



GOV. MSG. NO. **537**

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

Finia Kachita

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. 537 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Finia Kachita 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. Finia Kachita to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

Ms. Finia Kachita is seeking an appointment for her first term to the SRC. Ms. Kachita brings to the council a lifetime of living in diverse cultural environments with her personal experiences as an individual with a disability.

Ms. Kachita has been a resident of Hawaii since 2006; arriving from Chuuk and Guam to begin her own pursuit of vocational rehabilitation and her career path through higher education at the University of Hawaii. She brings a much needed perspective as a young adult from a Micronesian Pacific Rim nation, receiving training specific to her disability in the Department's Ho'opono Services for the Blind program and continuing on

to achieve her goals through higher education at the University of Hawaii. She is a leader in local and national consumer group activities.

Ms. Kachita advocates locally and nationally in legislation for the rights of her disabled comrades, continuing to be a mentor to others wherever she is present. She maintains that given the right opportunity, training and tools, people with disabilities can achieve the same level of education and employment as their non-disabled counterparts.

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

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