

# GM612

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOE D. CORDOVA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.



**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 5, 2011

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services  
Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Chun Oakland and Ihara and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: GM 612 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Joe D. Cordova**

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Department of Health.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 612** to confirm the nomination of Joe D. Cordova for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

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.

Mr. Cordova was first appointed to the Council in 2007. His reappointment would fulfill the Federal requirement of having a representative from the agency that administers funds provided under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. He has a wealth of work experience in the disability field that includes computer program analyst; mental health counselor; special advisor to the Mayor of the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico; Deputy Director for the New Mexico Commission for the Blind; Director for the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), U.S.


The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
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Department of Education (DOE); Regional Commissioner, Regions V and VII, Kansas City and Chicago Regional Offices, RSA, DOE; and Administrator for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and Services for the Blind, Department of Human Services.

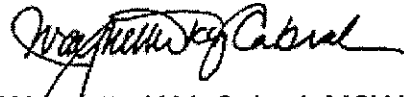
His numerous experiences and current position as Administrator of DVR will assist the Council in its activities to increase post-secondary education and employment options, and supports for people with DD to obtain and sustain employment of their choice. His participation on the Council's Employment and Education Committee would enable the Council to move forward with activities to promote efforts by State agencies and Counties to utilize federally-legislated work programs and obtain grants for developing micro-enterprises, self-employment, and small businesses.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 612** to confirm Joe D. Cordova to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Liz Ann Salvador  
Chair



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW  
Executive Administrator



## HO`OPONO

SERVICES FOR THE BLIND BRANCH

PHONE: (808) 586-5269 FAX: (808) 586-4144

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SERVICES FOR THE BLIND  
REHABILITATION CENTER FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED  
STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
1901 BACHELOT STREET/HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

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Date of Hearing: Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Human Services Committee  
Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland and Members of the Human Services Committee:

My name is Lea Grupen, and I am Acting Administrator at Hoopono, Services for the Blind. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Governor's Message 612 to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Joe Cordova many years, even before he moved to Hawaii, as a high-level rehabilitation professional in Washington DC and a passionate advocate for individuals with disabilities.

I ask for your Committee's favorable consideration to confirm Joe D. Cordova.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lea Grupen".

Lea Grupen, M.Ed.  
Acting Branch Administrator

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Senate Human Services Committee  
Hearing Date April 5, 2011  
Conference room 016, State Capitol

Re: G. M. 612 Support of nomination of Joe D. Cordova to the State Council  
on Developmental Disabilities

From: Susan Foard  
98-1479 B Kaahumanu Street  
Aiea, Hawaii, 96701  
808-488-2521

Date: April 4, 2011

Dear Senator Chun-Oakland and committee members,

My name is Susan Foard and I am in full support of Mr. Joe D. Cordova's nomination to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I have known Joe for 5.5 years and worked as his Assistant Administrator for the past 3.5 years. Someone once said that, the only consistent thing in life is "change," which I truly believe, however, there is one exception to my belief. That is, Joe's consistent dedication to creating opportunities for persons with disabilities to live independently and achieve their full potential. From the day I met Joe till today, his actions consistently demonstrate his commitment to obtaining high quality employment outcomes, economic independence and social integration. I know that he will continue his efforts in a second term.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Cordova's behalf.

Sincerely,

Susan Foard

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Senate Human Services Committee  
Hearing Date April 5, 2011  
Conference room 016, State Capitol

Re: G. M. 612 Support of nomination of Joe D. Cordova to the State Council  
on Developmental Disabilities

From: Katie Keim  
2943 Kalakaua Ave #304  
Honolulu Hawaii, 96815  
808-722-4242

Date: March 31, 2011

Dear Senator Chun-Oakland and committee members,

My Name is Katie Keim and I am in support of Mr. Joe D. Cordova's nomination to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

In the years I have known and been a colleague of Joe Cordova's, I have witnessed his undying commitment to individuals with disabilities, his personal and professional advocacy and his willingness to extend himself time and time again in the work and support of quality lives for individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Cordova has brought his many years of professional experience in the field of Vocational Rehabilitation for individuals with disabilities to the council in his previous term and I believe he will continue to bring these assets once again in his second term.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Cordova's behalf.

Sincerely,

Katie Keim