

GM686

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council On Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, SOL RAY DUNCAN, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: State Council On Developmental Disabilities

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



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
March 24, 2016

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker, Senator Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 686 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Sol Ray Duncan

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 686** to confirm the nomination of Sol Ray Duncan for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the stakeholders are represented and engaged in the development and implementation of a comprehensive system of services and supports for individuals with DD.

The law specifically requires that not less than 60 percent of the membership of the Council be comprised of individuals with DD, parents, immediate relatives or guardians. Additionally, each Council shall include representatives of relevant State entities, including State entities that administer funds provided under Federal laws related to individuals with disabilities, including the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.); Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.); Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.); and Titles V and XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701 et seq. and 1396 et seq.); Centers for Excellence in DD Education, Research, and Service; State Protection and Advocacy system; and representatives, at all times, of local and non-governmental agencies, and private nonprofit groups concerned with services for individuals with DD in the State.

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani
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The Governor's nominee meets all the Federal requirements for Council membership. Mr. Duncan's appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for representatives of individuals with DD. He is a young man who lives independently in an apartment in Pearl City operated by the Arc in Hawaii. Since July 2010, he has been involved with the Council by attending Council meetings, Council's Employment and Education Committee meetings, and Day at the Capitol events.

Mr. Duncan's commitment and dedication to serve on the Council is evident by his consistent attendance and participation. As such, Mr. Duncan was first appointed to the Council in July 2012. He is currently serving as the Council's Secretary. Besides serving on the Council, he is a member of the Pearl City Neighborhood Board, the current President of Arc Advocates, and an active member of the Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC).

He has conveyed his desire to be a voice for other individuals who cannot speak for themselves. He was actively involved with SAAC in advocating before the Legislature to pass legislation to remove the "R" (retarded) word from State Statutes and participated in the Governor's signing of the bill as Act 220/11.

Mr. Duncan's experience in living independently and his active involvement in the community would assist the Council in achieving its State Plan Goal in Community Supports that states, "People with developmental disabilities will receive the necessary supports to live self-determined lives and have equal access under the law." He is an example of someone who is self-determined and living life to the fullest.

We look forward to Mr. Duncan's reappointment to serve on the Council for another term of four years, and his continued participation on SAAC.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 686** to confirm Sol Ray Duncan to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



Josephine C. Woll
Chair

HAWAII SELF-ADVOCACY ADVISORY COUNCIL

One Vision - One Voice

Supporting Advocacy, Independence and Choice

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March 17, 2016

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection
and Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 686 - Gubernatorial Nominee, SOL RAY DUNCAN

The Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 686**, the confirmation of Sol Ray Duncan to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Sol Ray is a strong advocate. He is a great example to others. He participates in his community. He is a team member for Special Olympics. He teaches others to speak up for themselves. He is an employee of Easter Seals. He is an officer for SAAC as our Time Keeper. He cares about others. He encourages people with disabilities to reach their dreams that they can do anything.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of GM 686**.

Sincerely,



Bathey Fong
President

Response from Sol Ray Duncan
GM 686-State Council on Developmental Disabilities

- (1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

I think I can help people advocate for themselves. I've been going to the DD Council meetings since July 2010 and was first appointed to the DD Council on July 1, 2012. I feel I have a good idea about the Council's activities and the process of which the Council makes decisions.

- (2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

As a member of the DD Council, I see my role and responsibilities to be an advocate for persons with developmental disabilities. I am the Secretary for the DD Council and I review the Council's meeting minutes. I am also the President of the Arc Advocates and I would bring up concerns such as transportation and being able to live independently from other self-advocates to the DD Council.

- (3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

I can advocate for people with DD who cannot advocate for themselves.

- (4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I feel that being a self-advocate and living independently, makes me qualified. I am currently working at Easter Seals-Napuakea in Makakilo.

- (5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I hope to help the Council address and solve transportation issues such as Handivan on time pick up and employment issues such as people with developmental disabilities being able to keep their SSI benefits and still be able to work.

Sol Ray Duncan
GM 686-State Council on Developmental Disabilities

- (6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

1. I am intelligent.
2. I am a Special Olympics athlete in track, softball, soccer and basketball.
3. I am an outgoing person. I feel my intelligence about developmental disabilities issues that come before the DD Council would help the Council in making their decisions.

- (7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

Since 2003, I have been on the Pearl City Neighborhood Board. This is an elected Board and I have been re-elected every two years. The Neighborhood Board is advisory to the City and County of Honolulu Neighborhood Commission Office and advises on issues related to the Pearl City neighborhood that includes people with disabilities.

- (8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

No, I don't foresee any conflict of interest. However, if the Council discusses and votes on matters relating to the Arc in Hawaii, I would let the Council know that because I receive residential services from the Arc, I would ask to be excused and not vote on that matter.