

# GM628

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Rehabilitation Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT WALL, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Report Title: State Rehabilitation Council

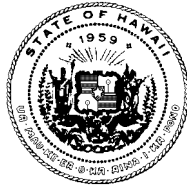
Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: HMS

Introducer(s):



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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

February 19, 2013

**MEMORANDUM:**

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

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **G.M. 628 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Robert Wall to the State  
Rehabilitation Council**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the nomination of Mr. Robert Wall to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

The SRC was established in the 1992 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The SRC acts in partnership with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Robert Wall is seeking reappointment for his second term to the State Rehabilitation Council. Mr. Wall brings years of personal and professional experience to the table in relationship to one of our most underserved populations of people with disabilities, those with mental health disabilities.

Mr. Wall continues to be committed to the work in our community that has changed the employment possibilities and quality of the lives of our disabled of

Hawai`i. Mr. Wall will provide representation to the SRC as a previous recipient of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Oahu County.

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



## **HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER**

1132 Bishop Street, Suite 2102, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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### **THE SENATE THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2013**

#### **Committee on Human Services Testimony in Support of GM628 Nomination of Robert Scott Wall to State Rehabilitation Council Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 1:15 P.M. Conference Room 016**

Chair Chun-Oakland and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Disability Rights Center testifies in **strong support** of this nomination. We have had the opportunity to work with Scott for the past few years. We collaborated a great deal during the 2012 legislative session and we are continuing that during this session. Additionally, Scott serves on our PAIMI Council, which is an advisory group that focuses on issues pertaining to mental health.

We have found that he is a tremendous resource. He combines his real life background with a knowledge of the government process as well as a genuine feel for the experiences that are being felt by individuals with disabilities. We feel confident that he would make an excellent contribution to the State Rehabilitation Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



## **SUPPORT OF ROBERT WALL. GM 628**

Marion Poirier [mpoirier808@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, February 18, 2013 10:44 AM

**To:** HMS Testimony

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Senate Committee on Human Services  
Tuesday, February 19, 2013  
Room 016, State Capitol  
1:15 pm

CHAIR CHUN OAKLAND ANA MEMBERS OF THE SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:

My name is Marion Poirier, M.A., R.N., and I was the Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Hawaii from 1997 to 2009. Robert Wall worked as my assistant for approximately five years, and I highly recommend him to you.

Robert is knowledgeable, committed, and an asset to group dynamics. The State Rehabilitation Council is very appropriate for his skill sets because he understands the bio-psycho-social nature of rehabilitation as well as the associated community resources.

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Robert Wall to this Council.

Thank you very much.

Marion Poirier  
From my iPad

February, 4, 2013

To: The Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Human Services

Re: GM 628

To: The Honorable Senator Chun-Oakland and the members of the committee.

Aloha,

It is will honor that I accept Governor Abercrombie's nomination to a second term on the State Rehabilitation Council. It is with great pride that I have sought to represent the needs of Hawai'i's disabled population in public, in the media, and before the Legislature.

I feel that the State Rehabilitation Council has an enormous responsibility to not only oversee the state's Vocational Rehabilitation services, but also to represent the state's disabled population to the country as a growing, vibrant life force too precious to leave festering in poverty.

I feel that I bring not only my own life experience to the Council table. I have accumulated a wealth of knowledge about current programs and services through the knowledge of the upcoming Affordable Care Act which I gained during service to the State Rehabilitation Council.

This includes work on the Health Homes State Plan Options Collaborative, the Hawai'i Disability Rights PAMI Council (Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Mental Illness,) being on the Board of Directors with Mental Health America – Hawai'i, and helping to found the Community Alliance for Mental Health and being their legislative advocate.

I am hoping that during this term of services with the State Rehabilitation Council I will be able to push along the Department of Human Services Health Homes 1115 (I) waiver. If this goes through it is possible that we could create many jobs for the disabled helping to care for ourselves and lowering health care costs to the state.

I believe that I bring a number of good qualities to the table. I have accumulated a clear understanding of the goals and processes of the Affordable Care Act. I have a good working relationship with the Health and Human Services committees of both the State House of Representatives and the State Senate. Lastly I have a stubborn streak born out of necessity which comes from being disabled and formerly homeless. Once you have lost everything and survived one is not inclined to give up just because the going is difficult. I feel that when I am working for my peers that is a great virtue.

There is nothing that will serve me though that was a greater experience than co-authoring "The Affordable Care Act and its Effect on the Hiring of Persons with Disabilities," for Georgetown University

on behalf of the Rehabilitative Services Administration. The education that came along with this experience has already allowed me to greatly serve the Council and I hope for a wonderful outcome for not only the state's disabled population but for the state as a whole.

To the best of my knowledge there are no conflicts of interest in my service to the State Rehabilitation Council.

Mahalo,

Robert Scott Wall