

GM204



GOV. MSG. NO. 204

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

February 5, 2010

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, State Council on:**

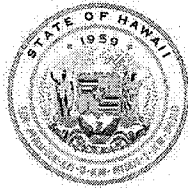
Joan M. Bellard

Term to Expire: 6/30/2014

Sincerely,



LINDA LINGLE



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
March 5, 2010

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 204 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Joan M. Bellard**

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 204** to confirm the nomination of Joan M. Bellard for a term to expire June 30, 2014.

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.

Ms. Bellard is a parent of a daughter with DD. She resides on Maui and would continue to represent Maui County that includes Lanai and Molokai. Since her appointment to the Council on July 1, 2006, she has been an active member who is Chair of the Maui DD Committee which is advisory to the Council, and Co-Chair of the Council's Employment and Education Committee. As Co-Chair, she provides leadership and strong advocacy on the Committee to address the Council's Employment and Education State Plan Goals regarding supports for people with DD to obtain and sustain employment of their choice, and school transitions are meaningful and individualized consistent with the principles of self-determination.

The Honorable David Y. Ige
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Except when she is on vacation, Ms. Bellard attends all Council and Maui DD Committee meetings, and participates in Council co-sponsored events, such as the annual Day at the Capitol, Maui Legislative Forum, and Big M.A.C. (Moving Across the Community). She brings the parent perspective in addressing issues relating to employment, family support, and managed care for health services. Her reappointment will assist the Council in its activities to assure accessible medical and dental care services, and promote employment opportunities for persons with DD.

Ms. Bellard is a graduate of the Council-sponsored Partners in Policymaking Leadership Academy (VIII) that provided education, training in current disability issues and best practices, and legislative and systems advocacy. She serves as a mentor for other parents and family members in the legislative process.

The Council is pleased with Ms. Bellard's nomination to serve another four years on the Council and looks forward to her continued contributions to improve the quality of life for individuals with DD.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 204** to confirm Joan M. Bellard to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,


Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator


Rosie Rowe
Chair