



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM654  
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Kauai Service Area Board,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, Angela Uechi,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2024.**

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 Angela Uechi to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Kauai Service Area  
3 Board (KSAB).

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. Uechi is a service area resident and a mental health service recipient. If confirmed,  
12 she will fill the roll of mental health service recipient (consumer) role on the KSAB pursuant to  
13 Chapter 34-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

14 Ms. Uechi has been a member of Friendship House clubhouse for almost 10 years and  
15 has served as a member of the Friendship House Board of Directors. She is employed by

1 Mental Health Kokua as a Relief Resident Assistant and is also employed as a Personal Assistant.  
2 She has been an active member of the KSAB throughout her first term and we look forward to  
3 her continued participation and input.

4 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of  
5 Ms. Uechi to the KSAB for her second term.

6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Uechi's behalf.