

**GM560**

**TESTIMONY**



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 560, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Council on Mental Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, WANDA MARIE VORSINO, for a term to expire 6-30-2016

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

March 6, 2013

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of Wanda Marie  
2 Vorsino, Psy.D, and urges her confirmation to the State Council on Mental Health.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** Governor's Message 560 submits the nomination of Wanda Marie Vorsino,  
5 Psy.D for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Mental Health for a term to expire  
6 6/30/2016. She will serve as the Department of Health representative.

7 The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health strongly supports  
8 Dr. Vorsino's nomination to the State Council on Mental Health.

9 Dr. Vorsino has delivered educational and mental health services to children and youth with  
10 emotional and behavioral challenges for over 12 years. She is currently a Forensic Psychologist with the  
11 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, Family Court Liaison Branch. She served in the  
12 Performance Management Office of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division for eight years,  
13 spearheading projects such as enhancing the measurement of the division's progress on performance  
14 goals and the increased use of assessments and provider feedback to improve outcomes for youth. Dr.

1 Vorsino has formed collaborative partnerships with contracted providers and key individuals in other  
2 mental health and child-serving agencies, effectively facilitating cooperative workgroups to improve  
3 services provided to children across the system of care. Dr. Vorsino's contributions have improved the  
4 quality of mental health care for Hawaii's children and youth. Her past and current contributions will  
5 continue to positively impact Hawaii's youth for many years to come.

6 We urge confirmation of Dr. Wanda Marie Vorsino to the State Council on Mental Health and  
7 thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Wanda Marie Vorsino, MSCP, LMHC, Psy.D.**

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March 4, 2013

The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Chair Green, Vice-Chair Baker and members of the Committee,

I am deeply honored to have been asked to serve on the Hawaii State Council on Mental Health and humbly ask this Committee to confirm my appointment.

I believe strongly in the value — and necessity — of a robust mental health network system of care, and see the mission of the council as seeking to continuously improve access to quality mental health services in the islands. To that end, since being appointed in an interim capacity to the council in September 2012, I have been assisting the body in conducting a comprehensive needs assessment of adult mental health services in the islands to better understand gaps in programming and to move us closer to implementing an integrated mental health service plan.

In my professional capacity, I bring experience in evidence-based psychotherapy, system of care quality assurance and supervisory work to the council. Currently, I serve as a forensic clinical psychologist at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, where I provide crisis counseling, substance abuse counseling, risk assessments, psychological testing and individual and family therapy.

Before accepting a position at HYCF, I was performance manager for the Hawaii Department of Health's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, where I oversaw program monitoring and quality assurance personnel working to develop and maintain accountability systems for a statewide network that provides mental health services to thousands of high-risk children in Hawaii. I have also delivered intensive outpatient services at an eating disorder program in Honolulu, and have served in a Hawaii rural community mental health center and a community-based residential setting, providing individual, family and group therapy to children, adolescents and adults.

Thank you sincerely for considering me for this opportunity to serve. I am committed to helping improve the well-being of all of our citizens by improving Hawaii's mental health network of services.

Sincerely,

W. Marie Vorsino, LMHC, Psy.D.