

GM831

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council On Mental Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHARLENE DARABAN, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

Report Title: State Council On Mental Health

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony SUPPORTING GM831
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Council on Mental Health,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHARLENE DARABAN,
for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE 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 supports the nomination and confirmation
3 of Charlene Daraban to the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH) for her second term.
4 Ms. Daraban fills the mandated SCMH membership position of the families of adults or families
5 of children with serious emotional disturbances pursuant to Chapter 334-10 of the Hawaii
6 Revised Statutes and Federal Law, P.L. 102-321, Section 1914(c).

7 Ms. Charlene Daraban, affectionately known as “Charlie,” has been an advocate for
8 families of children and youth with emotional and behavioral challenges for over two decades.
9 She currently works with the Hawaii Families as Allies, a nonprofit organization whose mission
10 is to support families of children with emotional and/or behavioral challenges. Charlie’s lived
11 experiences of having been a parent and grandparent of children living with mental illness allows
12 her to be patient, and empathetic to the needs of other parents of children and youth impacted by
13 mental illness.

1 Ms. Daraban has also worked with families on the frontlines as a Parent Partner
2 providing supports to parents in the “wrap-around-process,” which leads to possible re-
3 unification with the parent and youth. Charlie has also worked with the Juvenile Justice Program
4 and the Judiciary and in policy development for youth. Her representation on the SCMH is vital
5 to board deliberations because she often raises the importance of services for youth and children
6 while focusing on the needs of the parent/guardian.

7 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of
8 Ms. Charlene “Charlie” Daraban to the SCMH.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Daraban’s behalf.

10 **Offered Amendments:** None.

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board? To contribute to the system of Adult, Youth and Children Mental Health and to share information with families in the community.
- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board? To learn and understand the Mental Health System and to be a part of making changes for the better for Families and Adults within the System of Care.
- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer? Helping to get out information, and help to guide them to services that are available in their communities.
- (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 firsthand experience as a mother of a, now adult, Child with a Mental Health diagnosis. I have worked supporting families with youth with special challenges, in the communities for the last 23 years.
- (5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service? To be a part of system changes for adults and families of children with Mental Health needs
- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board. I am willing to help in any way that I can. I am a collaborate person and will do what is asked of me. I am open and willing to share my experiences with anyone.

- (7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member. I am supporting a mom of a youth with Mental Health and Juvenile Justice Involvement. Mom is very ill I am trying to get services in place for mom such as Handy Van Transportation, also support/ caregiver services. Thru this journey I have seen how tedious and tangled the system is and when you are very ill it can seem impossible for families. I can use these experiences to see possible solutions for systems change.
- (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? No I don't anticipate any conflicts of interest. I would get input from other Council Members and go from there.