

Testimony of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Monday, March 30, 2026
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 593, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BRITTA ZIMMER,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2029**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Christopher Fernandez, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Dr. Britta Zimmer's appointment to the Board as a licensed member.

Dr. Zimmer was appointed to the Board on an interim basis on December 29, 2025, and in that brief time attended one meeting to date. She has been licensed as a naturopathic physician in Hawaii since 2007, and her license remains current and in good standing, with no disciplinary actions.

Since obtaining her license, Dr. Zimmer has continuously practiced in Hawaii. She began as Chief Medical Officer of her private practice, East Side Naturopathic Medicine, on the island of Hawaii until 2011. She subsequently joined Pacific Quest, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Hilo, where she has served in leadership roles including Medical Director and Managing Director. Dr. Zimmer remains actively engaged in both local and broader communities and is recognized for her leadership, management capabilities, and strategic thinking. Her extensive clinical experience and knowledge of naturopathic medicine will be valuable assets to the Board.

Although Dr. Zimmer is still becoming familiar with the Board's responsibilities - including the granting, suspension, and revocation of licenses; the adoption of administrative rules; and the enforcement of laws governing naturopathic medicine- she has demonstrated a strong commitment to learning and engagement. She understands the expectations of Board service, including regular participation in meetings and involvement in policy and consumer protection matters.

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G.M. 593

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The Board believes that Dr. Zimmer's experience, enthusiasm, and dedication to public service make her well qualified for appointment to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-593

Submitted on: 3/25/2026 1:20:58 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kym Waisbrot	Testifying for Pacific Quest Corp.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Support of Gubernatorial Nominee Dr. Britta Zimmer
State Board of Naturopathic Medicine
Term Expiring June 30, 2029**

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the confirmation of Dr. Britta Zimmer to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine.

Dr. Zimmer serves as Chief Medical Officer at Pacific Quest, where she provides clinical leadership within a multidisciplinary behavioral healthcare setting serving adolescents and young adults. In this role, she demonstrates a deep commitment to integrative, patient-centered care, combining naturopathic principles with evidence-informed medical practices to support whole-person health.

Throughout her tenure, Dr. Zimmer has consistently shown sound clinical judgment, professionalism, and a strong ethical foundation. She brings a thoughtful, balanced approach to care; one that prioritizes patient safety, collaboration across disciplines, and continuous quality improvement. Her ability to navigate complex clinical situations while maintaining a compassionate, grounded presence has earned the trust of both patients and colleagues alike.

In addition to her clinical expertise, Dr. Zimmer is deeply committed to advancing standards within the field of naturopathic medicine. She understands the importance of regulatory oversight in protecting the public and upholding the integrity of the profession. Her leadership experience, combined with her dedication to accountability and best practices, make her exceptionally well-suited to serve on this Board.

Dr. Zimmer also brings valuable perspective from working within Hawai'i's unique healthcare landscape. She is attuned to the cultural, clinical, and ethical considerations necessary to effectively serve diverse populations, and she approaches this work with humility and respect.

I am confident that Dr. Zimmer will be a thoughtful, diligent, and principled member of the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I respectfully urge the Committee to support her confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Kym Waisbrot
HR Director
Pacific Quest

GM-593

Submitted on: 3/27/2026 9:44:45 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Traub	Testifying for Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Chair and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Re: Governor’s Message No. GM 593 – Nomination of Dr. Britta Zimmer
IN SUPPORT**

My name is Michael Traub ND, and I am a colleague of Dr. Britta Zimmer.

I am writing in strong support of Dr. Zimmer’s nomination to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I have had the opportunity to work alongside her and have consistently been impressed by her professionalism, integrity, and leadership, and commitment to patient care.

Dr. Zimmer brings over two decades of clinical experience and has demonstrated the ability to collaborate effectively across medical disciplines. She is thoughtful, ethical, and deeply dedicated to advancing the field of naturopathic medicine in Hawai‘i.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Michael Traub ND

President, Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians

GM-593

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 5:31:58 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinne Maul De Soto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Chair and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Re: Governor’s Message No. GM 593 – Nomination of Dr. Britta Zimmer
IN SUPPORT**

My name is Dr. Corinne Maul De Soto, and I am a colleague of Dr. Britta Zimmer.

I am writing in strong support of Dr. Zimmer’s nomination to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I have had the opportunity to work alongside her and have consistently been impressed by her professionalism, integrity, and commitment to patient care.

Dr. Zimmer brings over two decades of clinical experience and has demonstrated the ability to collaborate effectively across medical disciplines. She is thoughtful, ethical, and deeply dedicated to advancing the field of naturopathic medicine in Hawai‘i.

I am current Vice Chair of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine and am confident that she would make an excellent addition to the Board.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Dr. Corinne Maul De Soto

Kailua Kona, HI

GM-593

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 10:33:00 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam Long	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Adam Long and I am a colleague of Dr. Britta Zimmer.

I am writing in strong support of Dr. Zimmer's nomination to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I have had the opportunity to work alongside her and have consistently been impressed by her professionalism, integrity, and commitment to patient care.

Dr. Zimmer brings over two decades of clinical experience and has demonstrated the ability to collaborate effectively across medical disciplines. She is thoughtful, ethical, and deeply dedicated to advancing the field of naturopathic medicine in Hawai'i.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Adam Long

Hilo, Hawaii

GM-593

Submitted on: 3/25/2026 2:11:30 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**Chair and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Re: Governor’s Message No. GM 593 – Nomination of Dr. Britta Zimmer
IN SUPPORT**

My name is Nicole Greenwald and I work with Dr. Britta Zimmer.

I am proud to support her nomination to the State Board of Naturopathic Medicine. Britta is one of the most compassionate and principled individuals I know. She genuinely cares about the well-being of others and brings that same dedication to her professional life.

I have seen firsthand how committed she is to her patients, her community, and to practicing medicine with integrity. I believe she will serve the Board with the same level of care, thoughtfulness, and responsibility.

I strongly support her confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Nicole Greenwald, RN
Kea'au, HI



KLEIN NATURAL

HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

March 26, 2026

To: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Rachel M. Klein, ND, DC, DACNB-FIBFN-CNDH

Re: GM593- Board of Naturopathic Medicine, Gubernatorial Nominee, Britta Zimmer

Position: **SUPPORT**

I am pleased to offer my strong support for the appointment of Dr. Britta Zimmer to the Board of Naturopathic Medicine for the State of Hawai'i.

I had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Zimmer during my tenure as President of the Hawai'i Society of Naturopathic Physicians, where she served on the Legislative Affairs Committee. In that capacity, she consistently demonstrated an understanding of policy, a thoughtful approach to advocacy, and a commitment to advancing the profession within Hawaii's regulatory landscape.

Dr. Zimmer always brought a clear, strategic mindset to her committee participation. She had an exceptional ability to analyze complex issues, communicate them effectively, and collaborate with colleagues to develop practical, well-reasoned solutions. Her contributions to committee discussions were always well-informed and grounded in both professional integrity and a genuine concern for public safety.

In addition to her work with HSNP, Dr. Zimmer is a brilliant and dependable professional, demonstrating excellence in our field. She approaches her work with diligence, respect, and a willingness to engage constructively; these qualities are essential for effective board service.

I am confident that Dr. Zimmer would be a valuable addition to the Board of Naturopathic Medicine. Her experience, professionalism, and commitment to ethical practice would serve the people of Hawai'i well.

It is my pleasure to recommend her without reservation.

Mahalo for your time,

Dr. Rachel M. Klein

LATE

GM-593

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:36:06 AM
Testimony for CPN on 3/30/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kellyn Smythe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Chair and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Re: Governor’s Message No. GM 593 – Nomination of Dr. Britta Zimmer
IN SUPPORT**

My name is Kellyn Smythe, and I have had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Britta Zimmer for nearly 12 years.

It is without hesitation that I testify in support of her nomination. Dr. Zimmer's unwavering dedication to client wellness, integrative healthcare and organizational development is unmatched in her field.

Her dedication and trustworthiness are unmatched, and the board would be lucky to have her on the team.

Yours,

Kellyn Smythe