



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
1010 Richards Street, Room 217
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 12, 2020

TO: The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Maureen Bates, Administrator
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

SUBJECT: **GM 720 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Rehabilitation Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Joshua Graham, for a term to expire 06-30-2022**

Hearing: Thursday, May 14, 2020, 3:00 pm
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services, on behalf of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), supports the confirmation of Mr. Joshua Graham to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). The SRC was established in the 1992 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The SRC acts in partnership with the DVR on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Graham is seeking appointment to the SRC as the representative for a qualified Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor from a private agency with knowledge of and experience with Vocational Rehabilitation Programs per section 348-8(a)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes, as required by Title 29 U.S. Code §796d.

Mr. Graham has a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling and is a certified rehabilitation counselor. Mr. Graham is employed as the CEO at Graham & Associates, LLC, with the mission to help individuals with disabilities obtain and maintain employment. Mr. Graham is very involved in the deaf community and is fluent in American Sign Language. He is eager to actively participate and offer input about the scope and effectiveness of services provided to individuals with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support.