



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB202
RELATING TO SERVICE AREA BOARDS

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: March, 14, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** This measure proposes statutory changes relating to quorum
3 requirements for service area boards on mental health and substance abuse, and for the
4 boards to be established within the Department of Health (DOH) for administrative
5 purposes.

6 The Department of Health strongly supports this measure, which will allow the
7 Service Area Boards on Mental Health and Substance Abuse (SAB) to conduct
8 meetings and meet quorum in compliance with the State's requirements for public
9 meetings (Chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes).

10 Based on the attendance records for the SABs, in Fiscal Year 2016, many of
11 them were unable to meet due to a lack of quorum, and only one out of the four boards
12 held official meetings. Thus, the re-definition of quorum will enable the SABs to
13 deliberate and make decisions on issues affecting each county, based on the number of
14 currently confirmed members and not based on the number of vacancies.

15 We thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.