

GM 449

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



LILLIAN B. KOLLER, ESQ.
DIRECTOR
HENRY OLIVA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 8, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: GM 449 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Gwen L. Keliioomalulu to
the State Rehabilitation Council

HEARING: April 8, 2010 - 2:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Gwen L. Keliioomalulu to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). The SRC was established in the 1992 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The SRC acts in partnership with the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Gwen L. Keliioomalulu is seeking reappointment to the SRC. She has brought a much needed perspective of the private industries vocational rehabilitation services and the Neighbor Islands needs to the SCR.

Ms. Keliioomalulu has participated in determining priorities for the consumers of vocational rehabilitation services to better determine the employment needs and possibilities of our Hawai'i's disabled and has participated in selecting fair hearings

officers for the appeals processes and comprehending the Federal RSA relationship with the Vocational Rehabilitation state agency. Ms. Keliihoomalu is a qualified vocational rehabilitation counselor working in the Hilo area in private vocational rehabilitation services for individuals who are disabled.

Ms. Keliihoomalu maintains that consistency of opportunity and education leads to the possibilities of quality employment and a life filled with dreams attained.

Ms. Keliihoomalu will provide representation to the SRC for Hawai'i County.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to this Committee.