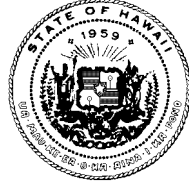


LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 17, 2021

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director
Maureen Bates, Administrator, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

SUBJECT: **GM 557** – Relating to consideration and confirmation to the State Rehabilitation Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Catherine A. Taylor, Ph.D., for a term to expire 06-30-2022

Hearing: Thursday, February 18, 2021, 3:00 pm
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Department of Human Services, supports the nomination and confirmation of Ms. Catherine Taylor, Ph.D., to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

PURPOSE: The purpose of this measure is to nominate and confirm Dr. Taylor as a member of the SRC, established by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The SRC acts in partnership with DVR on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Dr. Taylor is seeking appointment to the SRC as a representative for the disability advocacy groups representing a cross section of individuals with physical, cognitive, sensory, and mental disabilities, and parents, family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives of individuals with disabilities who have difficulty in representing themselves or are unable to represent themselves due to their disabilities as described by section 348-8(a)(6), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

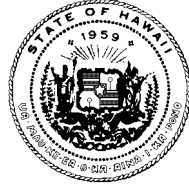
Dr. Taylor resides in Maui County satisfying the requirement of section 348-8(a), HRS, that the "council shall include at least one member from each county."

Dr. Taylor is a teacher employed by the Department of Education (DOE) for 16 years, with credentials that include a Doctorate in Education, specializing in Exceptionalities, and a Master of Science degree in Rehabilitation Counseling. Dr. Taylor has extensive knowledge and understanding of working with individuals with disabilities and supporting their educational needs as they transition to employment and post-secondary education. She has worked closely with DVR counselors in facilitating the transition of individuals with disabilities into the workforce and into vocational and college programs as a Rehabilitation Counselor and as a Disabilities Counselor at the University of Hawaii, Maui College. Ms. Taylor's confirmation will be an asset to the SRC.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this nomination.

GM-557

Submitted on: 2/18/2021 3:00:12 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/18/2021 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Catherine Acosta Taylor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To Honorable Senator Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair, and Honorable Senator Les Ihara Jr.,

I am having difficulty with my internet and I am unable to join for remote testimony.

I am submitting my written testimony to inform you of my interest in serving in the State Rehabilitation Council.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Catherine Taylor