

Measure Title:	REQUESTING A MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.
Report Title:	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division; Audit
Description:	
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH, WAM
Introducer(s):	TOKUDA, BAKER, DELA CRUZ, English, Kidani, Shimabukuro, Wakai

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

## Testimony COMMENTING on SCR 140 REQUESTING A MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH Hearing Date: March 28, 2016, 9:45 a.m. Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined staff time to prepare and produce materials and reports for

2 the audit, and overtime compensation costs for staff to catch up on lost work and productivity.

3 **Department Testimony:** This resolution requests the auditor to conduct a management audit of

4 the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD) to review its effectiveness and

5 efficiency. The Department of Health appreciates the intent of this measure and offers

6 comments.

Youth Served By the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division

8 CAMHD through its six Family Guidance Centers and Family Court Liaison Branch serves
9 approximately 2400 children and families statewide per year with serious emotional and
10 behavioral conditions. CAMHD clients are among the most vulnerable in our community with
11 complex mental health and psychosocial needs characterized by multi-agency involvement.

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Evidence-Based Services

13 CAMHD strives to provide evidence-based mental health services. Each enrolled youth is

14 assured of being assigned a care coordinator and that their treatment is under the oversight of

15 CAMHD's licensed clinical staff. If additional mental health services are necessary, CAMHD

16 relies on its network of contracted providers to provide a variety of services. CAMHD's current

17 service array include: Psychological Testing and Evaluations, Medication Management, Respite

18 Supports, Functional Family Therapy, Multisystemic Therapy, Intensive In-Home Therapy,

19 Intensive In-Home Paraprofessional Support, Independent Living Skills, Therapeutic Respite

20 Home, Transitional Family Home, Individual/Group/Family Therapy, Coordinated Specialty

1 Care for First Onset Psychosis, Community-Based Residential Levels I, II and III, Partial

2 Hospitalization, and Hospital-Based Residential. All services provided to youth must adhere to

3 CAMHD's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Performance Standards, a.k.a. "Orange Book",

4 available at:

5 <u>https://www.doh.hawaii.gov/sites/camhd/Documents%20Forms%20and%20Resources/Orange%</u>

- 6 <u>20Book.pdf.</u>
- 7

#### Statewide Services

As the MedQUEST behavioral health carve-out for youth, CAMHD serves Medicaid-eligible 8 9 youth across the state free of charge. CAMHD makes every effort to assure that services are available and accessible. However, like the rest of the nation, there is a shortage of qualified 10 mental health professionals, particularly on the Neighbor Islands. This perennial shortage, 11 coupled with a smaller eligible population base, makes it financially difficult for many providers 12 to provide residential services on the neighbor islands. Neighbor Islanders, though, have access 13 to many less restrictive best practice treatments which are highly effective, including telehealth. 14 Collaboration on Multi-Agency Youth 15 Because many of the youth served by CAMHD are also being served by the other child-serving 16 17 agencies, CAMHD works in close partnership with staff of many other state child-serving agencies at the community and state levels. At the state level, CAMHD has been engaged in a major effort over 18 the past several years to improve interagency collaboration. CAMHD is part of the collaborative 19 Hawai'i Interagency State Youth Network of Care (HI-SYNC). The various agencies that 20 21 participate in HI-SYNC are: Community Children's Council Office (CCC), Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, Family Health Services Division, Family Court, 22 23 Developmental Disabilities Division, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Department of Education, Office of Youth Services, Child Welfare Services, Child and Family Services-Parent 24 Partners, and CAMHD's Federal Grant-funded Project Laulima. Monthly meetings are attended 25 by state-level representatives from four DOH divisions: CAMHD, DDD, Early Intervention and 26 ADAD, from the Department of Education, from Child Welfare Services, from the Office of 27 28 Youth Services, from Family Court, from the CCC, and from the Parent Support Agency. The group has produced a Multi-agency consent form for the release of confidential information 29

1	among state partners to facilitate collaborative work on specific youth problems and has vetted								
2	the report through all of the relevant Attorneys General.								
3	Over the past year, the following initiatives have been taken on by the agencies participating								
4	in HI-SYNC to meet their overall goal:								
5	• All the agencies work to supply and share data through the HYIPR report that should								
6	prove to be useful to stakeholders, be they in government or in the private sector.								
7	• HI-SYNC is in the last stages of finalizing a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)								
8	that describes the three major activities of HI-SYNC, specifically:								
9	• Assemble and analyze data from all participants and sharing data across agencies.								
10	• Develop joint policies and design ways for the agencies to work as partners when								
11	they hold similar clients or issues.								
12	• Establish a forum for the discussion and management of particularly complex or								
13	troublesome cases. The goal is to develop joint treatment and support plans for								
14	individuals who have multiple agency involvement.								
15	CAMHD has been working diligently with MedQUEST Division of DHS to optimize our								
16	use of Medicaid reimbursement and to improve efforts to transition MedQUEST youth from								
17	CAMHD services to the adult healthcare system. This has included holding monthly meetings								
18	with MedQUEST staff and involving them in training for CAMHD staff.								
19	CAMHD has developed a particularly strong partnership with the Office of Youth								
20	Services (OYS) over the past several years. This has led to the "braiding" of funding for services								
21	to youth in the Juvenile Justice System through an MOA between the two agencies. Youth seen								
22	in Juvenile Court who are not registered with CAMHD can receive CAMHD contracted services,								
23	and payment comes out of the OYS MOA funds. Other instances of strong collaboration with								
24	the Juvenile Justice system include quarterly meetings with the Oahu family court judges and								
25	CAMHD participation in a statewide task force on human Trafficking.								
26	Purpose of the Reorganization								
27	CAMHD is the Med-QUEST behavioral health carve-out provider for children and adolescents								
28	in the State of Hawaii. Therefore CAMHD underwent a reorganization to develop the operational								
29	structure necessary to provide accessible, effective, high-quality behavioral health services for								

Children with Special Health Needs, as well as meet mandatory Medicaid requirements as the
 designated, authorized provider for Support for Emotional and Behavioral Development for
 children three (3) through twenty (20) years of age who are eligible.

The two major purposes of the CAMHD reorganization are to develop a comprehensive 4 system to document and assure the provision of effective, high quality services through a 5 6 continuous quality improvement process, and to strategically consolidate CAMHD's resources 7 into best practice clinical leadership teams. These functions are critical to CAMHD's ability to seek revenue enhancements and explore alternative financing mechanisms with Med-QUEST 8 9 and other potential third-party payers. CAMHD has been working diligently with MedQUEST 10 Division of DHS to optimize our use of Medicaid reimbursement and to improve efforts to transition MedQUEST youth from CAMHD services to the adult healthcare system. 11

12 CAMHD's clinical and program goals are to create better outcomes for the youth 13 receiving the Division's behavioral health services, while making efficient and effective use of resources. The CAMHD vision for clinical practice aims to make best use of evidence-based-14 15 practices, and foster the use of least restrictive care settings. National clinical research and evidence indicates that in-home behavioral health services, supported by regular measurement of 16 17 care progress, produces better youth outcomes. The CAMHD reorganization thus seeks to 18 increase the use of more effective in-home care, and to reduce residential treatment services 19 placements, to best improve the lives of youth in our care.

As a priority for the reorganization, CAMHD is currently engaged in a business process improvement initiative. The goals of this are to streamline the youth intake, and reduce the time required for a request for services eligibility, mental health assessment, program enrollment, assignment of a care coordinator, and the start of therapeutic services. The Division seeks to make intake and ongoing case processing simpler, more automated and responsive, using IT systems to reduce the burdens on youth and their families.

The overall CAMHD reorganization consolidates multiple quality assurance, compliance, billing oversight, and IT operations functions towards increased program integrity and efficiency. This new CAMHD structural approach to healthcare quality assurance uses a continuous quality improvement (CQI) methodology, to support the Division's clinical care

model for youth services. Core to the CQI approach is expedient routing and reviewing of key 1 2 performance indicators or metrics. This change is under way through the establishment in the reorganization of a central means for feedback of metrics, information, and issues resolution 3 through the staff of the Health Systems Management Office (HSMO), Fiscal Office, Clinical 4 Services Office/Performance Management Office (CSO/PMO), and Family Guidance Center 5 6 sections. Under the reorganization the HSMO brings together quality assurance, billing, IT, audit, and compliance staff, to create the processes and technology systems tools to make this 7 quality methodology possible. These tools are to be increasingly used by CAMHD's Clinicians, 8 Care Coordinators, Supervisors, Billing and Compliance, and Management. CAMHD quality and 9 10 compliance information is envisioned to inform decision-making, resolve clinical, program, and billing issues and to make measurable improvements to CAMHD's youth services, programs, 11 and overall youth outcomes. These programmatic tools are to shape quality improvement in the 12 use of data-driven decision making. This approach to healthcare services delivery and oversight 13 14 via metrics on care, processes, financials, and outcomes is called for by the Affordable Care Act, national healthcare reform requirements, and healthcare provider industry best practices. 15 CAMHD clinical and program management seek to drive program improvement in these ways, 16 for better lives for CAMHD youth, and effective use of resources. 17 We thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. 18 Offered Amendments: None. 19 20

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## Charts & Graphs of CAMHD Data:

## 1) G-fund and position losses



## 2) Graph of increasing enrollment



# 3) Graph of decreasing funds spend on out-of-home level of care



# 8/19

4) Graph of increasing tenure by professional staff



5) Summary statement on dollars spent on client expenses, compared to Medicaid reimbursements and numbers of youth served.



# 6) Total dollars spent on:

- Clinical services personnel including CSD, MHS Is and CCs
- Pure admin PHAO and FGC chiefs
- Clinical Quality Improvement Billing/audit/IT/compliance business management staff



7) Increase in clinical documentation of youth services







FY	Position Count	G-Fund Total	Budget Personnel	Budget Other	Client Related Expenses	Net Change Permanent Positions	Net Change Dollars	Notes from Budget Worksheets
2016	160.0	\$41,085,841	\$11,790,520	\$29,295,321				Add funds for collective Bargaining (0/\$984,705) Add funds for a Clinical Psychologist VI (0/\$27,750) Add funds for Grant-In-Aid to Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii, this GIA was posted with the wrong Org Code, should have been HTH 560 (0/\$35,000)
2015	160.0	\$40,038,386	\$10,778,065	\$29,260,321	\$25,486,656	(1.0)		Transfer-out 1 Permanent position to Maui District Health Administration (-1/\$0)
2014	161.0	\$40,038,386	\$10,750,315	\$29,288,071	\$25,868,780	(7.5)		Add funds for labor savings restoration (0/\$373,400) Reduce 7.5 Permanent positions and funds for vacancy savings (-7.5/-\$347,745)
2013	168.5	\$40,012,731	\$10,724,660	\$29,288,071	\$24,359,903		Supplemental (\$846,400)	Adjustments were made in the Biennium budget for a net change of (\$48,086) in addition to the changes made for FY
2012	168.5	\$40,811,045	\$11,098,060	\$29,712,985	\$24,095,365	(8.0)		Add funds for Furlough Restoration (0/\$1,090,491) Transfer-out 1 Permanent position and funds to Operation and Regulatory Excellence Office (-1/-\$59,303) Transfer-Out .50 Permanent position to Maui District Health Administration (50/\$0) Reduce 6.5 Permanent and 1 Temporary Position (-6.5/\$0) Add funds for the Decrease in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (0/2,428,908) Reduce funds due to fiscal constraints (0/-\$580,000)
2011	176.5	\$37,930,949	\$10,196,712	\$27,734,237	\$23,866,216	(16.0)	\$841,977 Supplemental (\$3,465,884) Total Net Change	Adjustments were made in the Biennium budget for a net change of (0/\$841,977) in addition to the changes made for FY 2010: Reduce funds to reflect American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Adjustment for Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) (0/-\$1,789,343) Supplemental Budget Changes: Reduce 1 Permanent and 3 temporary positions and funds for Vacancy reduction (-1/-\$158,338) Reduce 12 Permanent positions and funds for Reduction in Force (-12/-\$395,693) Reduce 2 Permanent and 2 Temporary positions and funds for Reduction in Force (-2/-\$414,583) Reduce 2 Permanent positions and funds for Reduction in Force (-2/-\$158,208) Reduce funds for Furlough Savings (0/-\$1,036,859) Transfer in 1 Permanent Position and funds from Community Health Administration (1/\$43,297) Reduce funds for Purchase of Service Contracts (0/-\$1,345,500)

2010	192.5	\$40,554,856	\$12,317,096	\$28,237,760	\$26,502,071	(1.0)		Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$899,016) Reduce funds for non-recurring equipment costs (0/-\$31,500) Transfer-out funds to HTH 495, HTH 595, HTH 907 for redistribution of FY09 Legislative reduction (0/-\$450,785) Reduce funds to meet mandatory reductions (0/-\$500,000) Reduce 1 Permanent and 1 Temporary position and funds for Vacancy savings (-1/-\$102,756) Reduce funds to reflect American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Adjustment for Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) (0/-\$2,622,320) Reduce funds for Purchase of Service Contracts (0/-\$1,700,000)
2009	193.5	\$45,063,201	\$11,683,979	\$39,379,222	\$27,904,347		(\$40,548)	Adjustments were made in the Biennium budget for a net change of (0/\$1,000,000) in addition to the changes made for FY 2008: Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect the increase in the Special fund Ceiling (0/-\$6,000,000) Supplemental Budget Changes: Reduce funds for personal services to reflect Vacancy Savings (0/-\$40,548))
2008	193.5	\$44,103,749	\$11,724,527	\$32,379,222	\$29,952,007	30.0		Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$752,180) Add 31 Permanent positions to reflect conversion from temporary to Permanent (31/\$0) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect the increase in the Special Fund Ceiling (0/-\$7,000,000) Reduce 1 Permanent position and funds to reflect vacancy savings (-1/-\$35,951)
2007	163.5	\$50,387,520	\$11,008,298	\$39,379,222	\$32,619,391		Supplemental \$414,366 Total Net Budget Changes	Adjustments were made in the Biennium budget for a net change of (0/\$2,380) in addition to the changes made for FY 2006: Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$608,149) Supplemental Budget: Add 7 Temporary positions and funds for other current expenses to reflect compliance with Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) Department of Justice (DOJ) Settlement (0/\$382,866) Add funds for non-recurring equipment costs to reflect compliance with HYFH DOJ Settlement (0/\$31,500)

2006	163.5	\$49,970,774	\$9,901,918	\$40,068,856	\$38,543,151	(5.5)	R R (C R A R H ( R R R R R R	Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$605,769) teduce funds to reflect 1% efficiency saving for purchase of services (0/-\$777,861) teduce 1 Temporary position and funds to reflect transfer out to General Administration-Administrative Services Office 0/-\$31,965) teduce 1 Temporary position to reflect transfer-out to Public Health Nursing-School Health Aids (0/\$0) teduce 1 Temporary position to reflect transfer-out to Public Health Nursing-School Health Aids (0/\$0) teduce 1 Permanent Social Worker/Human Service Professional position and funds at Hawaii Community Mental Health Services as duties are being met by Mental Health Care Coordinators (-1/-\$34,542) teduce 1 Temporary SW/HSP V position and funds at Hawaii Community Mental Health Services (0/-\$37,369) teduce 5.5 Permanent positions and 4.5 Temporary Positions and funds to reflect vacancy savings (-5.5/-\$379,223) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect deletion of 2 temporary unbudgeted position (0/-\$66,456)
2005	169.0	\$55,692,421	\$9,779,248	\$45,913,173	\$43,678,830	(2.0)	\$24,500 F Supplemental R (\$7,319,314) (r Supplemental R Changes A (\$7,294,814) R R (\$7,294,814) R R (\$ (\$ R Changes A R (\$ R R Changes A R R Changes A R R R Changes A R R R Changes A R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R	djustments were made in the Biennium budget for a net change of (0/\$24,500) in addition to the changes made for Y 2004: teduce funds for 1 Clinical Psychologist VI, 1 Mental Health Care Coordinator, and 1 Social Worker IV and other urrent expenses to reflect transfer-out to Early Intervention Services (-3/-\$256,716) upplemental Budget Changes: teduce 1 position to reflect conversion of Permanent to Temporary Status for Assistant Chief (-1/\$0) dd 1 position to reflect conversion of temporary position to permanent status, Planner V (1/\$0) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Tuberculosis Control (0/-\$235,223) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Behavioral Health Administration (0/-\$99,180) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out for State Match for the title XIX Program 0/-\$2,750,820) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Health Resources for Persons with Disabilities (0/- 210,600) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Health Resources Administration Deputy Director's Diffice (0/-\$61,849) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Environmental Health Administration Deputy Director (0/-\$63,720) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Environmental Health Administration - Deputy Director (0/-\$63,720) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Office of Planning, Policy, and Program Development (0/-\$23,450) teduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Office of Planning, Policy, and Program Development (0/-\$23,450) teduce funds for other Current expenses for Felix Court Monitor Costs (0/-\$600,000) teduce funds for other Current expenses for Felix Court Monitor Costs (0/-\$600,000) teduce funds for other current expenses for Felix Court Monitor Costs (0/-\$600,000) teduce funds for other current expenses for Felix Court Monitor Costs (0/-\$600,000) teduce funds for other current expe

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2004	171.0	\$62,987,235	\$9,973,814	\$53,013,421	\$41,704,641	(26.0)		Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$1,127,959) Reduce positions and funds for 7 various Temporary positions and other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Developmental Disabilities Division (0/-\$2,416,310) Reduce positions and funds for 6 Permanent positions (2 Social Worker and 4 Mental Health Care Coordinator) and other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Early Intervention Services (-6/-\$210,832) Add positions and funds for (9) Temporary positions and other current expenses to reflect transfer-in from Cluster Children's Community Council, Complaints Resolution, Training Institute and Felix Monitor (0/\$602,870) Add positions and funds for 33 various Permanent positions and 35 Temporary positions to reflect transfer-in from HTH 950 HF to HTH 460 HF (33/\$4,496,177) Reduce positions and funds for 38.5 various Permanent positions and 24 Temporary positions and other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to DOE for Children with Autism (-28.5/-\$11,867,311) Reduce positions and funds for 1 temporary positions and other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to DOE for School-Based Behavioral Health Services (0/-\$250,774) Reduce positions and funds for 1 Clinical Psychologist VI, 1 Mental Health Care Coordinator, and 1 Social Worker IV and other current expenses to reflect transfer-out to Early Intervention Services (-3/-\$281,216) Add funds for other current expenses to reflect mansfer-out to Early Intervention Services (-3/-\$281,216) Add funds for other current expenses to reflect reduction for Purchase of Service Contracts (0/-\$1,670,814) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect reduction in contract services due to reduced caseload and service utilization (0/-\$1,676,692) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect reduction in contract services due to reduced caseload and service utilization (0/-\$1,676,692) Reduce funds for other current expenses (0/-\$400,000) Reduce funds for other current expenses (0/-\$400,000) Reduce funds for other current expen
2003	197.0	\$89,679,002	\$8,717,550	\$80,961,452	\$44,740,249		(\$225,233)	Reduce funds for other current expenses for travel (0/-\$138,446) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect deletion of Grant-In-Aid for Hawaii Intergenerational Network (0/-\$100,000) Reduce funds for personal services to reflect 10% Vacancy Savings (0/-\$125,233)

2002	197.0	\$89,904,235	\$8,842,783	\$81,061,452	\$82,860,983	(33.0)		Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$381,750) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out of School-Based Mental Health Services to DOE (0/- \$21,510,474) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out of lease costs to DAGS Leasing (0/-\$288,964) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect transfer-out of School Based Mental Health Svcs to the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (0/-\$110,400) Add funds for additional personal services and other current expenses (0/\$34,371,112) Reduce funds for other current expenses due to double budgeting (0/-\$850,923) Reduce funds for collective Bargaining as a housekeeping measure (0/-\$381,750) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect adjustment in Lease Costs to DAGS Leasing (0/-\$2,645) Reduce funds for other current expenses and personal services for MultiSystemic Therapy (MST) (0/-\$4,085,664) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect reduction in base funding for MST (0/-\$2,500,000) Reduce funds for personal services to reflect deletion of Mentoring Leader and Community Technical Assistance (0/- \$267,500) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect savings in other specialty services (0/-\$1,090,500) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect savings in other specialty services (0/-\$1,090,500) Reduce funds for other current expenses to reflect savings in other specialty services (0/-\$1,090,500) Reduce funds for Grant-In-Aid for the Hawaii Intergenerational Network (0/\$100,000)
2001	230.0	\$87,342,546	\$9,574,963	\$77,767,583	\$115,971,498	74.0	\$3,017,724 Supplemental \$987,858 Total Net Budget Changes \$4,005,582	Adjustments were made in the Biennium budget for a net change of (0/\$3,017,724) in addition to the changes made for FY 2000: Add funds for other current expenses for increased Outpatient Services (0/\$2,080,029); Add funds for other current expenses for Increased Residential Services (0/\$5,676,600); Add funds for 73.5 temporary Mental Health Care Coordinators (0/\$466,909); Add funds to implement Quest Carve-Out not approved in FY 2001 (0/-161,014); Reduce funds for other current expenses to phase out privately contracted case management services (0/\$-5,044,800) Supplemental Budget Changes: Add 25 permanent positions to reflect transfer-in from various DOH Programs for Mental Health Care Coordinators (25/\$0) Add funds for other current expenses for Various outpatient and inpatient mental health services (0/\$987,858) Add 48.5 permanent positions to reflect conversion from temporary to permanent Mental Health Care Coordinator (48.50/\$0)

2000	156.0	\$83,336,964	\$9,281,555	\$74,055,409	\$77,873,099	8.0	\$22,838,950	
		,,,.		, ,,			,,,	Add funds for Collective Bargaining (0/\$188,107)
								Transfer funds from one temporary PHAO III to HTH 495 HF (0/\$-28,580)
								Transfer in 1 Position from HTH 495 HF for HFGC Chief (1/\$37,643)
								Transfer in 1 Position from HTH 420 HK for PHAO III (1/\$0)
								Transfer in 1 Position from HTH 420 HK for PHAO III (1/\$0)
								Transfer in 3 Positions from HTH 420 HK for PHAO III (3/\$0)
								Transfer in 2 Positions from HTH 420 HQ for PHAO III (2/\$0)
								Transfer-out funds for temporary positions and support services on the Big Island to HTH 495 (0/\$-181,697)
								Add funds for other Current Expenses for increased general outpatient services due to service capacity growth in other
								services, including POS and GIA (0/\$8,454,230)
								Add funds for other current expenses for Intensive Day Services (0/\$4,836,000)
								Add funds for other current expenses for increased in-sate Acute Residential services (0/\$8,133,393)
								Add funds for other current expenses for increased purchase of service Residential Services (0/\$1,725,400)
								Add funds for other current expenses for increased Out-Of-State Residential services (0/\$162,379)
								Add funds for other current expenses for increased Crisis Services (0/\$127,293)
								Add funds for other current expenses for increased flex/respite services (0/\$303,392)
								Add funds for 73.5 temporary Mental Health Care Coordinators (0/\$1,400,731)
								Add funds to implement Quest Carve-Out to Maximize Fed. Medicaid Reimbursement (0/\$161,014)
	1.5							Reduce funds for other current expenses to phase-out privately contracted case management (0/-\$2,480,355)

March 27, 2016

Dear Chairman and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

Re: SCR140

To: The Honorable Senator Ms. Baker and senators of the committee.

Aloha,

I am a graduate student studying social work and I am submitting this testimony in support of SCR140 in relation to requesting a management audit of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health. I am happy that this audit is being considered because the mental health system, both here in Hawaii and throughout the United States, is, in some areas, fragmented and counterproductive in its efforts. The system needs to be regulated and held to high standards. The proposed audit will assist with this.

I have worked in the mental health field for about six years and I have seen that it is easy for people with mental illnesses to slip through the cracks of the system that is meant to help them thrive. If gone unregulated services can do grave harm. Mistreatment and abuse from service providers and a lack of comprehensive and effective services are sometimes the results of such a lack of regulation. This can lead to dire results. Adults with serious mental illness die, on average, 25 years earlier than the general population due to treatable medical conditions, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Adults can also easily end up in prison or homeless, and many do. Ensuring that people get proper services from the time they are children lays the foundation for building self-esteem, acquiring the tools to advocate for oneself, and developing an understanding of the standard of services that one should receive throughout life.

As I have witnessed, having a family member with a mental illness can be a huge source of stress. It is therefore extremely important that families are able to access services that will assist them with developing coping skills and that will also provide effective treatment for the family member in need.

The specific areas that are proposed to be audited by this legislation need regulation. As many consumers as possible should be served and the referral and intake process should be handled professionally so that consumers will want to use the services available to them. Clear communication and good rapport between different providers is crucial to ensure that people are receiving comprehensive, evidence-based, and effective services by all. The proper treatment and payment of providers is essential since they are serving a population of high need and should be appropriately compensated for doing so. Therefore it is important that the proposed legislation be passed.

Thank you for considering the needs of those who are often marginalized and whose services need regular review and revision. Thank you, also, for your time and attention to my testimony.

Sincerely,

Tessa McGarvey