



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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Health

**GM0562, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on
Mental Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, SANDRA SIMMS, for a term to expire
6-30-2018**

**Testimony of Lynn N. Fallin
Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Administration
Monday, February 24, 2014, 1:30 p.m., Room 229**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) strongly supports the nomination of Sandra
2 Simms (6-30-18) to serve on the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH).

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation to the SCMH,
5 Gubernatorial Nominee, Sandra Simms. Pursuant to Chapter 334-10 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and
6 Federal Law P.L. 102-321, Section 1914(c), the SCMH appointee represents residents of the State,
7 including principle state agencies with respect to mental health, education, vocational rehabilitation,
8 criminal justice, housing and social services, families of adults or families of children with emotional
9 disturbance, and segments of the community.

10 Ms. Sandra Simms is a retired judge, who served in the District Court from November 1991,
11 then appointed to the First Circuit Court in 1994 and later retired from the bench on June 1, 2004.
12 During her tenure on the bench, Judge Simms presided over high profile cases, as well as cases
13 involving domestic violence, restraining orders, civil proceedings and felony jury trials. Judge Simms
14 has given numerous presentations to assist a variety of community organizations, schools and forums to

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1 better understand the judicial system. Currently, she is a member of the National Bar Association and
2 serves on the Hawaii State Board of Bar Examiners, which writes and administers the Bar exam for
3 attorneys who want to practice law in the State of Hawaii.

4 Judge Simms is also well known throughout Hawaii, not only for her legal counsel experience,
5 but also for her community involvement. She served on the Neighborhood Board #25 (1983-1990), and
6 on various public school committees. She also serves as the Vice President, Resource Development on
7 the Board of Mental Health America, Hawaii. Judge Simms brings a wealth of knowledge and
8 experience in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, and the legal system to the SCMH. She
9 currently holds the position of second vice-chair of the SCMH.

10 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of Sandra
11 Simms to the SCMH.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Cc: vested_interest_hi@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM562 on Feb 24, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:18:42 PM

GM562

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 24, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Having known Sandra Simms for almost 20 years, I write testimony in support of her nomination. She is enthusiastic, compassionate, and a pleasure to work with. I am sure she will bring a common sense approach to issues, along with some humor and a positive approach. I urge you to support this nomination.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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February, 24,2014

To: Senate Committee on Health

Re: GM562

Aloha Senator Green and members of the committee,

I would like to give my strongest support for the passage of the Honorable Sandra Simms to another term with the State Council on Mental Health. Not only was she an honorable jurist and member of the bar I know for a fact that she is an ardent supporter for the cause of the mentally ill and the scientific investigations dedicated to fighting it.

Robert Scott Wall