

GM 496

ANNIE L. KALAMA

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANNIE L. KALAMA, for a term to expire 6-30-2010.

GM496 Nomination to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Written Statement

Why do you wish to be a member of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities?

Because of my strong passion for supporting and serving individuals with disabilities, I have devoted a lifetime career of service to this population. Serving as a member of the State Council on DD would give me the opportunity to continue assisting our communities and ensuring opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities.

How do you perceive the role and responsibility of a member of this council?

I believe my role and responsibility as a member of the Council on Developmental Disabilities is to work with the other council members on issues regarding systems change and community support of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Given your understanding of the role and responsibility of a member of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities why do you believe that you are qualified for the position?

I have earned both a BA in Elementary Education with an endorsement in Special Education and a MA in Educational Administration from New Mexico State University. My experience includes 11 years experience as a licensed special education teacher working with students with disabilities and over 8 years experience as an administrator supervising programs for students with special needs.

I have worked as a private consultant supporting schools with individualized programming for student with severe behavioral concerns and as adjunct teaching staff at both the University of New Mexico and New Mexico Highlands University teaching pre-service and graduate level courses in special education.

Finally, I was co-founder and president of a non-profit organization helping both educators and families of children with developmental disabilities whose mission was to ensure student needs were being met.

What do you hope to accomplish during your tenure of service?

It is my hope, that serving on this council will give me the opportunity to share my knowledge, experience, and expertise in the efforts to support our community members with developmental disabilities. Additionally, I am excited to participate in community and statewide efforts supporting individuals with developmental disabilities

Name 3 qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Council on Developmental Disabilities?

Dedicated – I am committed to serving individuals with developmental disabilities and supporting their efforts to a quality life.

Professional – I am fortunate to have many hours of formal and informal training, and many years of hands-on experience working with students with disabilities.

Passion – Serving and supporting individuals with developmental disabilities goes beyond my profession. My heart is to ensure that all individuals with developmental disabilities have the right to happiness.

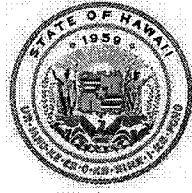
I believe that my commitment, professional experience and passion are qualities that will support the council and benefit people with disabilities within our communities.

Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State Council on Developmental Disabilities?

I have experience as both a provider and parent of a child with developmental disabilities. In addition to my experience as an educator, I have also been foster parent to a child with significant developmental disabilities. Our foster child was in our home for 4 years. During that time, our family was faced with many issues and concerns that were extremely challenging. This experience has given me the ability to have a more comprehensive understanding of the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Because the council shares a common vision, supporting people with developmental disabilities, I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interest. In the event that a conflict was to arise, I am confident that my teaming and problem solving skills, and more importantly my passion for this cause, would enable me to overcome.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 15, 2009

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: GM 496 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Annie L. Kalama**

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 496** to confirm the nomination of Annie L. Kalama for a term to expire June 30, 2010.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L. 106-402) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the players involved in the development, implementation, and use of DD supports are represented. The law specifically requires that 60 percent of the membership of the Council be comprised of individuals with DD, their parents, or family members. Additionally, the following agencies are required to be on the Council: Department of Health; the agencies that administer funds provided under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; the Older Americans Act of 1965; Titles V and XIX of the Social Security Act; the Protection and Advocacy Agency; the Centers for Excellence in DD Education, Research, and Service; agencies and private non-profit organizations concerned with services to individuals with DD. The Governor's nominee meets all the Federal requirements for Council membership.

Mrs. Kalama is an Educational Specialist with the Special Education Section of the Department of Education (DOE). Her appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for a representative of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Her experience in various positions in the special education field would provide the Council with valuable insight on how best to proceed to achieve quality education outcomes and school transitions that are meaningful and individualized consistent with

The Honorable David Y. Ige
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April 15, 2009

the principles of self-determination. Her participation on the Council's Employment and Education area of emphasis committee would assist the committee to address resources and services to meet the requirements of IDEA.

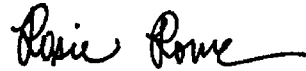
The Council is pleased with Mrs. Kalama's nomination to serve on the Council and looks forward to her contributions to increase coordination between the Council and DOE, and improve school transitions for individuals with DD.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 496** to confirm Annie L. Kalama to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT SUPPORT

April 2, 2009

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
State Capitol, Room 215
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Senate Committee on Health:

I am submitting testimony in support of Governor's Message Number 496 which nominates Ms. AnneMarie Kalama to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I have known Ms. Kalama for over three years in my capacity as director of the state Student Support Services Branch (SSSB) with the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE). Ms. Kalama's tenure with the HIDOE began in September 2006 as the Windward District Educational Specialist for Autism.

With Ms. Kalama's support, the district was able to build more effective programs for students with autism and other developmental disabilities. Through careful assessment, she identified and addressed areas within the system that needed improvement. She provided and/or coordinated quality district-wide training and education and successfully collaborated with district, complex, and school level staff to implement new programs.

Ms. Kalama recently moved to an Educational Specialist position with the state SSSB, Special Education Section, where she works on program monitoring and support for students with autism and other developmental disabilities. With her widespread experience and knowledge in the area of special populations and programs, Ms. Kalama has proved to be a valuable asset to our section.

Ms. Kalama's strong leadership and commitment to our students with disabilities continues to be of great value to both the Department of Education and the State of Hawaii. I highly recommend approval of Ms. Kalama's nomination to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Should there be any questions, please contact me at (808) 733-4400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul K. Ban".

Paul K. Ban, Ph.D.
Director, Student Support Services Branch

PKB:lr



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT SUPPORT

April 2, 2009

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
State Capitol, Room 215
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Senate Committee on Health:

I am pleased to submit testimony in support of Governor's Message Number 496 which nominates Ms. AnneMarie Kalama to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

In September 2006, Ms. Kalama joined the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) as the Windward District Educational Specialist (DES) for Autism.

Under Ms. Kalama's leadership, the district was able to make great improvements in their programs for students with autism. During her tenure as the DES, Ms. Kalama implemented several new site-based programs, employee-based supports, and systems of quality control.

I have known Ms. Kalama for over three years in my capacity as state Special Education Section (SES) Administrator. Ms. Kalama joined the SES as an Educational Specialist under my direction. In her current position, she works on program monitoring and support for students with autism and other developmental disabilities. She has proven her ability to work as a valuable team member bringing worthwhile insight and expertise. Ms. Kalama's dedication, vision, and passion for students with developmental disabilities are evident. She has worked continuously to serve the needs of our students.

I recommend your approval of Ms. Kalama's nomination to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

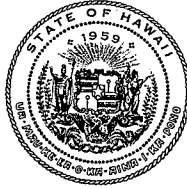
Should you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 733-4400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra T. Farmer".

Debra T. Farmer
Administrator, Special Education Section

DTF:lr



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WINDWARD OAHU DISTRICT
46-169 KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY
KANEHOE, HAWAII 96744
March 30, 2009

LEA E. ALBERT
COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

CLAYTON J FUJIE
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Health Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Health Committee:

My name is Paula Wong and I have had the positive opportunity to have been a colleague of Annie Kalama. I am submitting testimony in strong support of Governor's message 496 nominating Annie Kalama to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. From 2006-2008 when Mrs. Kalama was employed in the Windward District, we were able to develop a comprehensive plan to address the needs of autistic children. Her foresight, keen understanding of the multi-faceted issues for all stakeholders and commitment to collaboration and inclusiveness will be strengths that she will bring as a member of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Thank you for your affirmative consideration.

Sincerely,

Paula Wong
District Educational Specialist
School Based Behavioral Health
DOE Windward District



Hope Chapel Kaneohe Bay exists to equip God's people to take His love to every person

April 1, 2009

The Honorable David Ige
Senator and Health Committee Chair
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR ANNIE L. KALAMA FOR CONFIRMATION TO
THE STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Dear Senator Ige:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Mrs. Annie Kalama in support of her nomination to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I have known Mrs. Kalama for five years in my capacity as Senior Pastor for Hope Chapel Kaneohe since she started attending our church. She has always volunteered in various ministries at Hope Chapel. Among other roles, Mrs. Kalama is one of our leaders of our "Assimilation team" and runs our Welcome Lounge during our Sunday services. At the Welcome Lounge, she is responsible for ensuring that newcomers to our church are warmly welcomed and answers any questions they may have. Mrs. Kalama's role is also to connect new people to others in our church including staff, other attendees and provides any resources they may need. She is able to effectively do this because of her strong communication skills and her outgoing personality.

I have found Mrs. Kalama to be a dependable and trustworthy individual who is passionate about serving our church and the community. She serves in her volunteer position with respect, dignity and excellence. Given these character traits, her extensive experience and training in the Special Education field, she would be an asset to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I support Mrs. Kalama's nomination without reservation. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ralph Moore
Senior Pastor