GM550 TESTIMONY

NEIL ABERCROMBIE



In reply, please refer to:

Senate Committee on Health

G.M.550, G.M.551, G.M.643, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominees, KENNETH BRANDT, RICHARD JACKSON, and SHIRLEY DAVENPORT

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H. Director of Health

Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

- 1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health supports the confirmation of Kenneth Brandt
- 2 (6/30/2016), Richard Jackson (6/30/2016), and Shirley Davenport (6/30/2015) to serve on the Mental
- 3 Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board (OSAB) for terms to expire as parenthetically
- 4 indicated.
- 5 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 6 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose is for the consideration and confirmation to the OSAB,
- 7 Gubernatorial Nominees, Kenneth Brandt, Richard Jackson, and Shirley Davenport. Pursuant to
- 8 Chapter 334-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes on Service Area Boards, the members of the Service
- 9 Area Board are service area residents who are consumers or non-providers of mental health services and
- service area providers with a majority being non-state employees and non-providers of mental health or
- other health services.
- Kenneth Brandt (G.M.550) was recently elected as the vice-chair on the OSAB by his fellow
- board members. Since July 2012, Mr. Brandt has been attending and actively participating in board
- meetings. He is thoughtful and considerate in providing relevant and meaningful recommendations for

the board to improve services on Oahu. Mr. Brandt is a retired licensed clinical social worker and fulfills the community member segment on the OSAB.

Richard Jackson (G.M.551) previously served on the OSAB. His passion for advocating for people with mental illness motivated Mr. Jackson to reapply for membership on the OSAB after being away from the board for several years. His professional and life experiences provide meaningful perspective and insight in board discussions. Mr. Jackson tracks local and national legislation, as well as current events as they relate to people with mental illness and substance abuse. He keeps the board apprised of these current issues and provides a voice for consumers of mental illness during OSAB deliberations.

Shirley Davenport (G.M.643) has been on the OSAB for four (4) years and is being recommended for a second term. She currently works at the River of Life Mission and is a licensed clinical social worker. Her work experiences in substance abuse treatment and therapeutic services will provide the board with a range of qualities and experiences that will assist members in determining policy, planning for continuing needs, and realistically assessing the impact for improving mental health services on Oahu. Ms. Davenport fulfills the provider representation on the OSAB.

We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming Kenneth Brandt, Richard Jackson, and Shirley Davenport to serve on the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Oahu Service Area Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support for these volunteers.