



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of GM 687
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE
COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
FRANCES ELAINE LYONS

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH (HTH)

Hearing Date: April 17, 2015
1:15 p.m.

Room Number: 414

1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) strongly supports the nomination of
2 Frances Elaine Lyons to serve on the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH) for a term to
3 expire on June 30, 2018.

4 This SCMH nominee will occupy the federal mandated positions under Public Law 102-
5 321, Section 1914(c) as the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaii Service Area Board
6 (HSAB) representative.

7 **Frances Elaine Lyons** (GM 687) has a Bachelor's Degree in Management and is
8 currently the grant writer for the East Hawaii Cultural Center in Hilo. She has participated as a
9 member of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawaii Service Area Board (HSAB) since
10 2013 and has attended SCMH meetings via video-teleconference to understand the connection of
11 the HSAB to the SCMH.

12 Ms. Lyons has worked with homeless outreach ministries and with the East Hawaii
13 Suicide Prevention Task Force. She is an advocate for the provision of adequate services for

1 those who are most vulnerable including individuals living on the streets and families with young
2 children. She is passionate about funding for facilities, staffing and programs that assist
3 individuals who live with mental illness.

4 Ms. Lyons has a solid background in organization and administrative management. She
5 is familiar with detailed reports and spreadsheets related to corporate objectives and client
6 specific requests ensuring confidentiality of sensitive information. Her ten years of proven
7 administrative skills as a project manager has enabled her to manage complex tasks and to
8 adhere to specific timelines. Ms. Lyons' knowledge and experiences in the corporate business
9 environment will assist the SCMH in determining policy and planning for the needs of
10 consumers living with mental illness.

11 Ms. Lyons fulfills the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, HSAB, representative
12 segment on the SCMH.

13 The DOH respectfully requests your favorable consideration in confirming Frances
14 Elaine Lyons to the SCMH.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this volunteer.