

GM774

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Disability And Communication Access Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MONTY ANDERSON-NITAHARA, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Disability And Communication Access Board

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPH

Introducer(s):



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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April 13, 2016

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Governor's Message 774

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Disability and Communication Access
Board

Gubernatorial Nominee Monty Anderson-Nitahara,
For a term to expire June 30, 2020

The Disability and Communication Access Board is in support of the nomination of Mr. Monty Anderson-Nitahara to our Board. The Board is a seventeen-member board, of which a majority are people with disabilities, their families, or caregivers.

Although Mr. Anderson-Nitahara has not been directly involved with the Board, he is known as a person who cares deeply about disability rights by the person he is replacing on our Board.

Mr. Anderson-Nitahara is an attorney and he will be representing the population of individuals who are blind or have visual impairments on our Board, as we have a legal requirement for fifty one percent consumers.

We welcome his participation and input, and recommend your confirmation of his nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director

Monty Anderson-Nitahara

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

As a blind person, I have personal experience with issues facing disabled persons in our state. I feel that my experience and perspective will be a valuable asset to the Board.

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

It's my understanding that the Board helps to set policy for state agencies, and the Board members propose, discuss, and advocate for these changes.

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

Due to my familiarity with the experiences and vulnerabilities of disabled individuals, I can advocate for positive changes that will lower hurdles and improve access for disabled individuals.

(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.

Aside from my personal experience as a disabled individual, I am familiar with the law, having received a law degree from William S.

Richardson, and I was employed in a legal office where the primary work involved Federal labor law, which included the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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

I hope to facilitate a degree of change, to aid someone in gaining a clearer understanding of these issues, and/or to help craft policy that is sound, fair, and valuable.

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

A) Patient: I am calm by nature and work to facilitate positive and clear communication.

B) Informed: I have a base of knowledge and experience that can help facilitate ideas and decision-making.

C) Respectful: I value different ideas and treat all individuals with dignity.

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

I work well independently, but I am also an effective team-player.

I've participated on Boards in the past (The National Federation of the Blind), and I've participated in countless group efforts throughout my education.

(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?

I cannot foresee any conflict of interest. If one does arise, I will discuss it immediately with the Board Chairperson.