NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

In reply, please refer to: File:

Senate Committee on Health

GM 564, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaii Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALICE BRATTON, for a term to expire 06-30-2018

Testimony of Lynn Fallin Deputy Director of Behavioral Health February 24, 2014, 1:30 PM, Room 229

- 1 **Department's Position:** SUPPORT.
- 2 **Fiscal Implications:** None
- 3 **Purpose and Justification:** Governor's Message 564 submits the nomination of Alice Bratton for
- 4 consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaii Service Area Board,
- for a term to expire 6/30/2018. She will serve as the representative of parents of consumers.
- The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health strongly supports
- Alice Bratton's nomination to the Hawaii Service Area Board. Alice Bratton will be able to provide the
- 8 perspective of parents of children with emotional and/or behavioral challenges. Alice Bratton is a foster
- 9 parent of a youth with emotional and/or behavioral challenges.
- Ms. Bratton is a Parent Partner with Hawaii Families as Allies (HFAA), a nonprofit organization
- whose mission is to support families of children with emotional and/or behavioral challenges. HFAA's
- services include a warm line that parents can call if they have questions about their child's behavior,
- parent education workshops, support groups and advocacy services.

- Alice has worked as a Parent Partner with the Hawaii Family Guidance Center of the Child and
- 2 Adolescent Mental Health Division since 2009. During that time, she has provided emotional support
- and guidance to countless Big Island families whose children have an emotional or behavioral
- 4 challenges. She coordinates parent support groups and conducts the evidence-based "Common Sense
- 5 Parenting" classes in Waimea and Captain Cook.
- Alice and other members of HFAA developed the "Wear One, Share One" curriculum that aims
- 7 to reduce bullying and promote inclusion and friendship among 5th and 6th graders. Although the
- 8 initiative is run on a shoe-string budget, the 45-minute lesson has been very successful in achieving
- 9 outcomes.
- Alice will be a valuable member of the Hawaii Service Area Board and we urge confirmation of
- 11 Alice Bratton.
- We thank you for this opportunity to testify.