

# GM513

## BRIAN COMBS

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Psychology, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRIAN COMBS, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Report Title: Board of Psychology

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<b>Sort by Date</b>		<b>Status Text</b>
1/13/2012	S	Received.
1/18/2012	S	Referred to CPN.
3/7/2012	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 03-15-12 9:30AM in conference room 229.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ  
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012

Thursday, March 15, 2012  
9:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 513.**

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

My name is Ahlani Quiogue and I am the Executive Officer for the Board of Psychology, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 513, regarding the appointment of Brian Combs, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, to the Board of Psychology ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Dr. Combs' appointment to the Board.

Dr. Combs has served on the Board as an interim appointee since August 22, 2011 and is being appointed as a psychologist member. He has been licensed since November 20, 1992, and his license is current, active, and in good standing.

Dr. Combs is an exceptional and reliable member and has attended 4 of 5 meetings. He exemplifies all of the qualities of a professional and diligent member. His

active participation and willingness to contribute to discussions enables the Board to make sensible decisions. By bringing his experience as a psychologist with the Department of Defense of the United States Army, Dr. Combs is able to assess an issue and make sound recommendations. We believe that Dr. Combs' interest in serving on the Board, as well his many positive contributions, will continue to improve the efficiency of the Board.

Therefore, the Department supports the confirmation of Brian Combs, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, to the Board of Psychology and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY  
TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
1 JARRETT WHITE ROAD  
HONOLULU, HI 96859-5000



13 March 2012

TESTIMONY:

RE: Dr. Brian B. Combs, Ph.D., ABPP  
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write a letter of recommendation in support of Dr. Brian Combs to be a member of the Board of Psychology in the State of Hawaii. I have known Dr. Combs since approximately 1993. He has served in a number of leadership positions in Hawaii including as Chief of Psychology at both the Queen's Medical Center and the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific. I was under his leadership for a number of years at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific concurrent with being affiliated with the Queen's Medical Center. We presently have the privilege of having Dr. Combs as a provider and staff member in the Neuropsychology Service, Department of Psychology at the Tripler Army Medical Center.

Dr. Combs is an excellent clinician and is one of only 7 Clinical Neuropsychologists in the State of Hawaii who are board certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) / American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN) which reflects acknowledgement, through a rigorous examination process, of his competency in this specialized discipline in Psychology. He has a strong interest in furthering the profession of Psychology and demonstrates his commitment to the profession in a variety of ways including by providing quality supervision of future psychologists who are interns and of postdoctoral fellows training in Clinical Neuropsychology in our medical center. He has a wide breadth of clinical knowledge and experience which he shares in the context of case rounds, didactics, within the department, and with supervisees. He also is a man of character and is committed to the Ethical Principles of the American Psychological Association and to the promotion of quality in professional Psychology. Dr. Combs will be an excellent seasoned member of the Hawaii Board of Psychology and I recommend him without reservation.

Very respectfully,

Douglas A. Umetsu, Ph.D., ABPP  
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology  
Chief of Neuropsychology Service  
Department of Psychology  
Tripler Army Medical Center

Brian Combs, Ph.D., ABPP  
Personal Statement

Why I want to be a member of the board of Psychology:

I believe that all psychologists should strive to promote the profession while at the same time protecting the interests of the general public and specifically the clients we serve. When I was contacted by a current member of the licensing board to volunteer, I considered it opportunity as well as an obligation to contribute to the regulated practice of clinical psychology in the State of Hawaii.

My understanding of the role and responsibilities of board members:

I understand that my role as a member of the board of psychology is to protect consumers and promote the public interest. To this end I understand that the board is tasked with promoting policies and actions that encourage healthy competition, have a minimal impact on cost, are neither too strict nor too lenient, and allow fair and reasonable entry into the profession. I also understand that it is paramount that the board ensures the competence of licensees.

The board has legislative, adjudicative, and executive duties. Besides reviewing applications and determining whether they should be granted the board also assists in the creation of laws governing the profession and resolves conflicts brought before the board. More specific duties are detailed in the licensing board handbook.

Why I believe I am qualified to serve on the board:

I have worked as a licensed clinical psychologist and the state of Hawaii for 20 years. I have been involved in leadership positions at the Queens Medical Center and the Rehabilitation Hospital of Pacific, serving as chief of psychology at both institutions and serving on various committees including the hospital Ethics Committee at Queens and the Medical Executive Committee at Rehab. Through my work on the decision making committees, I have learned to appreciate the process in all its aspects, including gathering data, careful reasoning and deliberation, clear and respectful communication amongst members, compromise, and concrete action. At each of these institutions I have also been involved in the training and credentialing of psychologists and through that experience have gained an understanding of the issues that affect the determination of competence.