



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

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

### **Senate Committee on Health**

**GM0563, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on  
Mental Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, BENJAMIN PARK, for a term to expire  
6-30-2015**

**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  
2 Benjamin Park (6-30-15) 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, Benjamin Park. 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 Mr. Benjamin Park has a Bachelors Degree in United States History and currently holds the  
11 position of Planner in the Plannig and Evaluation Office of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
12 (HPHA). In his position, he maintains regular communication with legislators, including writing and  
13 submitting testimony on bills, on behalf of the Executive Director of the HPHA. He works with the

1 HPHA Board of Directors and other agencies to coordinate the planning of community events and  
2 meetings.

3 Mr. Park has held past positions in the Hawaii State House of Representatives serving as  
4 Administrative Services Manager to Majority Leaders Pono Chong and Blake Oshiro as well as Office  
5 Manager for Representative Scott Saiki. He has worked as a Senior Aide and Legislative Aide for  
6 Council Member Ann Kobayashi. He is an experienced professional in government affairs and  
7 administrative management and support. Mr. Park will fill the state housing segment on the SCMH.

8 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of Benjamin  
9 Park to the SCMH for his initial term on the SCMH.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**TESTIMONY OF  
REPRESENTATIVE MARK J. HASHEM  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
February 21, 2014  
GM 563**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as a member to the State Council on Mental Health, **BENJAMIN PARK**, for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and members of the Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in Support of **BENJAMIN PARK**.

I have known Mr. Park for several years and have worked closely with him the past few months in his administrative and legislative liaison capacity with the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA). He is a highly intelligent, people-oriented, and responsive individual who quickly grasps issues, thinks objectively to solve problems, and works well with people to communicate and get things done. I have found him extremely easy and effective to work with.

Before joining HPHA, Mr. Park worked more than 10 years for the Hawaii State Legislature and the City and County of Honolulu and has an excellent grasp of state and county government and community issues. Most recently, he has worked closely at the HPHA with lower income and elderly groups who need a variety of governmental assistance, including mental health support.

In conclusion, I heartily endorse **BENJAMIN PARK** to become a member of the State Council on Mental Health.

Sincerely,

Representative Mark J. Hashem  
Chair, House Committee on Housing



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**TESTIMONY OF  
REPRESENTATIVE MARK J. HASHEM  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
February 21, 2014  
GM 563**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as a member to the State Council on Mental Health, **BENJAMIN PARK**, for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and members of the Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in Support of **BENJAMIN PARK**.

I have known Mr. Park for several years and have worked closely with him the past few months in his administrative and legislative liaison capacity with the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA). He is a highly intelligent, people-oriented, and responsive individual who quickly grasps issues, thinks objectively to solve problems, and works well with people to communicate and get things done. I have found him extremely easy and effective to work with.

Before joining HPHA, Mr. Park worked more than 10 years for the Hawaii State Legislature and the City and County of Honolulu and has an excellent grasp of state and county government and community issues. Most recently, he has worked closely at the HPHA with lower income and elderly groups who need a variety of governmental assistance, including mental health support.

In conclusion, I heartily endorse **BENJAMIN PARK** to become a member of the State Council on Mental Health.

Sincerely,

Representative Mark J. Hashem  
Chair, House Committee on Housing

**From:** [clifton tsuji](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support: GM563 Senate HTH 2/24/14  
**Date:** Friday, February 21, 2014 1:50:18 PM

---

Aloha Chair and members of the Committee:

I have known Ben Park from his previous employment in the House of Representatives. He is always professional and conscientious. Ben is also very knowledgeable in state government. His experience and demeanor will be a great asset to the State Council on Mental Health, and I strongly support his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Clift Tsuji