



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 667 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Ricky Shimokawa

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 667** to confirm the nomination of Ricky Shimokawa for a second term to expire June 30, 2022.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the players involved in the development, implementation, and use of DD supports are represented. 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.

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Mr. Shimokawa's appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for a representative of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. He is currently an Educational Specialist in the Department of Education (DOE) with the responsibility to conduct investigations regarding parent complaints about their child receiving appropriate services. His current position and previous varied experiences as a Vice Principal, Civil Rights Compliance Specialist, Special Education Teacher, Athletic Director, Head Football Coach, and substitute teacher would provide the Council with insight on how best to proceed to achieve quality education outcomes and school transitions that are meaningful and individualized consistent with the principles of self-determination.

The Council looks forward to Mr. Shimokawa's contributions to increase coordination and collaboration between the Council and DOE. His participation on the Council's Education Committee would assist the Council to address its State Plan Transition and Education Goal and carry out activities relating to increased access to information on supports needed to prepare students for the transition from high school to adult life.

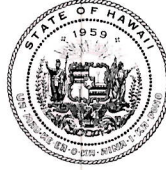
We appreciate the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 667** to confirm the appointment of Ricky Shimokawa to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT


STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE OFFICE

April 3, 2018

TO: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator, District 6

FROM: Christina Tydeman 
Director, Monitoring and Compliance Office

SUBJECT: **Letter of Recommendation, Ricky Shimokawa**

I am writing this letter in support of Ricky Shimokawa's application to serve on the Developmental Disabilities Council.

Mr. Shimokawa serves as an Educational Specialist in the Monitoring and Compliance Office of the Hawaii Department of Education, and he has expressed his desire to continue to represent the Department on the Developmental Disabilities Council.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 586-3428 or christina_tydeman@notes.k12.hi.us.

From: Beth_Schimmelfennig/CRC/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Nomination for Developmental Disabilities Council- Mr. Ricky Shimokawa
Date: Friday, April 6, 2018 3:27:24 PM

Aloha, my name is Beth Schimmelfennig and I am a Civil Rights Compliance Specialist for the Hawaii Department of Education and an Adjunct Instructor for Hawaii Pacific University. I am writing in support of Mr. Ricky Shimokawa's nomination for the Developmental Disabilities Council.

Mr. Shimokawa has served the Hawaii Department of Education for over twenty-two years in the capacity of special education teacher, athletic director, educational specialist, and leader in Hawaii's public schools. On several occasions, Mr. Shimokawa has also proven to be a knowledgeable and captivating speaker for classes at Hawaii Pacific University. I believe that Mr. Shimokawa would provide the requisite experience and enthusiasm for your consideration as a candidate for the Developmental Disabilities Council. Thank you.

Beth Schimmelfennig
Hawaii State Department of Education
Civil Rights Compliance Office
Main: 808-586-3322
Direct: 808-586-3328
Fax: 808-586-3331

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April 4, 2018

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Letter of Recommendation on Behalf of Mr. Ricky Shimokawa for his
Nomination to the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities

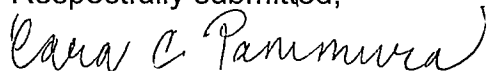
I am honored to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Mr. Ricky Shimokawa in support of his nomination to the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Mr. Shimokawa has been a teacher, vice principal, athletic director, and state office educational specialist with the Hawaii Department of Education. Throughout his career and in his different roles, he has always advocated for students and placed their best interest at the heart of all decision making. As an educator, he understands the importance of supporting students and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as their families, to ensure that they are not only treated equally, but that they have choices in the way they live, play, and work.

In his current position as an Education Specialist with the Monitoring and Compliance Office, he is deeply committed to working for equal access under the law, social justice and providing information and education to the internal staff and the public about developmental disabilities. Mr. Shimokawa's empathy and patience helps others to understand this unique and vulnerable population and their right to live independently and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities through full integration and inclusion.

Mr. Shimokawa would be a valuable member of the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities and I support his nomination without reservation.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara C. Tanimura
Administrator
Hawaii State Department of Education
Monitoring and Compliance Office