



GM671

Measure Title:

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, TRACEY WILTGEN, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Report Title:

Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral:

HSH

Introducer(s):

MEDIATION CENTERS OF HAWAI'I, INC.

**245 N. Kukui Street, Ste. 206
Honolulu, HI 96817**

April 10, 2015

To: Committee on Human Services and Housing
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakley, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice President

Re: GM 671 Nomination of Tracey Wiltgen to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

My name is Bruce McEwan and I am the Chair of the Mediation Centers of Hawaii (MCH), which is the nonprofit umbrella organization for the community mediation centers in the various counties.

MCH is in support of the nomination of Tracey Wiltgen to the advisory board. She is recognized in the mediation community as an authority on elder issues and has been instrumental in the successful implementation of an elder-based alternative dispute resolution program at the Mediation Center of the Pacific known as the Kupuna Pono program. It is our belief that elder citizen conflict issues are a statewide concern and all community mediation centers want to see elder issues addressed on a statewide basis. Having a resource like Ms. Wiltgen on the advisory board will be a major benefit to the state.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bruce McEwan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce McEwan, MCH Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: barbarapolk@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM671 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 10:58:34 PM

GM671

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for HSH on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am pleased to support the appointment of Tracey Wiltgen to the Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. I have known Tracey for the past 10 years through the Mediation Center of the Pacific where she is the Director. I know her to be a very thoughtful, caring, and well organized person. In recent years, recognizing that there will be an increasing need to mediate elder issues, she has actively expanded her own knowledge in this area as well as brought in additional specialists to train mediators. I believe that Tracey Wiltgen is an ideal person to serve on this Board and wholeheartedly recommend her appointment.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: charleshhurd@hurdadr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM671 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM*
Date: Sunday, April 12, 2015 3:26:15 PM

GM671

Submitted on: 4/12/2015

Testimony for HSH on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Hurd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: dchandle@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM671 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Wednesday, April 08, 2015 5:46:51 PM

GM671

Submitted on: 4/8/2015

Testimony for HSH on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Chandler	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Tracey Wiltegen will add an important perspective to the Policy Committee on Elderly Affairs. I work closely with Tracey on a new program for the elderly sponsored by the Median Center of the Pacific where she is the executive director. This program has extensive background and experience in the current issues facing the rapidly increasing elderly population in Hawaii. The program uses trained volunteers, of which I am one, to provide dispute and planning assistance to the elderly and their families. In addition Tracey has decades of experience in serving as an executive in the non profit world planning and providing services to those in need. She is a thoughtful and experienced lawyer in planning and executing services to the community and will be an asset to the policy committee.

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April 14, 2015

The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Human Services and Housing
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 671, for Consideration and Confirmation to the Policy Advisory Board for
Elder Affairs, Gubernatorial Nominee, TRACEY WILTGEN.

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Green, and Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination of Tracey Wiltgen to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (the Board). Tracey's remarkable achievements in the field of dispute resolution and prevention are set forth on her resume. I write to provide my personal account as to why I believe she will be a great asset to the Board.

I met Tracey in 2011 at a two-day workshop in Honolulu concerning mortgage foreclosure resolution techniques that her organization, the Mediation Center for the Pacific (MCP), sponsored. For two days she addressed and taught a room of more than 100 attorneys and leaders in real estate. Tracey displayed a tremendous ability to facilitate conversation, encourage participation, all the while keeping everyone focused.

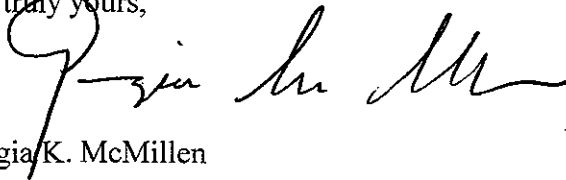
Since that time I have gotten to know Tracey in her capacity as MCP's Executive Director, where I volunteer mediate. She is an excellent leader who remains approachable to discuss cases and issues. Tracey's door is always open. Also, those who work alongside her at MCP always seem happy to be there. I have helped Tracey with her Richardson Law School mediation class. Likewise, it was clear the students respected her and enjoyed her class. With respect to elder affairs, Tracey is at the forefront in teaching family-based facilitation methods to assist families in the care of elders. I have taken this training and can attest to Tracey's acumen and commitment to improving the welfare of elders and their families.

The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Human Services and Housing

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Besides her expertise and renown in the field of mediation and dispute resolution processes, Tracey is genuinely a kind person with boundless aloha and patience. I have no doubt she will be a great asset to the Board.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Georgia K. McMillen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

Georgia K. McMillen

Testimony in support of GM671
Confirmation of Tracey Wiltgen
Member, Policy Advisory Board of Elder Affairs

Hearing on April 16, 2015, 1:15 PM

Chair Chun Oakland, Vice-Chair Green, and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the confirmation of Tracey Wiltgen as a Member of the Policy Advisory Board of Elder Affairs.

Her resume, while thoroughly impressive, leaves unmentioned a bright spot in her life's work relevant to her confirmation. Others will certainly mention it in greater detail, but just in case all who know of it assume someone else will, here's the point:

Ms. Wiltgen has worked tirelessly over the past several years to promote and establish a "Kupuna Pono" family conferencing program in Hawaii. The program assists families in working together to formulate plans for meeting the needs of elders in their care. Think of the possibilities. Instead of families battling each other over who will do what, families will channel their energies toward understanding what needs must be met, and making plans for meeting those needs. Improved communication, warmer relationships, functional families, stronger communities: that is the hope this program can foster and fulfill.

I humbly ask that you confirm the appointment of Tracey Wiltgen as a Member of the Policy Advisory Board of Elder Affairs.

Owen Tamamoto
Volunteer Mediator and concerned citizen
Mililani, Hawaii
April 10, 2015

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruth Tschumy	Individual	Support	No

GM671

Testimony in support of Tracey Wiltgen

Nominee to Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs

Tracey Wiltgen, Executive Director of the Mediation Center of the Pacific, has dedicated her professional life to helping make Hawaii a more peaceful community by bringing people together to talk and resolve their differences.

Tracey led the development of MCP's Kupuna Pono Program (Elder Issues Mediation) that helps families talk about difficult issues and develop plans to help their elderly family members.

Tracey will be a knowledgeable and hard-working member of the Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs, and as an Emeritus Board Member of MCP and a friend, I wholeheartedly support her nomination.

Mahalo.

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To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: srcobajr@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM671 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 8:17:52 PM

GM671

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for HSH on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
simeon r. acoba jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support Tracey Wiltgen for the Elder Affairs advisory board. I have known Tracey since 2008 as the executive director of the Mediation Center. She is in charge of a non-profit whose assets exceed \$2 million and is an extremely competent administrator. She also is a well known mediation trainer. One of the programs she pioneered is the Kupuna Pono program in which the Center is working to mediate and provide family conferences for cases involving elderly clients of Kaiser Hospital. She is energetic, knowledgeable, responsible, and pleasant to work with. She will be a valuable asset and member of the advisory board.

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Cc: wesleylum@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM671 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM*
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 2:20:08 PM

GM671

Submitted on: 4/10/2015

Testimony for HSH on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wes Lum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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