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April 13, 2016

TO: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

FROM: Kimberly Wu

SUBJECT: GM 829 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Shannessy Mitchell to the State Council on Mental Health

Hearing: Friday, April 15, 2016; 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this testimony is to support the nomination of Ms. Shannessy Mitchell to the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH).

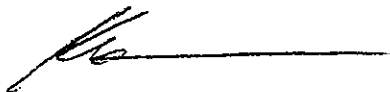
TESTIMONY: I fully support the nomination of Ms. Shannessy Mitchell to the State Council on Mental Health. As her colleague in the Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, she clearly exemplifies leadership in her current role and a passion for working with individuals with mental health issues. It has been a privilege to work alongside Ms. Mitchell as Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors and now Program Specialists in the Division's Administrative Staff Services Office.

Ms. Mitchell's leadership qualities will be an asset to the State Council on Mental Health. She has a teamwork approach to finding solutions, as evidenced by her excellent working relationships within the Division and in the community. She is humble and is open to the opinions and perspectives of others, which I believe would be an important aspect of the Council.

Ms. Mitchell brings with her a variety of past work experiences with individuals with mental health issues. This experience was key in her success with vocational rehabilitation consumers, as she was able to identify consumer's needs, strengths and resources, which led them to successful employment in the community. This employment perspective and knowledge will be an asset to the State Council on Mental Health.

In conclusion, I fully support Ms. Mitchell's nomination to the State Council on Mental Health. Thank you for allowing me to testify.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Wu