



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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**LATE**

March 24, 2017

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

Governor's Message 591  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental  
Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Bathey Fong,  
For a term to expire June 30, 2020

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports of the nomination of Ms. Bathey Fong to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. The Council is responsible for advocacy, capacity-building, and systemic change activities that are consistent with the policy in the federal law, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Ms. Fong is the immediate past president of the State Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC), and has been a peer trainer in the Feeling Safe, Being Safe emergency preparedness program for many years. She has participated as a contractor with the Disability and Communication Access Board to staff an information booth at various City and County of Honolulu's emergency preparedness fairs. She also participated as an actor at the April 2016 Department of Health's Strategic National Stockpile full scale exercise at the Neal Blaisdell Center and was a featured speaker on an emergency preparedness webinar hosted by the Pacific ADA Center.

In our work with community education about emergency preparedness and personal responsibility to be informed and emergency-ready, Ms. Fong has been an excellent role model as a Feeling Safe, Being Safe peer trainer, facilitator, volunteer, and leader. We have enjoyed partnering with her as she works to improve the community for everyone.

Her accomplishments and positive attitude make her an asset, and we believe her appointment to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities is an excellent choice.

We welcome the opportunity to support her for confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Respectfully submitted,

*Francine Wai*

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director

*Debra L. Jackson*

DEBBRA L. JACKSON  
Planner/ADA Coordinator