

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2017

RE: GOV. MSG. NOS. 514,  
515

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 514 and 515, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

G.M. No. 514      NIKKI KEPOO,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2017; and

G.M. No. 515      NIKKI KEPOO,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2021,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee has reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by the nominee and finds Nikki Kepoo to possess the requisite qualifications to be nominated for the appointment and reappointment to the Disability and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment and reappointment of Nikki Kepoo from the Disability and Communication Access Board; Great Destinations, Inc.; HRE Technologies LLC; and three individuals.


Ms. Kepoo is currently the office manager at HRG Technologies LLC/Hokukahu LLC and has over twenty years of administrative management experience. Your Committee received testimony indicating that Ms. Kepoo demonstrates natural leadership qualities, excellent communication skills, and a positive outlook



on life. As the mother of a deaf son, Ms. Kepoo is well-aware of the issues affecting the deaf community, such as access to government facilities and services within the community. Ms. Kepoo is a committed activist for deaf children, advocating for the Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids initiative and serving as a member of the Department of Health's Early Language Working Group, the School Community Counsel at the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Hawaii Newborn Hearing Screening Board. Ms. Kepoo is also a strong advocate for Hawaiian language schools. In her personal statement, Ms. Kepoo indicated that she hopes to provide practical insight into life challenges that arise for families with a deaf child as well as support state agencies in adapting to provide access to all individuals. Your Committee finds that Ms. Kepoo's experiences advocating for issues that affect access by the deaf community, as well as her demonstrated commitment to public service, will be great assets to the Board.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer  
Protection, and Health,



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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**  
**CPH**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 514</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH</b>	Date: <b>3/10/17</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
CHANG, Stanley				/
ESPERO, Will	/			
IHARA, Jr., Les				/
KIDANI, Michelle N.	/			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Clarence K. Nishihara</div>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original      Yellow      Pink      Goldenrod File with Committee Report      Clerk's Office      Drafting Agency      Committee File Copy				

\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes

The Senate  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**  
**CPH**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 515</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH</b>	Date: <b>3/10/17</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345</span>				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
CHANG, Stanley				/
ESPERO, Will	/			
IHARA, Jr., Les				/
KIDANI, Michelle N.	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Clarence K. Nishihara</i>				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
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