

GM 521

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health And Substance Abuse, Kaua'i Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, LANI NAGAO, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Mental Health And Substance Abuse, Kaua'i Service Area Board

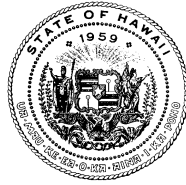
Description:

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 GM0521
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Council on Mental
Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, LANI NAGAO,
for a term to expire 6-30-20.

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: March 10, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the nomination and
3 confirmation of Lani Nagao to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Kauai Service
4 Area Board (KSAB) for her first term. Ms. Nagao fills the community member segment
5 of the board, pursuant to Chapter 334-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 Ms. Nagao works at the McKenna Recovery Center as the Director of Business
7 and Community Relations. She has an extensive knowledge about addiction, recovery
8 and treatment. Although direct care is not her primary duty, Ms. Nagao takes time to
9 speak with patients and provides support in their recovery. Ms. Nagao is also very
10 active in her community where she is the president of the Kauai Rural Health
11 Association.

12 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the
13 appointment of Ms. Nagao.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Nagao's behalf.

15 **Offered Amendments:** None.

GM521
Lani Nagao

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

I was asked to join the board by other current members from Adult Mental Health and the Family Guidance Center while interfacing at a County Community Coalition on Drug Treatment/Integration, Prevention and Enforcement to represent the Substance Abuse/Addiction perspective of our community's needs ... the Kauai Service Area Board for Mental Health and Substance Abuse did not have a community provider representatives to represent Substance Abuse treatment

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

I believe the board is required to understand the needs of the Kauai community in the areas of Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders, to identify service area gaps, share information and resources within the County as well as with the State to collaborate for improved mental health and substance abuse evaluation, treatment, care, promoting community wellness, promoting prevention, integration, and educating the public to enhance the understanding of both fields and its challenges and reduce the stigma around issues related to the MHSA disorders.

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

Consumer protections can be derived by community education, legislative action to protect patient rights, advance access to resources, and general acceptance of the disorders, identification, treatment, holistic and medication assisted interventions and teaching our community about the various disorders, approaches for treatment, engaging patients, and reaching them where they are to provide any resources while protecting and respecting their privacy and choices, also sharing with them the opportunities and resources available to them and balancing patient and public safety with patient rights.

(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 am passionate about helping people and love to understand systems, and how different resources may be utilized meaningfully, reducing duplication, enhancing efficiencies, sustaining good works, self-sustaining program development is my personal mission for almost every program I see. I am a community development specialist, and I appreciate the opportunity to connect people and organizations to maximize the right thing at the right time opportunities for successful connections that improve patient's lives and meet organizational objectives to serve patients. My biggest strength is the desire to improve our society, and absorbing knowledge to aide me in my actions for that purpose. My particular expertise is the interconnected fields of Addiction evaluation/treatment,

Behavioral Health and the field of Medicine. I also have some understanding of healthcare carriers' the payers, providers, and different patient populations.

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

I hope to assist in the development of a self-sustaining Adolescent Treatment and Healing Center on Kauai, developing an infrastructure for Drug detoxification for Kauai that may be a model for the state and beyond, and create a framework that will provide a sustainable system into the future

(6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

Persistent, Caring, Courageous in adversity

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

I have family who have overcome challenges as a consumer of services in this field and I have advocated professionally for this patient population as a member and leader of the Kauai Rural Health Association, as well as a member of the Kauai County "Anti-Drug Program" and Community Coalition for Treatment and Integration as well as Prevention Task force.0

(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?

Not at this time. But certainly should any such situation arise, I would recuse myself from decision-making if it would impact a conflict of interest situation, and/or consult with leadership for advice on actions to take in such a case.