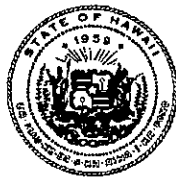


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN
INTERIM DIRECTOR
PANKAJ BHANOT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

February 7, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Interim Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 1565 – RELATING TO STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL**

Hearing: Monday, February 7, 2011, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to Reduce the number of members of the State Rehabilitation Council from twenty-one to fifteen.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this bill.

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) is a mandated council under the federal Rehabilitation Act. Federal statute prescribes the composition of the council to include membership of individuals with disabilities, representatives from consumer organizations of people with disabilities, service providers and business and industry. The federal minimum number of required positions on the SRC is fifteen.

The SRC has historically had difficulty in reaching quorum with the current State required minimum of twenty-one and it is the belief of the SRC that there would be a greater chance of achieving quorum with the more manageable federal

minimum of 15 members. This change will ensure that the SRC is able to conduct business in a timely manner.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.