

GM613

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to
the State Council on Developmental Disabilities,
Gubernatorial Nominee, BERNADETTE L.
KELIAA, 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 613 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Bernadette L. Keliiaa**

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 613** to confirm the nomination of Bernadette L. Keliiaa 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.

Ms. Keliiaa is a parent of a young man with a developmental disability. She was first appointed to the Council in 2006. Her reappointment would fulfill the Federal requirement of having parents represented on the Council.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Page 2
April 5, 2011

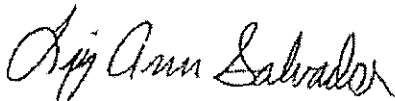
For the past several years, she has served as Co-Chair for the Council's Community Supports Committee that addresses individuals with DD having residential and transportation options to live in the community, adequate funding for services and supports, and quality assurance. She was an instrumental member of the Department of Health, DD Division's Quality Assurance Sub-Committee that was responsible for providing recommendations into the design of a quality assurance system for the Division.

Ms. Keliiaa is a graduate of the Council-sponsored Partners in Policymaking Leadership Academy (XII) that provides education and training in current disability issues and best practices, and legislative and systems advocacy. Her positive energy and enthusiasm was an asset in the Partners training in providing other participants with encouragement to be leaders in their community.

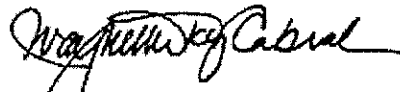
We look forward to Ms. Keliiaa's continued contribution to assist the Council in carrying out its mission, "to support people with DD to control their own destiny and determine the quality of life they desire."

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 613** to confirm Bernadette L. Keliiaa to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Liz Ann Salvador
Chair



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator

April 5, 2011

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senate Human Services Committee

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

State Capitol, Room 226

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Governor's Message 613 - Bernadette Keliiaa Nomination

Dear Senator Chun Oakland and the Human Services Committee:

I am pleased and privileged to send this letter of recommendation supporting Bernadette's nomination to the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I know that she has enjoyed serving on the Council since 2007 and is now willing to serve another 3 year term.

I have known Bernadette for 27 years, and I'm sure that those of you who have served with her on the Council have witnessed her strong commitment to those with developmental disabilities. She is a person of great determination and compassion, and a team player you can always count on. She brings to the Council her personal experience, as her son Donovan lives with Pervasive Developmental Disorder.

I strongly recommend Bernadette's nomination for reappointment to the Council.

Most sincerely,

Kathy A. Brown

P.O. Box 7131

Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

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

Dear Senator Chun Oakland and the Human Services Committee:

My name is Gail Yogi, a Special Education Teacher with the Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division. I am writing to you to convey my strong support for Governor's Message 613 nominating Bernadette Kelliaa to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Bernie for the past 10 years. She has a son with developmental disabilities and was a member of the Division's Quality Assurance Committee from 2003 to 2009. Bernie made great contributions as a member of our committee and was passionate about improving services for children and adults with developmental disabilities. If appointed, she will continue to be a great asset to DD Council.

Sincerely,
Gail Yogi