



GOV. MSG. NO. 637

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

February 10, 2012

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

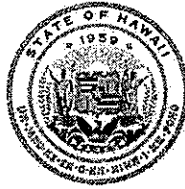
Dear President Tsutsui and Members of the Senate,

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 Council on Developmental Disabilities**:

<u>STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES</u>	<u>TERM TO EXPIRE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Patricia Nishimoto	6/30/2016	Reappointment

Sincerely,

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i



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
February 28, 2012

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 637 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Patricia Nishimoto**

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 637** to confirm the nomination of Patricia Nishimoto for a term to expire June 30, 2016.

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 are required to be on the Council: relevant State entities; State entities 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; local and non-governmental agencies, and private non-profit groups concerned with services for individuals with DD.

Dr. Nishimoto's reappointment to the Council would continue to fulfill the Federal requirement for representatives of local and non-governmental agencies. Dr. Nishimoto is the MSW Program Director, Assistant Professor of Social Work at Hawai'i Pacific University (HPU). She was first appointed to the Council in May 2006 and has remained an active Council member. Presently, she serves as Co-Chair of the Council's Community Supports Committee and previously served as Co-Chair of the Health and Early Childhood Committee. Under her leadership as Co-Chair of the Health and Early Childhood Committee, the Council made great strides in monitoring the implementation of the Quest Expanded Access Program and providing feedback to

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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the Department of Human Services on areas for improvement. The Community Supports Committee is engaged in activities to support individuals with DD to live self-determined lives.

Her previous experience as a Chief Executive Officer for a non-profit organization serving people with DD provided her with a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the need for qualified direct support personnel to provide services and supports for individuals with DD. Currently, as the MSW Program Director at HPU, Dr. Nishimoto would assist the Council to build capacity in the social work profession to work with individuals with DD and families.

We are pleased with Dr. Nishimoto's nomination to serve a second term on the Council and look forward to her continued contributions to the Council's State Plan activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 637** to confirm Patricia Nishimoto to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,


Liz Ann Salvador
Chair


Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 3:54 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for GM637 on 2/28/2012 1:00:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 2/28/2012 1:00:00 PM GM637

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brenda Kosky
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2012

Comments: