



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
1010 Richards Street, Suite 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

March 29, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and, Health
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 609 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Heidi Hargett

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 609** to confirm the nomination of Heidi Hargett for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402) 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

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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. Hargett's appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for representatives of individuals with DD.

Ms. Hargett is a strong advocate for the competitive employment of individuals with developmental disabilities. She is a leader among her peers, heading a campaign to change a bus route to accommodate more peers and so she can get to work on time. She participates in Special Olympics and is a member of the Hawai'i Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC).

We look forward to Ms. Hargett's contributions to the Council. Thank you for the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 609** to confirm Heidi Hargett to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

April 19, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Hawaii State Capital
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jeri Raymond, the Service Supervisor for the Arc of Kona ADH on the Big Island. I personally have known Heidi Hargett and her Ohana for 5 years. The Arc of Kona strongly supports Heidi to be confirmed as a member of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Heidi graduated from Kealakehe High School in 2008. After graduation, Heidi desired to work, and the Arc of Kona and she collaborated together and in 2009 became employed with Safeway in Kona. She has been working with Safeway for over 8 years, and is admired by her managers and peers for her commitment.

Because of her work ethic she is a strong advocate for the competitive employment of individuals with developmental disabilities. She is a leader among her peers, heading a campaign to change a bus route to accommodate more peers and so they can get to work on time.

She participates in Special Olympics and is the Chair for the Big Island West Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC).

She has stated that she would be honored to be considered as a possible candidate for the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council. In addition she has expressed that is her hope to help people in the community and that her being part of the Council will give her the opportunity.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 609** to confirm Heidi Hargett to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,

Jeri Raymond, MA
Arc of Kona
ADH Service Supervisor
P.O. Box 127
Captain Cook, Hi 96704
808-640-4838