

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM0557 and GM0558  
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the  
Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, SIONE NAEATA,  
for terms to expire 6-30-20 and 6-30-24 respectively.**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. Room: 229

1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the nomination and confirmation  
2 of Sione Naeata to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board (OSAB).  
3 Mr. Naeata fills the service area provider segment of the board, pursuant to Chapter 334-11 of  
4 the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

5 Mr. Naeata is currently the Executive Director of the Bobby Benson Center and has been  
6 working there for the past 10 years in different capacities. He has a passion for helping youth  
7 living with substance use issues to reduce their addiction, while increasing their recovery.  
8 Ultimately, Mr. Naeata's goal is for these individuals to gain respect and dignity in their community,  
9 and to develop to their full potential as human beings.

10 Mr. Naeata has served in an interim position on the OSAB since May 2019 and has a  
11 thorough understanding of the role and responsibilities of Board membership. His experiences  
12 working with youth will allow him to bring a child-centered perspective to the OSAB during Board  
13 deliberations.

14 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of  
15 Mr. Naeata to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on his behalf.

# HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: [info@hysn.org](mailto:info@hysn.org)

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

May 8, 2020

To: Senator Roslyn Baker, Chair  
And members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

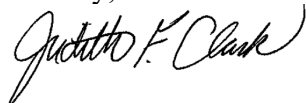
**Testimony in Support of GM 557 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, SIONE NAEATA, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.**

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports GM 557 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, SIONE NAEATA, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Mr. Naeata is the Executive Director of the Bobby Benson Center, one of only two residential substance abuse treatment programs in the State. He will bring extensive knowledge of and experience with adolescent substance abuse issues to the Board. As a North Shore resident, he will increase awareness of the challenges of providing services in rural communities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH  
Executive Director