



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
April 9, 2014

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Seventh Legislature
State of Hawaii
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Green and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 672 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Governatorial Nominee JoAnn Yuen

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 672** to confirm the nomination of JoAnn Yuen for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

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 agencies are required to be on the Council: Department of Health; the agencies 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; agencies and private non-profit organizations concerned with services to individuals with DD. The Governor's nominee meets all the Federal requirements for Council membership.

Dr. Yuen is the Associate Director of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Center on Disability Studies. Her appointment would fulfill the requirement for a representative of the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service. She was first appointed to the Council by Governor Lingle on October 30, 2009, on an interim basis and confirmed by the State Senate in 2010.

The Honorable Josh Green
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Dr. Yuen's involvement as Team Facilitator and Ambassador for the ACT Early Initiative keeps the Council informed of statewide early developmental screening resources and supports in working with individuals with DD and their families. She has assisted the Council in its initiatives to enhance cultural competence and self-determination of persons with DD. She is a member of the Council's Health and Early Childhood Committee that addresses the goals, "People with developmental disabilities will have access to physical and mental health, and medical and dental care, providing opportunities to ensure and maintain their quality of life and ability to provide their own care," and "Children and youth with special health care needs and their families have access to family-centered community-based integrated interventions and supports providing opportunities to ensure quality of life."

Her knowledge of national trends and best practices in disabilities has helped the Council build capacity within the service provider network to improve the service delivery system. Additionally, her research background has provided the Council with data and trends to prepare us to pursue Federal grants and other alternate sources of funding.

We look forward to Dr. Yuen's valuable contributions toward the mission and activities of the Council. Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 672** to confirm JoAnn Yuen to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,


Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.
Executive Administrator


J. Curtis Tyler, III
Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: thirr33@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM672 on Apr 9, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Monday, April 07, 2014 5:49:27 AM
Attachments: [GM672 JOANN YUEN for Developmental Disabilities.gif](#)

GM672

Submitted on: 4/7/2014

Testimony for HTH on Apr 9, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arvid Tadao Youngquist	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Chair, Josh Green, Senate HTH Committee V. Chair, Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker Right Honorable Senate Health Committee Members We thank the Committee for holding this hearing for this very important Council where a voice of compassion, passion, and conviction is critical if we are to address the need of the Developmentally Disabled in a more timely manner. We thank all of these nominees for stepping up to the plate to be counted. Mahalo nui loa, Arvid Tadao Youngquist Spokesman, Founder, & Administrator (est. 1982)

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

April 6, 2014

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members
Senate Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Legislature
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Gree, Vice-Chair Baker, and Committee Members:

**Re: Governor's Appointment of Dr. JoAnn Yuen to
the State Council on Developmental Disabilities
(GM #672)**

It is my pleasure to support the appointment of Dr. Yuen to the Council for a term ending June 30, 2018. The Council is one of the sister agencies of the Center on Disability Studies (CDS), both funded by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The advocacy mission of the Council is closely aligned with the research, teaching, and service mission of the CDS to create opportunities for people with disabilities to live meaningful lives fully included in their communities.

After completing her graduate education and receiving her doctorate from the University of Southern California under a Kamehameha Schools Scholarship, Dr. Yuen joined the faculty of the University's Center on Disability Studies (CDS), where she is now Associate Director. Dr. Yuen has been a campus leader advocating for the full inclusion of diverse students and faculty.

I wholeheartedly support her appointment to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Her appointment will continue the close collaborative relationship between the Council and the CDS.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Stodden, PhD
Professor and Director

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Health Committee
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 7, 2014


Dear Senator Green and Members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jeffrey Okamoto. I am the medical director of the DOH Developmental Disabilities Division and a faculty for the Department of Pediatrics in the John A. Burns School of Medicine. I am a current appointment to the DD Council. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Governor's Message (**GM #672**) to designate JoAnn Yuen to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I have known Dr. Yuen for more than 10 years as I have also previously worked at the Center on Disability Studies. She is expert in disabilities, and is also quite compassionate about and respectful to people that have developmental and other disabilities. She has great knowledge of the activities of the Center on Disability Studies, which, like the DD Council is funded under the federal DD Act. She is the perfect person to sit on the DD Council. She has served wonderfully on the Council previously, and participated actively.

I ask for your Committee's favorable consideration to confirm Dr. Yuen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey Okamoto M.D." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jeffrey Okamoto M.D.

Personal Written Testimony
presented before the
Senate Committee on Health
Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 1:30 pm, Room 229
by
Donald B. Young

RE: GM 672 Nomination of Joann Yuen to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee on Health

My name is Donald Young. I am currently Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Today I am providing personal testimony, not in my official capacity as Dean or representing the University of Hawai'i, in support of the nomination of Dr. Joann Yuen to serve on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I have known Dr. Yuen since she joined the College of Education's Center on Disability Studies (CDS) in 1999. She has had a distinguished career in CDS rising in the academic ranks from media production coordinator, to Assistant Professor, promoted to Associate Professor, and most recently appointed as the Associate Director for CDS. As if this does not sufficiently establish Dr. Yuen's leadership abilities, she also serves as chair of the College of Education Faculty Senate and a member of the College's Native Hawaiian Advisory Council and the COE Advisory Council. She is smart, personable, and a good listener who patiently solicits diverse input before making and implementing decisions. Her work in CDS and the community demonstrate her commitment to serving those with disabilities and closely align with the needs of the State Council to create opportunities for people with disabilities to live meaningful lives fully included in their communities.

I can think of no one more qualified and I urge your committee to confirm Dr. Joann Yuen as a member of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII*
MĀNOA

April 6, 2014

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members
Senate Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Legislature
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Green, Vice-Chair Baker, and Committee Members:

Re: Governor's Appointment of Dr. JoAnn Yuen to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities
(GM #672)

I am honored to support the appointment of Dr. Yuen to the Council. I have known her since 1987, when she was a charter member of the staff of the Zero to Three Early Intervention Program for the State of Hawai'i. I was Director of the Program, which provided services to special-needs children from birth to age three. Dr. Yuen was an able and tireless worker in those early years of the Program; her many contributions are immeasurable.

After completing her graduate education and receiving her doctorate from the University of Southern California under a Kamehameha Schools Scholarship, Dr. Yuen joined the faculty of the University's Center on Disability Studies (CDS), where she is now Associate Director. At the CDS, Dr. Yuen has continued to make vital contributions in the areas of research, education, and service to improve the quality of lives of people with disabilities. She is a valuable, creative, and reliable member of our faculty.

I wholeheartedly support her appointment to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I am certain she will be an effective, hard-working, contributing member of the Council throughout the term of her appointment ending on June 30, 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jean L. Johnson".

Jean L. Johnson, DrPH
Associate Professor