



GOV. MSG. NO. **535**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

January 5, 2012

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui, President  
and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Tsutsui and Members of the Senate,

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **State Rehabilitation Council**:

STATE REHABILITATION  
COUNCIL

TERM TO EXPIRE

Francine Kenyon

6/30/2013

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Abercrombie".

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN  
DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 21, 2012

**MEMORANDUM:**

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

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **G.M. 535 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Francine Kenyon to the  
State Rehabilitation Council**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the nomination of Ms. Francine Kenyon to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

Ms. Francine Kenyon is seeking an appointment for her first term to the SRC. Ms. Kenyon has over 40 years of advocacy and education, bringing her experience for the integration into society and the success of her disabled peer's quality of life to the council. She seeks out opportunities to serve her peers with disabilities, continuing to educate the public and advocate at both local and national levels for the rights and quality of life for people with disabilities.

Ms. Kenyon was raised in Hawaii, leaving to continue her education in the Washington D.C. area in Psychology and ministry. Ms. Kenyon's professional life began in the Nation's capitol giving her an excellent opportunity to learn and practice her

advocacy skills. Ms. Kenyon is one of Hawaii's leaders in the deaf community, acting as the chair for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board and an active member of the Aloha Association of the Deaf.

Ms. Kenyon currently works at Honolulu counties office of Parks and Recreation; primarily in the area of physical education for people with disabilities ensuring access to Hawaii's parks, beaches, and great outdoors. Ms. Kenyon is an excellent example of an individual with a disability taking the opportunity, training and tools, to achieve the same level of education and employment that her non-disabled counterparts do.

Ms. Kenyon will provide representation to the SRC as an advocate and previous recipient of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Honolulu County.

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



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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February 21, 2012

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Human Services

Governor's Message 535 - Gubernatorial Appointee Francine Kenyon

I am submitting testimony in support of Gubernatorial appointee Francine Kenyon to the State Rehabilitation Council.

Ms. Kenyon was Coordinator of the Hawaii State Coordinating Council on Deafness, a program under the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, currently called the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB). She also served as a Board member on the Disability and Communication Access Board from 1999 to 2007. Ms. Kenyon is a vocal advocate and would bring a wealth of knowledge on disability-related issues with an emphasis on deaf and hard of hearing issues. She will be an asset to the Council, if selected.

Respectfully submitted,

*Francine Wai*

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director