. We have been sugar cane laborers, lunas, nurses, and doctors. In their own way, my ancestors have help improved life in Hawaii. I wish to do the same. The amount of speech-language pathologists leaving Hawaii for the mainland is worrisome as they can gain valuable experience in the medical field right after graduation. As a Hawaii resident, I do not have the same opportunity here. To gain that further education, I would have to leave these islands for California or Washington as staying in

Hawaii for the clinical fellowship could greatly hinder my opportunities in healthcare. As the baby boomer population grows older and therefore at high risk for stroke, dementia, and heart failure, more highly skilled speech-language pathologist will be needed to care for these people. With a provisional license, I would be able to train with the top speech-language pathologists at the top hospitals or rehabilitation centers in Hawaii. I would be able to become a better speech-language pathologist that possesses a high level of clinical excellence and competence with expertise in the medical field. Hawaii needs this bill to be passed to retain the students it educates and retain the skilled professionals it needs.

Respectfully,

Gabriel Tebow

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

I moved to Hawaii due to my parents' decision to relocate here in 2015. When I came here I did not expect to feel such a profound sense of connection to the community, selfless giving, and camaraderie. The field of speech pathology as a whole embodies those characteristics. I feel it even more so when I look at the speech pathology community in Hawaii. I want to lend my voice to the current and future students who wish to find work here in the medical setting upon graduation. A provisional license will mean that students can stay to benefit their ohana. When students stay they are able to give back to the community by forging relationships that they would be missing out on if they had to leave the island for their CFY. Passing this bill will benefit Hawaii for years to come by providing a community for students to learn in as well as to give back to.

Respectfully,

Ansley Davis

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

Speech pathologists can work in a variety of settings including schools, hospitals, clinics, nursing facilities, etc. Before fulfilling our dreams of working in one of these settings, graduate students must complete a clinical fellowship year to obtain their state licensure and clinical certificate of competence. This crucial period in our education often determines the setting of our future career. During this time, our clinical skills are fine tuned to prepare us for whichever setting we are passionate about. Currently, no law has been established to provide provisional licenses in the state of Hawaii. Please consider opening the door for medical clinical fellowships. Without this law, we must travel out of state to obtain necessary training for medical settings. Please help us achieve our goal to serve the people of Hawai'i by starting our medical training in our beautiful state.

Respectfully,

Kayla Kawamura

Graduate Student
University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

The scope of a speech language pathologist is broad, ranging from schools and private practices to hospitals and nursing home facilities. Speech pathologists are an integral part of the medical care team within the hospitals and nursing homes because we are required to undergo specific training to help hone our clinical skills which enables us to provide excellent patient care. By implementing a provisional license we would be allowed to obtain these skills and training here in Hawaii. In turn, there would be more speech pathologists providing quality patient-centered rehabilitative services to the people of Hawaii, and also prompt new graduates to stay and not seek training elsewhere.

Respectfully,
Breanna Schwarz
Graduate Student
University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

For me, Hawaii is much more than palm trees, sunsets, and beautiful beaches -- it is my home. Being born and raised on the Big Island, I grew up with a strong sense of community, aloha, and dedication to improving the lives around me. Pursuing my dream of becoming a speech-language pathologist started at a small university in California where I earned my undergraduate degree in Communication Disorders, and has led me home to Hawaii where I am earning my masters degree in speech-language pathology. I believe I have found my passion in life -- to empower others through communication. Unfortunately, many of us pursuing our dreams in the medical or rehabilitation setting must leave this place we call home to get the proper training necessary to obtain our license. Hawaii is unique in itself; the population is a true mixing pot of diversity and the values instilled in individuals at a young age reflect the true spirit of aloha -- which exudes like no other place in the world. To have eager, aspiring professionals leave the islands for additional training can be viewed as a disservice to both this state and profession. However, the provisional license will allow many to gain invaluable training here in the state of Hawaii. It would encourage the retention of high-quality and dedicated professionals as well as improve the value of healthcare for the growing population of older generations.

Respectfully,
Ceara Sumida
Graduate Student
University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

Given the rapid increase of life expectancy in the aging population, the likelihood of our kupuna in Hawaii to acquire a communicative or swallowing disorder is high. This means the

demand for highly trained SLPs in the medical setting will also increase. Hawaii has such a unique and diverse community with rich roots and relationships built throughout the islands. Many prospective SLPs from the mainland, like myself, have sacrificed moving far away from their friends and family to pursue a graduate degree at a program that offers one-of-a-kind multicultural and multilingual experiences. Unfortunately, these SLP graduate students' opportunities to continue advancing in their career cease after graduation due to the lack of provisional licensure in a medical setting. In addition, local students who already have special connections with the kupuna are forced to find clinical fellowships elsewhere at a state that could be completely different from their home in Hawaii where they plan to return to work as a fully licensed SLP. Passing this bill would allow both students from the mainland who are passionate about culturally and linguistically diverse patients as well as local students who were born and raised here, continue to make a difference in the lives of those from generations that have made an immense impact to Hawaii's community.

Respectfully,

Gabriella Vasquez

Graduate Student

University of Hawaii Manoa - CSD % 2019

From: christopher.knightsbridge@gmail.com
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT OF SB819
Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 4:03:03 PM

LATE

Christopher Knightsbridge
3010 vista pl
honolulu, HI 96822-1641

February 6, 2019

Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Dear Senator Baker:

SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara
Senator Laura H. Thielen
Senator Kurt Fevella

HEARING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019, 9:30 AM, ROOM 229

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB819
RELATING TO PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

Our communities are suffering because of the lack of access to comprehensive mental health care. Some of our most vulnerable citizens are unable to obtain the care needed to live healthy and functional lives. Often times, this leads to serious consequences such as drug overdose, suicide, and homelessness. The homelessness issue is a concern on every island and Psychologists are ready and willing to help. We already provide more access to care to Medicaid and Medicare patients than other prescribing mental health professionals, and are part of the coalition to address homelessness, and provide care along side of our colleagues and community partners.

Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists is a safe and already utilized option in the US military, the Public Health service, the Indian Health Service, Louisiana, New Mexico, Guam, and most recently in Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho. More and more, prescriptive authority is being authorized by states for specially trained advance practice psychologists to use as a tool in providing comprehensive, and integrative mental health care.

SB819 will provide the foundation to explore the suitability of Prescriptive Authority for advanced practice Psychologists to be able to support psychotherapy with psychopharmacological support, and I am in full support of this effort.

Please vote YES on SB819 to allow greater access to care for those most in need.

Sincerely,

Christopher Knightsbridge
8082080248

LATE

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 4:59:20 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lea Gourley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB307, relating to speech pathology, which would provide a provisional license for Clinical Fellows (CF).

I graduated as an SLP from University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2017 and had a wonderful learning experience as an intern at Hilo Medical Center. I absolutely fell in love with the field of medical speech therapy. In order to pursue this career, I had to find a CFY on the mainland. If I had had the opportunity to complete my CFY in Hawaii, I would have stayed on the islands.

Hawaii needs SLPs with medical training. I believe that the creation of a provisional license for SLPs will not only help new grads in Hawaii, but will ultimately benefit the patients and quality of services that medical SLPs in Hawaii can provide.

Thank you for your consideration.

LATE

SB-307

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 8:21:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/7/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Muranaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

When I graduated from Univ. of Hawaii with my Master's Degree in Speech Pathology, the only option for employment was with the Dept of Education (which also has a shortage of speech-language pathologist). At the time I accepted the fact that there was no way for me to enter the medical field (even though that was my specific interest) without first serving my clinical fellowship year in the DOE first. With this provisional license, new graduate students will have the option to work in any field they choose, and that will (hopefully) keep speech-language pathologist at the beginning of their careers in the State of Hawaii to fill positions in both the medical and educational fields.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

February 6, 2019

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Senate Bill 307: Relating to Speech Pathology

LATE

Dear Senator Baker:

On behalf of the Hawai'i Speech-Language Hearing Association, I write in support of the proposed provisional license for speech pathologists in SB 307.

The Hawai'i Speech-Language Hearing Association (HSHA) is a professional, non-profit organization of speech-language pathologists and audiologists that advocates for and promotes excellence in the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology, to provide quality services, that embrace the diversity of the people we serve. We strongly support SB 307, relating to speech pathology, which would provide a provisional license for individuals completing the clinical fellowship, the transitional period for graduates who are completing their mentored professional experience before becoming eligible for initial license.

Without a provisional license, clinical fellows (CFs) do not qualify under federal regulations (42 CFR, Ch. IV, Sec. 440.120(iii)) to provide services to individuals with communication disorders. In addition, services they provide are not billable through many insurances. This has several negative outcomes including, a shortage of speech-language pathologists delaying needed services, and a lack of job opportunities in Hawai'i for clinical fellows after graduating from accredited universities. Of particular concern is the fact that Hawai'i is losing talented graduates Hawai'i, who wish to stay in Hawai'i and service our community, to the mainland as they seek job opportunities not available in Hawai'i.

HSHA has had many graduate students reach out to our organization expressing their interest in the medical field and employment in medical settings. However, in Hawai'i these experiences must be delayed until their clinical fellowship is completed. At that time, they have missed valuable clinical and professional experiences with certain disorders, making the transition into the medical field less likely once licensed. In addition, after spending a year on the mainland completing their CF, many choose to stay and not return to Hawaii. This also contributes to Hawaii's shortage of speech pathologists working in medical settings.

Hawaii is one of the few states that does not provide a provisional license to clinical fellows. Passing SB 307 will have a direct effect on the number of speech pathologists that may be employed, which will then directly impact consumer access to necessary speech-language pathology services. We, the members of HSHA, strongly support the passage of SB 307. We urge the Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health committee to pass SB 307 and give the patients of Hawai'i, their families, and their communities immediate access to speech language pathology services. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on SB 307. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at noelkris@hawaii.edu.

Sincerely,

Kristine Noel

Kristine K. Noel, PhD, CCC-SLP
President
Hawai'i Speech-Language Hearing Association

From: [Stephanie Popadic](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB No 307
Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 6:55:23 PM

LATE

Dear Senator Russell E. Ruderman,

I am writing this testimony in support of S.B. No. 307, Relating to Speech-Language Pathology, which would provide a provisional license for clinical fellows (CF). There is a shortage of speech-language pathologists in the medical field state-wide in Hawaii due to clinical fellows not able to bill Medicare and most insurance companies. This deficiency creates a delay in services for our patients with speech therapy needs. Passing S.B. 307 would only have positive effects on growing our employment opportunities for recent graduates, providing faster, better quality services to patients and improving our community resources.

My experience while working at Hilo Medical center was a perfect example of the barrier created by the lack of a provisional license. A highly qualified intern was unable to be hired upon graduation. She was required to move out of state to Texas for completion of her first year of employment as a clinical fellow (CF). This is an unnecessary hurdle in overcoming the shortage of qualified speech language pathologist to service our community.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and hearing my voice on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Popadic, MHS CCC-SLP
808-494-8933

Sent from [BlueMail](#)