



GOV. MSG. NO. 593

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

January 10, 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

Brandon Morita

6/30/2015

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. 593 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Brandon Morita 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 Mr. Brandon Morita to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

Mr. Brandon Morita is seeking an appointment for his first term to the SRC. Mr. Morita's background and education is in business administration with a focus on accounting and finance. Mr. Morita's current employment is with a large corporate finance company providing life planning financial and long term insurance guidance to their clients.

Mr. Morita has a close family member with a life time disability. Through his family experiences, he understands the need for resources, training and services allocated to individuals with disabilities for their ultimate quality of life.

Mr. Morita's commitment to those with disabilities brings his professional and personal values to the council as a visionary believing that people with disabilities can

achieve a life of quality and community integration equal to their non-disabled peers given the right opportunities.

Mr. Morita will provide representation to the SRC for business and labor and Honolulu County.

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



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The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services  
Hawaii State Senate

Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 1:15pm  
Conference Room 016  
State Capitol

RE: GM 593 Brandon Morita, State Rehabilitation Council

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the committee,

I am writing in support of Brandon Morita's appointment to the State Rehabilitation Council.

I have known Brandon for almost five years, both personally and as a volunteer for Lanakila Pacific. Brandon is a focused and hard working individual, with a commitment to community betterment. His involvement includes many organizations such as the Honolulu Rotary, Punahou and Chaminade soccer teams, and Lanakila Pacific.

Brandon has volunteered for various Lanakila Pacific events as our photographer and videographer, most recently for our Christmas Meals on Wheels. He is always supportive of our activities and fully embraces our mission. I know he understands our mission since his family member attends one of our programs.

Brandon will bring to the State Rehabilitation Council his commitment to community service, belief in inclusion for individuals with disabilities, and his many skills and talents as a businessman and photographer. I strongly support his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marian E. Tsuji  
President & CEO

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services  
Hawaii State Senate

Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 1:15pm  
Conference Room 016  
State Capitol

RE: GM 593      Brandon Morita, State Rehabilitation Council

Senator Chun Oakland, Senator Ohara, and members of the committee:

I am writing on behalf of Brandon Morita. I had the pleasure of being his business partner for 3 years. This was an already established business that I invited him into. During that time, I never felt like a mentor. I never felt as if he was young and didn't understand things. Quite the opposite. I always valued his opinion. Sure, we would see things differently from time to time due to our vast difference in ages. However, we always came together on decisions after in depth discussions about clients' best interests.

Brandon Morita is one of the finest people I know. I would trust his insightful opinions any day, any time with matters of business (which he has taken over) or family.

Mr. Morita is the type of person I believe our community needs to have helping it. I respectfully request that you accept him onto this committee.

Sincerely,

David N. Bellino

TESTIMONY  
OF  
BRANDON MORITA  
TO  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL  
ON  
February 20, 2012

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Rehabilitation Council, BRANDON MORITA.

I want to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. I truly consider this an honor and a privilege to be considered for the State Rehabilitation Council.

I also want to thank you to everyone that submitted letters of support on my behalf and to everyone in attendance lending me their support.

I was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii, where I learned from my parents, as well as, being a member of the Boy Scouts of America, becoming an Eagle Scout and Key Club, the importance of giving back to the community. Going away to college on the mainland and then returning to Hawaii further cemented my desire to get involved and provide a positive impact to our special island home.

I am well qualified for this position, as I have worked with many different kinds of people from all walks of life throughout my

life on the mainland, as well as, back home in Hawaii. I currently am a member and past board member of the Rotary Club of Honolulu, head coach of the Punahou JV girls soccer team, Assistant Soccer coach at Chaminade University, Head Coach of the '94 girls soccer team at the Crush Academy, University of Puget Sound Alumni Hawaii Liaison.

My career in Financial Planning with Northwestern Mutual allows me to provide valuable insight into the business community and in financial matters to help me work with the SRC. My vision and desire is to be able to give a voice to those who may not be able to. You have my commitment that I will always have the public's best interesting in mind and heart.

I would like to thank this Committee for the hard work you do for the State of Hawaii and for giving me the opportunity. Thank you for considering my nomination.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandon Morita