# **GM827**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health

Measure Title: And Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board, Gubernatorial

Nominee, CHIREE SOUZA, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Mental Health And Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board

Description: Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

#### **Testimony SUPPORTING GM827**

Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHIREE SOUZA, for a term to expire 6-30-2020.

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: April 15, 2016, 9:30 a.m. Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the nomination and
- 3 confirmation of Chiree Souza to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area
- 4 Board (MSAB) for her second term. Ms. Souza fills the community member segment of the
- 5 board, pursuant to Chapter 334-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- 6 Ms. Souza has been working as a Paraprofessional/Educational Assistant for the past 14-
- 7 years in the Special Education Department of Education. Ms. Souza is a very compassionate
- 8 individual, who is involved in her church and feels that her life's goal is helping others. She
- 9 enjoys being on the MSAB and sees it as an opportunity to give a voice to individuals who
- 10 cannot advocate for themselves.
- We support the continued efforts of Ms. Chiree Souza on the MSAB to advocate for
- children in receiving mental health services and request your favorable appointment and
- confirmation of her on the board.
- Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Souza's behalf.
- 15 **Offered Amendments:** None.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR CATHERINE KILBORN PRINCIPAL



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI SUPERINTENDENT

LEILA HAYASHIDA COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

#### STATE OF HAWAII

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HENRY PERRINE BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL

1650 KAAHUMANU AVENUE WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793 4-14-2016

#### To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter of recommendation on behalf of Chiree Souza to continue serving on the Maui Area Board for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Ms. Souza's is well equipped to be a productive and positive contributor to this board. Her sense of commitment, along with her insights, provided through her active participation in a school community, makes her contribution unique and important to the goals of this board. I wholly endorse the continuation of her service on this board.

With regard,

Catherine Kilborn, Principal

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR CATHERINE KILBORN PRINCIPAL



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI SUPERINTENDENT

LEILA HAYASHIDA COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HENRY PERRINE BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL

1650 KAAHUMANU AVENUE WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793 PHONE: (808) 727-3200

April 14, 2016

Re: Recommendation for Chiree Souza

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing to recommend Chiree Souza. She has consistently proven herself as a loyal and dedicated individual in both her personal and professional life. Having known her for 41 years, I can honestly say that she is a person who leads by example. Both her coworkers and her loved ones look up to Chiree and are inspired by her work ethic and dedication.

In both professional and personal realms, Chiree is a leader. She is able to communicate with people both younger and older than her and to be positive and friendly. There is no project or task that she cannot complete. Chiree is the definition of a go-getter.

Adding Chiree to The Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board is a wise decision. She is always professional, kind, and generous. She is a dynamic worker who will go the extra mile on all projects. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 808-272-3211. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jaye F. Arakaki

School Administrative Services Assistant

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## **Questions/Testimony**

Chiree L. Souza

**GM 827** 

For: Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board

To

**Senator Baker** 

(1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

I work with special needs students and my desire is to help them live a comfortable life by providing information of services available. To advocate for different services for challenged individuals.

What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

To provide information to the Governor and to discuss the different types of services our State can provide.

(3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

By keeping them informed, and being a voice to administration.

(4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I have been employed with the State DOE Special Education Department for sixteen years. Working with different students with special needs. In the past year, I have been working as a Student Services Coordinator Clerk, arranging services for our special needs students.

(5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

To make our consumers aware of the services our community provides. To maintain the quality of service our community provides.

- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board
  - 1. Great listener I am able to listen first then take action
  - 2. Advocate I love to advocate for people who are in need
  - 3. Compassionate/Caring I care about our community and what happens for everyone in the community

(7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

Sixteen years working with physically and mentally challenged youth.

(8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

None