

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



**LATE  
TESTIMONY**

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April 13, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair  
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director  
Department of Human Services

SUBJECT: **G. M. 709 – GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION OF THERESA  
MINAMI TO THE STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH**

Hearing: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 229 State Capitol

The Department of Human Services **strongly supports** the nomination of Theresa Minami to the State Council on Mental Health.

Ms. Minami is an Assistant Program Administrator in our Child Welfare Services (CWS) Program Development Office. She is involved in the development and implementation of CWS policies and programs, provides programmatic support for staff in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities, and participates in collaborative efforts with our community partners including other State agencies and community providers.

Ms. Minami has participated in initiatives such as the Children's Mental Health Task Force, the Department of Health's Access to Recovery Grant, Hawaii's Mental Health Transformation Grant, and the Invisible Children's Project.

She has been instrumental in the implementation of the Department's highly successful Differential Response System that has significantly reduced the number of children in foster care through enhanced assessment and the provision of voluntary services to children and families at risk. She has also been instrumental in the development of the Child Welfare Services Practice Model of services to children and families, which highlights engagement of the family and community partners as the cornerstone of the model.

Prior to working at DHS, Ms. Minami worked at the State Department of Health – Developmental Disabilities Division. The knowledge and experience gained from working at the DOH and at DHS and her proven ability to work with others to ensure that people have access to services will be a valuable asset to the State Council on Mental Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Minami's nomination.