



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM655  
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Kauai Service Area Board,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, Kevin Myrick,  
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 Kevin Myrick 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 Mr. Myrick has been a registered nurse for 30 years. If confirmed, he will fill the  
12 provider role on the KSAB pursuant to Chapter 34-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

13 Mr. Myrick is a healthcare professional and an advocate for mental health service  
14 recipients. He has over 10 years of experience in nursing management and over 24 years of  
15 clinical nursing experience. He believes that mental health emergencies do not get equal

1 attention, urgency or coverage as other illnesses and is committed to promoting awareness of  
2 mental health and to offering the best treatment options to those who live with mental illness.  
3 He has been an active member of the KSAB throughout his first term and we look forward to his  
4 continued participation and input.

5 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of  
6 Mr. Myrick to the KSAB for a second term.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Mr. Myrick's behalf.