



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
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March 31, 2021

The Honorable Jarret Keohokalole, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT:** GM 586 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Darwin Nagamine

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 586** to confirm the nomination of Darwin Nagamine for a term to expire June 30, 2024.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402 - DD Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the stakeholders are represented and engaged in the development and implementation of a comprehensive system of services and supports for individuals with DD.

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. Mr. Nagamine's appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for representatives of individuals with DD.

Mr. Nagamine's re-appointment for his second term to the Council would assist us in finishing our 2017- 2021 State Plan goal addressing self-advocacy and self-determination that states, "Self-advocates have the supports needed to build a statewide self-advocacy network that helps individuals have the life they want through leadership, education, and full participation in the community." His perspective is also irreplaceable in regard to developing and implanting our new five-year state plan in the coming year. We look forward to Mr. Nagamine's second term to the Council and the numerous contributions he will make representing individuals with DD.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 586** to confirm Darwin Nagamine to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

March 24, 2021

Senator Rosalind H. Baker.  
Senate Committee on Health  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker:

It is my pleasure to submit this letter of recommendation for Mr. Darwin Nagamine, nominee for the Developmental Disabilities Council. I have known Mr. Nagamine for 8 years and can vouch for his integrity, general all-around positive attitude, and proven commitment to improving his community by improving the environment of care for his friends and neighbors with disabilities.

Mr. Nagamine understands the abilities/disabilities of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities because he is a self-advocate. He is an active member of the East Hawaii community and attends Self Advocacy and Advisory Council activities and is a member of the East Hawaii Developmental Disabilities Committee and has chaired many meetings. He actively participates in the East Hawaii Disability Legislative Forum and has been the emcee and panel moderator that provides an opportunity for East Hawaii legislators to answer community questions.

Darwin served as co-chair of the Developmental Disabilities Council Transition and Employee committee. He is a leader and is a proven asset to the Developmental Disabilities Council.

I recommend Mr. Nagamine for membership on the Developmental Disabilities. If you would like to discuss this further, I can be reached at (808) 936-4061.

Malama pono oe,

Jesse Floyd