



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM0635
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the
State Council on Mental Health,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ALEXANDRA MACIAS,
for a term to expire 6-30-22.**

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 Alexandra Macias to the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH). Ms. Macias fills the mandated
3 SCMH membership position of a family member, pursuant to Chapter 334-10 of the Hawaii
4 Revised Statutes and Federal Law, Public Law 102-321, Section 1914(c).

5 Ms. Macias is a graduate student at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the
6 University of Hawaii at Mānoa, with undergraduate degrees in health sciences and psychology.
7 She is currently interning with Mental Health Kokua as a case manager, providing outreach,
8 engagement, social rehabilitation, and resource linkages to individuals who have experienced
9 homelessness and have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness (SMI).

10 As a former live-in caretaker for young adults with mild autism and Prader-Willi syndrome,
11 Ms. Macias brings to the Council her insights from caring for those with mental and intellectual
12 disabilities along with her training and frontline experience with assisting some of the most
13 vulnerable and difficult to serve SMI population.

14 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of
15 Ms. Macias to the State Council on Mental Health.

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