

GM 522

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health And Substance Abuse, Kaua'i Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MONICA CONTRADES, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.

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 GM0522
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Council on Mental
Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, MONICA CONTRADES
for a term to expire 6-30-19.

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 Monica Contrades to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Kauai
4 Service Area Board (KSAB) for her second term. Ms. Contrades is a service area
5 resident who is also a consumer of mental health services of Kauai and will fill this role
6 on the board, pursuant to Chapter 334-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

7 Ms. Contrades was born and raised on Kauai and is a graduate of the
8 Kamehameha Schools. She has been a consumer of mental health supports for 50
9 years. For the past four (4) years, she has been an active member of Friendship House
10 on Kauai and is proud to be involved in the Food Unit, where she is able to share her
11 love of baking and cooking with her peers.

12 Since 2009, Ms. Contrades has also been involved in the Consumer, Family and
13 Youth Hui and Speakers' Bureau, in which she is able to "share her story" with
14 numerous community groups, such as Aloha United Way, and the Rotary Club of Kauai.

1 She believes that to live her recovery is to educate her community about mental illness
2 in order to reduce the stigma associated with it.

3 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the
4 appointment of Ms. Contrades.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Contrades' behalf.

6 **Offered Amendments:** None.

GM522

Monica Contrades

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

To educate people about mental illness

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

There to support the consumer and board members and the staff that provide services.

3. In what ways do you feel you can help protect the consumer?

Being a consumer myself and I understand other consumers better.

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.

Because I've been a board member. I went to school to become an avocate. I spoke at rotary clubs. I spoke for United Way on the radio.

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

I would like to have someone on weekends when consumers have a crisis that are familiar with us.

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

Smart, caring, I fight for members

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

My niece uses me as an example, to help others

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 would remain myself.