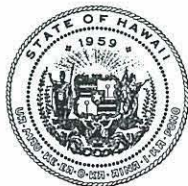


GM 711

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawai'i Service
Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTOPHER
HOLSCHUH, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.**



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Health

GM 711 & GM 712, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawai'i Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominees, CHRISTOPHER HOLSCHUH and STACY KUWATA, for terms to expire 6-30-2015

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

April 13, 2011, 3:00 p.m., Room 229

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of Christopher
2 Holschuh (6/30/2015) and Stacy Kuwata (6/30/215) to serve on the Hawai'i Service Area Board on
3 Mental Health and Substance Abuse (HSAB) for terms to expire as parenthetically indicated.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** To confirm the appointments of Christopher Holschuh, and Stacy Kuwata to
6 serve on the HSAB.

7 **Mr. Christopher Holschuh**, a consumer representative, has resided in Hawai'i for twenty-two
8 years most of which has been on the Big Island. Mr. Holschuh graduated high school from Hawai'i
9 Preparatory Academy (HPA) on the Big Island. His employment has primarily been in the customer
10 service industry. While at the clubhouse, he has worked in numerous Transitional Employment
11 Program (TEP) placements in the community. Mr. Holschuh has been a member of the clubhouse since
12 2004.

13 In the past, Mr. Holschuh has held the position as Aloha Clubhouse's President. He currently
14 serves on the Hale Oluea Clubhouse Advocacy Group, and is a strong supporter and participator of

1 fundraising events at Hale Oluea Clubhouse, such as the Hawaii Visitor Hotel Industry Charity Walks.
2 Mr. Holschuh is a very strong advocate for himself, as well as with other fellow consumers within his
3 clubhouse and local community.

4 **Mr. Stacy Kuwata**, a consumer representative, is being recommended to serve on the HSAB. A
5 graduate of Kaimuki High School in 1969 and the Kapiolani Community College in 1971, Mr. Kuwata
6 has been an active member of the Kona Paradise Club (Clubhouse) on the Big Island for the past five
7 years. He has served on the Advisory Board of the Kona Paradise Club, as well as the Board of
8 Directors of the Hale Aikane program, which is non-profit 501(c)3 program. As a member of the
9 Clubhouse, Mr. Kuwata has participated in several Clubhouse conferences on Oahu and was
10 instrumental in bringing a consumer perspective to the Big Island Transportation Coalition, which
11 investigated transportation challenges on the Big Island.

12 Mr. Kuwata is committed in living his recovery by being actively involved in his community.
13 He has volunteered for five (5) Hawaii Visitor Hotel Industry Charity Walks and served as a volunteer
14 for three (3) Iron Man Triathlons in Kona, Hawai'i. He is a strong advocate for consumers and willingly
15 shares his knowledge and experiences with his peers at the Clubhouse.

16 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointments of
17 Christopher Holschuh and Stacy Kuwata to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawai'i Service
18 Area Board.