

GM 523

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health And Substance Abuse, Kaua'i Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHEILA CALCAGNO, 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 GM0523
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Council on Mental
Health, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHEILA CALCAGNO,
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 Sheila Calcagno to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Kauai
4 Service Area Board (KSAB) for her second term. She is a service area resident who is
5 a non-state employee, pursuant to Chapter 334-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 Ms. Calcagno is an employee of the Community Health Outreach Work to
7 Prevent Aids Project (Chow Project). She is an outreach worker for substance abuse in
8 the area of prevention and strengthening families against drug abuse. She is also a
9 strong advocate for improving the lives of individuals living with human
10 immunodeficiency virus and challenged by drug use in her community. Ms. Calcagno is
11 the KSAB representative on the State Council on Mental Health.

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

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

15 **Offered Amendments:** None.

Christine Kelley
4216 Waipua Street
Kilauea, HI 96754

February 28, 2017

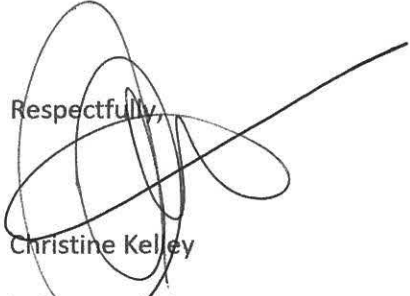
Dear Sirs,

I pen this reference letter on behalf of my neighbor of 17 years, Sheila Calcagno. Ms. Calcagno serves as a Board member and Kauai Representative for the Oahu Service Area Board. Vouching for Sheila both personally and professionally is my honor and privilege.

Sheila's presence in our community is as important as having a family member right next door. Most all of the neighborhood children, and many adults as well, seek the comfort and wisdom only found right there on Sheila's front stoop. She has a gracious and knowledgeable way of extending her wisdom – both learned from a book and through experience – that is relatable and soothing.

I know that in whatever endeavor she attempts, success will be the only outcome Sheila accepts. I am proud to be able to express my feelings in terms of a recommendation that Sheila Calcagno continue her service on your board.

Respectfully,



Christine Kelley

kelleyagain@live.com

G.M. 523

Sheri Saari
7655 Ko'olau Road
Kilauea, HI 96754

February 24, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

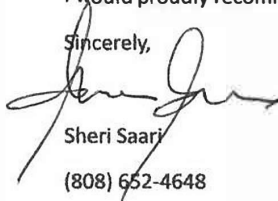
I am writing on behalf of Sheila Calcagno, Board Member and Kauai Representative for the Oahu Service Area Board. Having known Sheila for over 17 years, I can vogue for her personally and professionally.

Sheila is a very involved and engaged member of the Kauai community. She has served as an outreach worker for the Chow Project for the past 15 years. Sheila is a valuable educator in the field, teaching others about HIV, Hepatits, and other important public health issues. Sheila is competent and reliable in her job and her compassionate personality makes her capable of reaching participants with mental illness and substance abuse issues. Sheila is street smart but also skilled in navigating the mental health system.

On a personal level, Sheila has endured many hardships at home, especially while caring for her son who suffers from mental illness. She graciously adopted her beloved granddaughter, Kaheilelani when the need presented itself and has since provided excellent care and love for this child. Sheila has embraced these challenges with grace and has persevered with strength, class and integrity.

I would proudly recommend Sheila Calcagno to continue serving on the boards.

Sincerely,



Sheri Saari
(808) 652-4648
sherisaari@gmail.com



GM 523

Shelia Calcagno

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

I am a parent of a son who suffers from mental illness. I am also a community outreach worker and am highly motivated to stay informed and educated on mental health issues.

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

As a representative for the Kauai Service Area, I believe it is my role to serve as a liaison between the mental health community at large and the Department of Health, to advocate for individuals with mental illness.

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

I can work to consult and advise the Department of Health on ways to help improve accountability for meeting the needs of consumers with mental health, substance abuse and dual diagnosis.

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.

For the past 15 years, I have served the Kauai community as an outreach worker for mental health consumers with dual diagnosis. I have a unique ability to connect and communicate with people from all walks of life and diverse demographics. I am skilled in the practice of Harm Reduction: providing support to consumers in a non-judgmental and respectful manner. I would like to work with the Department of Health to encourage local congressional leaders to make changes to benefit mental health consumers at the legislative level. I would also like to work with the DOH to find ways to educate law enforcement personnel on positive and effective ways to respond to consumers with mental health issues.

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

It is my goal to offer relevant field expertise and program support to provide better service for mental health consumers.

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

I am resourceful, compassionately empathetic and tirelessly tenacious.

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

I have had first-hand experience as a parent of a mental health consumer and am passionate about reducing the stigma of mental illness and working to provide support for consumers and communities.

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?

In the event that a conflict of interest should present itself, I would politely decline such an interest and/ or respectfully resign.

Thank you for your consideration. It would be a tremendous honor to continue to participate on the Board!