



GOV. MSG. NO. 18

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

October 22, 2013

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Senate President  
and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senate President Kim and Members of the Senate,

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following interim nomination to the **Board of Pharmacy**:

BOARD OF PHARMACY

TERM TO EXPIRE

Mary Jo Keefe

6/30/2017

Sincerely,

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310  
P.O. Box 641  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809  
Phone Number: 586-2850  
Fax Number: 586-2856  
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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
Special Session of 2013

October 29, 2013  
10:00 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 18.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima and I am the Executive Officer for the Board of Pharmacy, Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 18, regarding the appointment of Mary Jo Keefe to the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Keefe's appointment to the Board.

Ms. Keefe has been serving as an interim pharmacist member since July 1, 2013. Since her interim appointment in July, Ms. Keefe has attended all of the scheduled meetings thus far.

As a licensed pharmacist in Hawaii since August 5, 1996, Ms. Keefe is currently a staff pharmacist for PharMerica/Wailuku and a retail pharmacy. She will bring her knowledge as a pharmacist while serving both long term care facilities as well as the retail setting.

Ms. Keefe has already been assigned to the Board's Laws and Rules Committee in which she will play a vital role in recommending changes/amendments to the pharmacy law and administrative rules.

The Department supports the appointment of Ms. Keefe to the Board of Pharmacy and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Kathleen C. Deknis RN, MSPH  
3105 N Noho Lo'ihl Way  
Kihei, HI 96753  
October 17, 2013

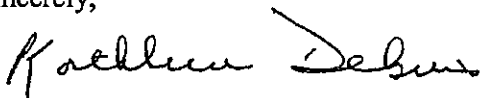
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protections

Re: Mary Jo Keefe appointment to Board of Pharmacy

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker:

I am pleased to strongly support the nomination of Mary Jo to the Board of Pharmacy. I have known Mary Jo personally and professionally for 6 years. During the time that I worked as a nurse caring for clients in ARC homes for severely disabled clients, Mary Jo was an excellent resource for pharmaceutical questions. She is passionate and thoroughly dedicated to her work. As a friend, I know her to be a person who lives her personal and professional life with integrity and compassion. She would be a hard working and totally engaged member of the Board of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Deknis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Kathleen Deknis, RN MSPH  
Director Hale Makua Home Health Agency

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chairperson  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker:

I am writing to you regarding my strong recommendation for the appointment of Mary Jo Mish Keefe to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy.

I have known Mary Jo for over 40 years, having met her when she was attending Ferris State University College of Pharmacy. She was a dedicated student with a passion for the knowledge and understanding of the profession of pharmacy. She also participated and held leadership roles within campus organizations at Ferris State University.

Throughout Mary Jo's career she has continued to broaden her knowledge of the pharmacy profession; such as sterile and non sterile compounding, understanding of the ever changing laws of pharmacy, the responsibilities of the pharmacist to the patient's care while always displaying the leadership and professionalism of a dedicated pharmacist.

Mary Jo's experience in the long term care (LTC) and retail pharmacy practices gives her great perspective to the responsibilities of a Board of Pharmacy member. Mary Jo is outstanding person who will bring a professional, knowledgeable, common sense understanding of pharmacy to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert Sarvas', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'. To the right of the signature, the date '10/14/13' is handwritten.

Robert Sarvas  
Founder and Managing Partner  
Business to Business Management Group  
Pharmacy Director PharMerica  
Pharmacist

October 15, 2013

Dear Senator Rosalyn H. Baker,

I am writing to you as a personal friend and business associate of Mary Jo Keefe who has been recommended for the appointment to the Board of Pharmacy. I have known Mary Jo for the 13 years I have been here on Maui. I began working with Mary Jo at Wailuku Professional Pharmacy in 2000, continued my experience at PharMerica and currently at Longs. Throughout my interaction, she has been an outstanding role model. She is a dedicated, hard working employee. Mary Jo serves as our compounding specialist and proven her expertise on many occasions. Over the years she has demonstrated her qualities of high integrity and moral character. As we., her sense of humor has made it a joy to work with her.

I highly recommend Mary Jo and assure the Board of Pharmacy would be enriched by her addition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather M. Derrick".

Heather Derrick PharmD  
Manager  
Longs Pharmacy, Wailuku

Shelley Seideman Rph  
2712 PuuHoolai St  
Kihei, HI, 96753  
Oct 17, 2013

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protections

RE: Mary Jo Keefe appointment to Board of Pharmacy

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker,

I am the pharmacy manager at Longs Drugs Lipoa in Kihei and have known Mary Jo for 24 years. I had the pleasure of working with her for 10 of those years in the retail setting and have deep respect for her expertise and knowledge of the practice of pharmacy. One of Mary Jo's special talents is working with people and I believe that she would be a real asset on the board. As a pharmacist I am grateful and appreciative that she is willing to devote her time and energy to serve on the board of pharmacy and cannot think of a better candidate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelley Seideman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Shelley Seideman Rph  
Pharmacy Manager Longs Drugs Lipoa

October 12, 2013

Attn: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
And Committee Members

Dear Senators:

As a coworker of Mary Jo Mish Keefe, I was pleased to see that she has been nominated by Governor Abercrombie to serve on the board of Pharmacy. I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Keefe for many years when she was a staff pharmacist at Kihei Professional Pharmacy in Kihei, Hawaii. She was often responsible for the day to day running of the pharmacy.

Ms Keefe brought to her position a well rounded perspective concerning pharmacy and a sensitivity to our patients' needs. She was supportive of the staff, a willing volunteer, and a knowledgeable and versatile pharmacist.

I strongly support Mr. Keefe's nomination. She will be a positive addition to the board of Pharmacy and I feel that the Department and State would truly benefit from her appointment.

Sincerely:



Debbie Kahoochanohano  
Pharmacy Technician  
306 Nalani Street  
Pukalani, HI 96768



Celeste Pacelli  
2411 Pauoa Rd  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
October 8, 2013

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chairman  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protections  
Re: Mary Jo Mish Keefe

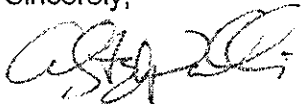
Dear Madam:

The purpose of my writing to you is to support the nomination of Ms. Keefe to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy.

I have known Ms. Keefe on both a professional and personal level, and it is my opinion that her work ethic as well as her outgoing personality will be an asset to the Board. She is skilled in long term care knowledge and sterile compounding; both of which are currently, and will be of high focus in the coming years.

Please consider your confirmation of Ms. Keefe, as I know she will be an outstanding addition to the Board. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Celeste M. Pacelli', written in a cursive style.

Celeste M. Pacelli  
Supervisor – DME Supplier

Lauri Fritsch  
811 S. Kihei Rd. #4E  
Kihei, HI 96753  
October 19, 2013

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chairperson  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

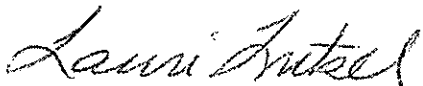
Re: Mary Jo Keefe appointment to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker,

I am fortunate to have known Mary Jo both professionally and personally for the past twenty years. Initially working with her at Wailuku Professional Pharmacy when we were obtaining our Joint Commission: Accreditation, Health Care, Certification-JACO for home IV therapy. She was always a joy to work with, very professional, treating coworkers and patients with compassion and respect. Mary Jo has a passion for life and for her profession. She also possesses an unquenchable thirst for knowledge which is an asset in any position.

Mary Jo's knowledge, expertise and wonderful personality will definitely be a welcome addition to the Board of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,



Lauri Fritsch  
Pleasure Island Incentives & Tours Inc.



Valerie Matsunaga, Pharm.D. BCPS

PO 200510 Honolulu, Maui HI 96730

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Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Subject: Mary Jo Keefe appointment to the Board of Pharmacy

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing to wholeheartedly support Mary Jo Keefe's appointment to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy by providing this letter of recommendation.

I have personally and professionally known Mary Jo for over thirty years as a colleague in the practice of pharmacy. I've consulted her regarding compounding issues and formulations in my current role with Formulary Management and Evidence Based Medicine. Most recently, she attended a continuing education program on Immunization Certification that I taught through the American Pharmacist Association Certification program. We additionally served as officers for the Maui Pharmacists Association in the 1980's.

As a past Board of Pharmacy member having served two terms (member 1997 to 2005, Chair 2005, including Committee Chair of Rules Revision and representative to the Multi jurisprudence Law Exam Law review, I have a firm grasp of the changing face of the profession of pharmacy in Hawaii and in the nation, and the need for competent and committed pharmacist board members such as Mary Jo. Her additional expertise in compounding, in light of the recent compounding issues nationally would add a wealth of knowledge to the board. Mary Jo has always expressed the desire to serve on the Board of Pharmacy.

Please accept this letter of reference attesting to Mary Jo's professional character and integrity as a competent Board of Pharmacy member.

With Regards,

Valerie Matsunaga, Pharm.D, BCPS

Mare Langlois

2050 Kanoë St

Kihei Hi 96753

808 283 0562

[mauimare@gmail.com](mailto:mauimare@gmail.com)

Senator Roz Baker, Chair

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protections

Dear Senator,

I am writing to you as a personal friend of Mary Jo Mish Keefe and as an advocate for persons with disabilities. She is presently subject to confirmation of her appointment by Governor Abercrombie to serve on the Board of Pharmacy.

I am pleased to learn that she has been nominated to this post. I know Ms. Keefe to be of the highest integrity and moral character. She understands the particular needs of persons with disabilities and is both compassionate and professional in her dealings with consumers.

Ms. Keefe has shown responsibility in running a pharmacy, knowing all levels of operation and management. She has an interest in all areas of pharmacy, from the law to individual client care.

I strongly support her nomination for the Board of Pharmacy. She will be a strong and positive addition to the Board.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

*Mare Langlois* 10-8-13

Mare Langlois

Education Therapist and Advocate

Mark E. Brown, RPh., MBA  
171 Aholo Road  
Lahaina, HI 96761  
October 9, 2013

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protections

Re: Mary Jo Keefe appointment to Board of Pharmacy

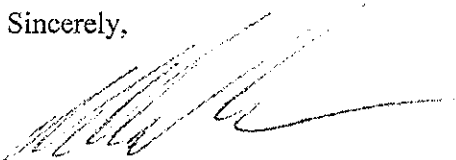
Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker:

As Mary Jo Keefe has been appointed by Governor Neil Ambercrombie to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy, I am thrilled to provide a letter of reference for your committee's confirmation proceedings.

I have worked directly with Mary Jo for the last 17 years in both retail and long term care (LTC) pharmacy practice and have been her immediate supervisor for the last 15 years. She has a very strong knowledge base in both practice settings developed during the 41 years she has been a licensed pharmacist. Included in her skill sets are sterile and non-sterile compounding – both of which are the true art of pharmacy practice and are currently in the national spotlight; however, these expertise are missing from the current Board.

As Maui's most recent Board of Pharmacy representative, serving two terms and the last 3 years as the Chair, I understand the issues that are facing public safety within Hawaii's practice of pharmacy: expanding pharmacist roles in healthcare, pressure from business to stretch pharmacist and pharmacy staff to maintain profit margins, and increasing need to compound medications as shortages from manufactures expand. I have had conversations with Mary Jo regarding these and other important aspects of pharmacy and am confident that she is the right person to represent Maui on the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Brown, RPh., MBA  
Pharmacy Operations Manager

Joyce Tamori  
31 Hakalani Place  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

October 17, 2013

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Senate District 6  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room 230

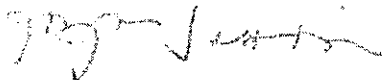
Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing in support of Mary Jo Keefe's nomination to the Hawaii Board of Pharmacy. I have come to know Mary Jo over the past 3 years in both a professional and personal manner and am confident in her abilities to serve the board well.

Mary Jo's work with PharMerica directly supports Hale Makua, the long-term care facility that I work for. It is through these interactions as well as our personal relationship that I am able to appreciate Mary Jo's positive attitude and ability to meet challenges head-on.

Having the opportunity to become a member of the Board of Pharmacy will achieve one of Mary Jo's important career goals. There is no doubt in my mind that she is committed to upholding the highest of standards and is willing to make a difference.

Sincerely,



Joyce Tamori  
Chief Financial Officer

Mary Jo Keefe

1. WHY

It is one way to give back to my profession – to volunteer my time and experience on behalf of pharmacy statewide. I have seen many of my coworkers become board members over the past 30 years and I understand that it is my responsibility to stand up and offer my expertise in the hope of moving pharmacy forward into the changing medical scene.

2. ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. We are on the Board to safeguard the public good; primarily as caretaker of public safety.
- b. To study issues that come before us and see that they are in agreement with the rules and laws that have been established by our lawmakers.
- c. To answer questions from folks in an out of the state to assure that they are aware of the correct interpretation of the law.

3. QUALIFICATIONS

I graduated from pharmacy in 1971 and have been a registered pharmacist since 1972. Thirty of those years have been spent in Hawaii working in retail settings. Currently I am employed full time at Pharmerica/Wailuku, a long term care pharmacy, and part time at Longs Pharmacy in Wailuku primarily as their compounding pharmacist. I have been very fortunate to have experienced many aspects of my profession – vaccinating, compounding, IV admixtures, patient counseling, consults with doctors and nurses, along with the traditional pharmacy jobs. I am a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, the Hawaii Pharmaceutical Association, the American Association of Diabetes Educators, the Hawaii Association of Diabetes Educators, and am treasurer of the Maui County Pharmacist Association. My experience, willingness to make changes, and enthusiasm make me a valuable member of any group.

4. HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH

I have already volunteered to be on the rules committee which is in the process of updating pharmacy rules and regulations. I hope to be of assistance in that area. Whatever issues that come before the board would be areas that I could offer my experience. One that I am aware of is the role and state certification of pharmacy technicians. Another major issue is sterile compounding. As a board member I could offer insight into these matters.

5. QUALITIES

I feel that I am dedicated, responsible, dependable, and follow through on my goals and objectives.

6. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

I have served on the Drug Product Selection Board for 8 years.

7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

A conflict of interest may happen if a matter comes before the board that may involve my employer, employment, or someone I know. In that case I would excuse myself if I felt I could not be unbiased.