

# GM 591

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council On Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, BATHEY FONG, 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, 2017

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

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

**SUBJECT:** GM 591 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Bathey Fong

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 591** to confirm the nomination of Bathey Fong for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402 - DD Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000) 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 Governor's nominee meets all the Federal requirements for Council membership. Ms. Fong's appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for representatives of individuals with DD. She is a young woman who

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker  
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara  
Page 2  
March 24, 2017

currently resides in a home operated by the Arc in Hawaii. She is learning to live independently and hopes to have a place of her own in the near future.

Ms. Fong is actively involved in advocating on behalf of individuals with DD to be able to receive the services and supports they need to live as independently as possible, and to teach others how to speak up and have a voice. As past president for the Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC), she provided leadership for SAAC in organizing and running meetings. Moreover, under her leadership, SAAC is recognized as an equal partner with other state and private agencies to be at the table to develop policy that directly impacts individuals with DD.

She participates on the Department of Human Services My Choice My Way Advisory Work Group that is responsible to develop and implement Hawaii's Transition Plan regarding the Centers on Medicare and Medicaid Services Final Rule on community-based settings. Her suggestions for the Participant and Provider surveys contributed to a functional user-friendly tool that drew national attention with other states to adopt a similar format. Ms. Fong is a recognized trainer in the community for emergency preparedness and disaster training for people with disabilities.

We look forward to Ms. Fong's appointment to serve on the Council, and her contributions to the Council's mission which is to support individuals with intellectual and DD to control their own destiny and determine the quality of life they desire. She is a prime example of someone who is in control of her life and determined to reach her goals and realize her dreams.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for **GM 591** to confirm Bathey Fong to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW  
Executive Administrator



Josephine C. Woll  
Chair



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Marian E. Tsuji

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State of Hawaii  
Hawaii Senate

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

March 24, 2017; 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229

**GM 591 Bathey Fong**, for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, for a term to expire 06-30-2020

Good morning, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

Bathey Fong has been a program participant of Lanakila Pacific for the last seven years. Over the years I have witnessed the manner in which Bathey has faced many obstacles. One thing has been consistent: she doesn't give up.

It has been my honor to see Bathey grow in her independence and self-confidence. She has taken on increasingly more responsible positions with various training and advocacy groups; she has learned to travel independently using The Bus, rather than Handivan; and most importantly, she has become an advocate for others who have challenges to overcome.

Bathey has a wealth of knowledge and personal experience that she will be able to contribute to the Council. I strongly support the appointment of Bathey Fong to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marian E. Tsuji

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM591 on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM\*

**GM591**

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

Testimony for CPH on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Celeste Kagimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**GM591**

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mitchell Rucker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**GM591**

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

Testimony for CPH on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Claire Ah Loo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Herman Kiili  
245 Valley Avenue  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

March 23, 2017

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee:

My name is Herman Kiili. I am writing to you to express strong support for Governor's Message No. 591 Gubernatorial Nominee, Bathey Fong to serve on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Bathey for 15 years. She is a good leader, a good friend and she has been there for me and other people. She helped me with my meeting to talk about things important in my life. She helps other people and helps them to be more responsible for their actions. She will be a good Council member.

Please consider Bathey Fong to be confirmed to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,

Herman Kiili  
Self-Advocate



Timothy Renken  
623 McNeill Street, #114  
Honolulu, HI 96817

March 22, 2017

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee:

My name is Timothy Renken. I am the Vice President of the Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC). I am writing to you to express strong support for Governor's Message No. 591 Gubernatorial Nominee, Bathey Fong to serve on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Bathey 15 years. We met at Goodwill. She is independent, makes her own choices and is a good role model. We have worked together teaching people about emergency preparedness.

As the representative of 189 SAAC members throughout the state, we feel Bathey has the experience and leadership to be our voice. She was the SAAC President and is now the Community Outreach Chair. She works hard and helps people to have a good life.

Please consider Bathey Fong to be confirmed to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,

Timothy Renken  
Vice President  
Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 8:32 AM  
**To:** CPH Testimony  
**Cc:** adamcfeely@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM591 on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM\*

**GM591**

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

Testimony for CPH on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ada mcfely	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 8:25 AM  
**To:** CPH Testimony  
**Cc:** alicekamaka@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM591 on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM

**GM591**

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

Testimony for CPH on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alice Kamaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have known Bathey for over 10 years. There was a time when Bathey needed a lot of help and coaching to make good decisions. These past two years she has been someone I look up to. She makes good decisions, she wants the best for people who have disabilities. Although life is not always fair, she advocates we are treated as equals. She will make a good member of the DD Council. Aloha for your time.

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**GM591**

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

Testimony for CPH on Mar 24, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
joshua boutney	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: i am in strong support of bathey to be on the dd council. she stays focus she listen well thank you

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## State of Hawaii Hawaii Senate

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

March 24, 2017; 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229

**GM 591**, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, Bathey Fong, for a term to expire 06-30-2020

Good morning, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

I strongly support Bathey Fong, **GM591** as a Gubernatorial Nominee for the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Bathey is a strong advocate for people with disabilities. She has a keen awareness of the interests, needs, and responsibilities of people with Intellectual Disabilities and has proven to be a strong voice for herself and others.

She will be an asset to continue to improve the lives of people with Intellectual Disabilities and create opportunities to live lives of their own design.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Bathey Fong.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Lutu  
Director of TLC



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Good morning, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

We support Bathey Fong, **GM591** as a Gubernatorial Nominee for the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Please see the three video testimonies we submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara, Celeste and Gilda

**GM591**

**Bathey Fong: State Council on Development Disabilities**

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

The reason why I want to serve on the DD Council is because I have a disability and I want to give good ideas to help people with disabilities to have a better life. I have a voice to speak up for myself and want to teach others on how to speak up for themselves. I also speak up for others who cannot speak up for themselves.

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

I understand that my role on the DD Council is to be a role model for others and be a self-advocate. I see my responsibility as a DD Council member to help others get involved with different things of the DD Council like serving on the Council's Community Supports Committee. I also would be responsible to represent people with developmental disabilities in telling about their needs and what supports they need to have better lives.

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

I feel I can advocate for people with developmental disabilities to get services so they can have a better life.

**(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 I am qualified to serve on the DD Council because I have a disability, I was the president of the Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council for the past two years and I have my own business as a trainer for Feeling Safe Being Safe Emergency Preparedness Training. I used to be very shy and let others speak up for me. Now I have confidence in myself in speaking up for other people.

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

My dream is to help people with disabilities to have a voice of their own, to stand up for themselves, and have their own dreams.

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

I'm a hard working person. I always try my best even when it's hard and I never give up. I have a good smile and a good attitude. I can get along with people, and have a good personality.

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

As the past president of the Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council, I represented individuals with developmental disabilities, and let others know how to support people with developmental disabilities. I am serving on the MY Choice My Way Advisory Group to give ideas on how people with developmental disabilities have choices in their lives.

I am on the Individual Service Plan Booklet Committee to provide ideas on how to make the booklet easy to understand for people with developmental 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?**

I don't think there would be any conflict of interest for me, but if there was, I would let the DD Council know what the conflict is, and would not vote on that issue or whatever the Council is voting on.