



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
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May 12, 2020

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,  
and Health  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 597- State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Timothy Renken

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 597** to confirm the nomination of Timothy Renken for a term to expire June 30, 2023.

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. Renken is a self-advocate and meets the Federal requirement of individuals with DD as members of the Council. Currently, he is a very active member of the Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC), comprised of individuals with disabilities who lead by example and teach advocacy so people can have a life they want.

He was the Meeting Officer for SAAC for two years and was responsible for meeting preparations, friendly reminders, IT set up and breakdown, and participation in Officer Meetings. He is currently the SAAC President with responsibility for all community outreach events and activities that include arranging community speakers; participating in fundraisers, fairs and conferences; and managing SAAC's social media. Mr. Renken has been a conference guest speaker and participated in task force and strategic planning meetings.

Mr. Renken currently works at the Center on Disability Studies as a Feeling Safe, Being Safe trainer teaching emergency preparedness. He is an athlete for Special Olympics and is President of the Special Olympics Toastmasters group in Honolulu.

The Council is pleased with Mr. Renken's nomination to serve on the Council. Thank you for the opportunity to convey our **strong support for GM 597 to confirm the appointment of Timothy Renken to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.**

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

P.O. Box 4777  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

May 12, 2020

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Governor's Message 597 Nomination of Timonty Renken to the State Council on  
Developmental Disabilities

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Senate Committee on CPH,

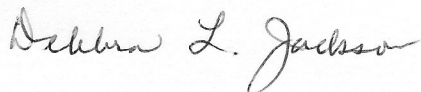
This testimony supports the nomination of Timothy Renken to the State Council on  
Developmental Disabilities.

I am testifying as a private citizen who has known and worked with Mr. Renken for the past decade prior to my retirement from the State Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) in November 2019. He worked with me as a peer trainer for the Feeling Safe, Being Safe (FSBS) program that is sponsored by the Self Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC) and administered by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. He staffs a table with a partner to explain the FSBS program in collaboration with DCAB at Oahu Emergency Preparedness Fairs. He and his partner have done this for the past 7 years. He is an excellent spokesperson for the program who takes a lead role in educating the community about FSBS, and how everyone in the community can be taught to be ready for an emergency. He is a role model who demonstrates that people with developmental disabilities can and do contribute to the community.

While conducting community education with FSBS, he also served as the past president of SAAC, and is an active member of Toastmasters where he learned to speak to do public speaking. He is a very reliable advocate for the rights of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of his nomination.

Respectfully submitted,



DEBBRA L. JACKSON

GM597  
Timothy Renken

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*Snapshot of the item below:*

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

***So, I want to be a member of the board because I want to be the voice for the people who has no voice, independence & choices of their own.***

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

***The roles and responsibilities of the member of the board is to become aware and understand on what the needs are and being a role model for the communities.***

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

***I feel I can protect the consumer by not letting the consumer getting ripped-off or by getting bullied from other people. I will also protect the consumer by avoiding the "R" word or the "MR" word.***

(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.

***Well, for one thing, I have the skills in being a role model and the***

*expertise of helping others both indoors and in the Community, because my knowledge as SAAC President lets me expand my horizons by giving everyone a chance to voice their concerns or comment on what we feel what is right or wrong. We are all human and me make mistakes everyday. So we make our mistakes, but we also learn by our mistakes. Everyone have ideas on how to correct their mistakes. I always make mistakes and I always look back at the mistakes I made and I sometimes I repeat the same ones twice.*

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

*Well, doing my term of Service, I hope to accomplish by helping self advocates accomplish their goals.*

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

1. *Role Model (b) A Leader (c) A Self Advocate*

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

1. *Global Messengers Toastmaster Club President (Club #912479)*

(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?