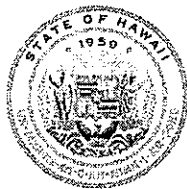


# GM617

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOSEPHINE C. WOLL, 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 617 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Josephine C. Woll

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 617** to confirm the nomination of Josephine C. Woll 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.

Mrs. Woll is a parent of a young woman with a disability. Her appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement of a parent serving on the Council.

Mrs. Woll's professional background as a Registered Nurse and extensive work experience in early intervention services as past director of Sultan Easter Seal School would be a great asset for the Council in the area of early childhood development and

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

early identification for appropriate services. She would be able to assist the Council in its advocacy to increase access and utilization of Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment of children with special needs.

As a parent, she was instrumental in starting a national organization called Family Voices that became the voice for health care reform for children with special health care needs. With her past involvement and leadership with Family Voices, the Council would benefit through Mrs. Woll's participation on its Health and Early Childhood area of emphasis committee in assisting with activities to advocate for appropriate early intervention services to all infant and toddlers with DD and/or at risk for DD, and accessible health care for persons with disabilities.

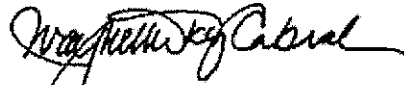
The Council is pleased with Mrs. Woll's nomination to serve on the Council and looks forward to her contributions to assure that family-centered, community-based, culturally appropriate services and supports will be available to all children with special needs.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 617** to confirm Josephine C. Woll to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Liz Ann Salvador  
Chair



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW  
Executive Administrator



**University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**  
*Center on Disability Studies*  
**Hawai'i University Center for Excellence in Disabilities**  
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April 1, 2011

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Human Services Committee  
Hawai'i State Legislature  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Senator Chun Oakland:

**Re: Governor's Nominee to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities: GM 617**

I am proud to support the Governor's recommendation that Ms. Josephine (Josie) C. Woll be appointed to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Ms. Woll since 1987, when she was the Director of Sultan School at Hawai'i Easter Seals. I was then Director of the Hawai'i Zero to Three Early Intervention Program, which provides intervention services for special needs children from birth to age three.

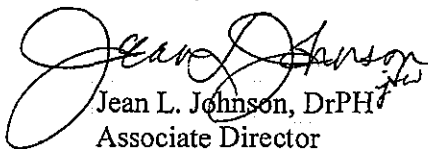
Ms. Woll was a member of the small group of leaders in our state who worked to get the State to participate in the federally funded Part C program. She served as a member of the Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council for many years, lending wise counsel to the deliberations and accomplishments of that body. Ms. Woll has not only been a leader in Hawai'i, but is recognized nationally for her accomplishments. She was one of the founding members of Family Voices, a family-led advocacy group working to improve health care access for children.

In addition to her 30 years of experience working with Easter Seals, Ms. Woll is also the mother of three children, one of whom is a young woman with developmental disabilities. Thus, she knows first hand the challenges facing families who have a child or sibling with a developmental disability. She can bring her unique perspective to the Council on Developmental Disabilities as it provides assistance to Hawai'i's families.

Ms. Woll and her late husband, David, have been two of the strongest advocates for children with special health needs in the history of the State. Since the birth of her daughter three decades ago, she has mentored countless families and supported them as they sought to obtain services for their children. Families continue to call on her for advice and support.

Ms. Woll is a woman with rare talents who knows how to effectively communicate issues involving people with special needs. When Josie Woll embraces a responsibility, she gives it her best. I am certain she will be an effective, hard-working, contributing member of the Council. Without reservation, I strongly recommend her appointment.

Sincerely,

  
Jean L. Johnson, DrPH  
Associate Director

April 5, 2001

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senate Human Services Committee

Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State Capital

Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland,

Thank you for this opportunity to share some information with you regarding your consideration of my nomination (GM 617) to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I welcome the opportunity to serve on the Council because of its importance and service to those in our community who share the challenges of having a developmental disability. My daughter Cassilly is an adult with many successes despite these challenges with earned credits from her years at Kapiolani Community College, a history of now 18 years of competitive employment at the Kahala Theatres and being an avid Special Olympian. The Council has ensured her voice and those of her friends were heard.

I see my responsibility, if confirmed as a member of this Council, to be a contributing team member who listens to the issues, participates in the discussion process and supports the final decision of the majority.

I am a registered nurse by profession but have spent most of my career involved in early intervention services as the director of Sultan Easter Seal School until my retirement in 2000. I have been active in local and national efforts in advocating for those who are vulnerable, both young and old. I believe my life long experience in both the health and disability fields as a parent, consumer and professional will allow me to bring insights to the deliberations.

I sincerely want to thank you in advance for your time and consideration of my nomination. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 373-9713.

Sincerely,

Josie Woll