

Testimony of the Board of Psychology

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Friday, March 21, 2025
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
G.M. 709, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JUNE W. J. CHING,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2029**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Christopher Fernandez, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Psychology (Board). The Board supports the confirmation of Dr. June Ching's reappointment to the Board as a licensed member.

Dr. Ching has nearly 43 years of experience in the field of psychology. As a licensed psychologist in Hawaii, she currently maintains an independent practice and has also worked extensively in hospital clinical settings. Dr. Ching has been a senior psychological consultant for the Children's Justice Center, and a psychological consultant for the Kid's First Program. Dr. Ching has extensive experience serving on various panels and boards of national organizations, including in the Hawaii Psychological Association, the local chapter of the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Ching has served on the Board for nearly 4 years and provided crucial insights to Board dealings, including but not limited to the review of complex applications for licensure, support developing administrative rule amendments and legislative testimony, and addressing disciplinary actions of licensees. She has served as the Board's Vice Chair for the last (6) months, and as of last week has been voted by her peers on the Board as the new chairperson of the Board. The Board believes that Dr. Ching's extensive professional experience here in Hawaii will continue to offer an invaluable perspective on the Board. In addition, her desire to serve on the Board and commitment to actively participate in board meetings enhances the Board's effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Raymond A. Folen, Ph.D., ABPP
Diplomate in Clinical Psychology
American Board of Professional Psychology
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Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Jarret Keohokalole
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in Strong Support of GM709 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Psychology, Gubernatorial Nominee, JUNE CHING, for a term to expire 06-30-2029

Senator Keohokalole, Senator Fukunaga and members of the Committee,

It is my pleasure to most highly recommend Dr. June Ching for appointment to the Board of Psychology. I have known Dr. Ching since 1981 when she started her psychological practice in Hawai'i and we have worked together on a number of psychology-related projects and initiatives since that time. I have had the opportunity over a period of four decades to observe her work in a variety of settings as well as assess her interpersonal skills and the quality of her character.

An honors graduate from the University of Hawai'i, Dr. Ching went on to complete her graduate school training at Harvard and Northwestern Universities. She returned home to Honolulu in 1981 to open her practice as a clinical psychologist and went on to achieve board certification in clinical psychology and as a forensic examiner. Dr. Ching is one of very few psychologists in the State to have dual board certification.

Dr. Ching is renowned as a clinical psychologist in our State. She exhibits extraordinary expertise in her work with children, adolescents, adults, couples and families. Mental health colleagues regularly consult with her for assistance with difficult and complex cases. In a career that extends over 40 years, Dr. Ching has developed a superb array of skills as a clinician, psychological consultant, training director, teacher, supervisor, mentor, expert witness, forensic investigative interviewer and researcher.

At a national level, Dr. Ching has served in over 50 different capacities with the American Psychological Association. She has also given back to her Hawai'i community in countless ways. Professionally she has served in over 20 volunteer roles with the Hawai'i Psychological Association and in a variety of other community-based initiatives and programs that include co-founder of the Kids First program at Family Court, a program that continues to this day. She has given hundreds of presentations locally to community groups and dozens of media presentations on topics that include helping children cope with divorce, keeping children safe from sexual abuse, teen violence, internet game addiction, depression and suicide prevention.

The Committee on Commerce and Community Protection would be hard pressed to find a better candidate than Dr. Ching. I know I speak for the entire psychology community in giving my unequivocal support for Dr. Ching's appointment to the Board of Psychology.

Sincerely,
Raymond A. Folen, Ph.D., ABPP
Hawai'i Licensed Psychologist (PSY-178)

EVELYN H. YANAGIDA, PH.D., ABPP
Licensed Psychologist
Board Certified

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March 6, 2025

DCCA – PVL
Attention: Psychology
Board of Psychology
P.O. Box 3469
Honolulu, HI 96801

RE: June Ching, Ph.D.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is written in support of Dr. Ching's application for re-appointment to the Board of Psychology. I have known Dr. Ching in various capacities for the past 40 years. We first worked together at Kapiolani Medical Center's outpatient psychiatric clinic where Dr. Ching was the Chief Psychologist and secured accreditation from the American Psychological Association (APA) for the pre-doctoral psychology internship program.

Dr. Ching left the Medical Center in 2000 to pursue private practice and continued to demonstrate her strong commitment to the profession through her activities with the Hawaii Psychological Association (HPA). She served as president of HPA as well as APA's Division 42 (Psychologists in Independent Practice) and was involved with APA governance, earning national recognition for her advocacy work. Locally, she founded the Kids First program at Family Court which continues to this day.

Dr. Ching has served in many leadership roles, both locally and nationally and is an excellent role model for early career psychologists. In 2022 she received the American Psychology Foundation's award for Outstanding Leaders in Psychology. In 2024 she chaired the APA's Membership Board and is currently on the APA Fellows Committee.

Having served on the Board of Psychology for two terms, I know that Dr. Ching's integrity and professionalism will be an asset in furthering the Board's mission. She has been consistently committed to excellence in training psychologists, worked tirelessly to educate the community about the scope of psychological practice, devoted time and effort to HPA and APA guild activities and maintained the highest ethical and professional standards in her work.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my enthusiastic and unequivocal support for Dr. Ching's re-appointment to the Board. Please contact me if you have any further questions. Mahalo.

Sincerely,



Evelyn H. Yanagida, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist – HI #207