



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

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT Y. NISHIMOTO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: Wednesday, April, 4, 2018, 2:00 p.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 Calendar Year 2017, many of
11 the SABs were unable to meet due to a lack of quorum. For example, Oahu and Hawaii
12 Island SABs held no meetings, Kauai SAB held six meetings with quorum, and Maui
13 SAB held three meetings with quorum.

1 The re-definition of quorum based on the number of currently confirmed
2 members and not based on the number of vacancies will enable the SABs to deliberate
3 and make decisions on issues affecting each county,

4 We thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony on this
5 measure.

6 **Offered Amendments:** None

LATE

SB-202

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 11:45:38 PM

Testimony for JUD on 4/4/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra A. Simms	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE
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April 4, 2018

TO: The Honorable Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 202 - RELATING TO SERVICE AREA BOARDS**

SB 203 – RELATING TO STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH

Hearing: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports these measures. The proposed measures will facilitate the conducting of meetings, planning, and decision making for service area boards. SB 203 adds a Medicaid representative to the State Council on Mental Health, DHS provides comment that representatives from the Med-QUEST division already participate and attend a number of meetings addressing complex mental health needs of Hawaii's residents.

PURPOSE: The purpose of SB 202 amends statutory provisions relating to quorum and voting requirements for service area boards on mental health and substance abuse. Designates service area boards on mental health and substance abuse within the department of health for administrative purposes.

The purpose of SB 203 amends the membership of the State Council on Mental Health, defines quorum for the Council, and specifies number of votes required to constitute valid acts of the Council. Designates the State Council on Mental Health within the department of health for administrative purposes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

LATE

SB 202

Chair Nishimoto and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I strongly support SB 202 and the opportunity it would create in supporting the Service Area Boards on Hawaii Island, Kauai, Maui and O`ahu in consistently conducting meetings, identifying strategic planning issues, addressing various statewide Mental Health concerns and actively engaging community members in collectively improving access to care in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,
Cindi Dang, Psy. D.