



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
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May 20, 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 598 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Maile Mathews-Perez

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 598** to confirm the nomination of Maile Mathews-Perez for a 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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Ms. Mathews-Perez is a parent of a son with a autism. She fulfills the Federal requirement of parents serving on the Council. Her professional background as RBT (Registered Behavioral Technician). She works closely with implementing programs within the DOE and DOH guidelines.

The Council is pleased with Ms. Mathers-Perez nomination to be reappointed to serve on the Council for another term and looks forward to her continued contributions to assure that family-centered, community-based, culturally appropriate services and supports will be available to all children with special needs.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 598 to confirm Maile Mathers-Perez to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.**

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator