From:

To: <u>HMS Testimony</u>
Subject: GM549 Mark Travalino

Date: Monday, March 27, 2017 9:36:58 AM

March 27, 2017

Senator Josh Green, Chair Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair Members of the HMS Committee

Re: GM549 Mark Travalino

I fully support the gubernatorial nomination of Mr. Mark Travalino of the Hawaii Laborers Union to the State Rehabilitation Council.

I have known and worked with Mr. Travalino for several years at the Hawaii Laborers Union. He is very familiar with the need to rehabilitate workers from industrial in jury. He is familiar with on site injuries in the construction industry and would be an asset to the State Rehabilitation Council.

As a former board of director of a rehab facility many years ago and as a former deputy director of the Department of Labor, I know that persons who understand the work environment and the workers compensation system especially in construction, understand what is needed to rehabilitate workers.

Mr. Travalino understands the environment of construction worker injuries and their causes. He would serve with distinction on the Council.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony.

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March 31, 2017 THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2017 COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Josh Green, Chair Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT FROM RENE BERTHIAUME OF NOMINEES FOR THE STATE REHABILITIATION COUNCIL

I Rene Berthiaume, as a current member of the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) and Chair of its Legislative Committee, as well as past SRC Chair, I highly recommend the confirmation of George Massengale, Lanelle Yamane and Mark Travalino. In the interest of time for the Human Services Committee I am recommending all three in my testimony.

The State Rehabilitation Council is a federally mandated council, which means in order to receive federal funds for public vocational rehabilitation in Hawaii, which is approximately 80% of VR's budget, it is very important that the state maintains full membership of this Council under 504 of the Federal Rehab Act. Failure to do so can result in the reduction of federal monies. It has become more difficult these days to find dedicated individuals in our community willing to give their time as volunteers and serve on this Council in order to provide free public Vocational Rehabilitation for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

I have served on the Council with all three of these individuals and have the highest regard for their background, commitment and willingness to serve. Again, I strongly recommend all George, Lanelle and Mark for a seat on the SRC.

Thank you for your consideration and feel free to contact me any time with any questions.

Rene Berthiaume 808-221-4137