



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM643  
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaii Service Area Board,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, Alysa Lavoie,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2023.**

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: 3/31/2021

Hearing Time: 1:00 p.m.

1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (“Department”) supports the nomination and  
2 confirmation of Alysa Lavoie to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaii Service Area  
3 Board (HSAB).

4 **Department Testimony:** The subject matter of this measure intersects with the scope of the  
5 Department’s Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) whose statutory mandate is to assure a  
6 comprehensive statewide behavioral health care system by leveraging and coordinating public,  
7 private and community resources. Through the BHA, the Department is committed to carrying  
8 out this mandate by reducing silos, ensuring behavioral health care is readily accessible, and  
9 person-centered. The BHA’s Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) provides the following  
10 testimony on behalf of the Department.

11 Ms. Lavoie is an experienced behavioral health program manager working with the team  
12 at the West Hawaii Community Health Center to implement community-based behavioral  
13 health related programs and services. If confirmed, she will fill the role of mental health  
14 provider on the HSAB pursuant to Chapter 34-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

1           In addition to her current work experience, Ms. Lavoie has professional experience as a  
2 facilitator and member of various committees such as the Mayor’s Homeless Task Force, Keiki  
3 Coalition and the Hawaii Primary Care Association. She also volunteers to assist with homeless  
4 outreach efforts in her community. Her knowledge, skills and experience will be an asset to the  
5 HSAB.

6           We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of  
7 Ms. Lavoie to the HSAB.

8           Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Lavoie’s behalf.

**LATE**

**GM-643**

Submitted on: 3/30/2021 6:16:35 PM  
Testimony for HTH on 3/31/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cyd L. Hoffeld	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Testimony in strong support of GM 643 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawai'i Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALYSA LAVOIE, for a term to expire 06-30-2023**

Aloha,

My name is Cyd L. Hoffeld and I am the Health Promotions Manager for the largest community health center and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) on Hawai'i Island. We are a network of community health centers and sole safety-net provider for 55% of Hawai'i Island's total population spread over 50% of the island's total land area.

It has been my pleasure to work with Ms. Lavoie through our partnership on projects and committees that serve our populations islandwide. In the time that I have known her, she has proved herself to be a strong leader who communicates well with partners across the island. She is hard-working, collaborative, organized, knowledgeable about the issues of mental health & substance abuse, and has good connections with our island communities.

We, on our islands, often feel as if our voices go unheard or that some populations have more voice than others. Ms. Lavoie is currently working with partner organizations and local agencies involved with healthcare, tobacco control, and substance use issues, as well as with individuals and families from every community on Hawai'i Island.

Alysa Lavoie is well qualified to advise the State of Hawai'i on issues of mental health and substance abuse.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Warmest mahalo,

Cyd L. Hoffeld

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