

Dr. Heather Chapman  
Educational Specialist – Transition/ Residential/Incarcerated  
Exceptional Support Branch, Department of Education  
State Rehabilitation Council Essay  
3 /24/ 2022

A written statement that addresses the following questions:

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the State Rehabilitation Council?

I wish to be a member of the State Rehabilitation Council because I want to change the entire system for the better, in regards to how our community services our individuals with disabilities. I want to contribute to the success of our society by assisting in making decisions that will affect the future's of the individuals and families that we service. I also wish to build wider relationships among the State's service councils, and assist in promoting independence and pride for all of our community members with disabilities.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Rehabilitation Council?

I perceive the roles and responsibilities of being a member, as a responsible and educated member to deliver my knowledge and experience to the collective community that needs vocational rehabilitation services. I believe that the roles and responsibilities of the SRC members are to act as leaders and the most educated in the field of vocational independence and rehabilitation, as well as to build relationships with our stakeholders and the families of the children and adults we serve.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Rehabilitation Council, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision making ability as a member of the State Rehabilitation Council.

I have listed my professional summary:

I seek to bring innovation and creativity to training Hawaii DOE consultant's, and special education teachers, and special education professionals in the realm of Transition and everything related to the future outcomes of our students. I have sound knowledge of education and mental health systems, learning styles, special education, behavior interventions, and student/client intervention development. I am dedicated to supervising and teaching future Special Education teachers, BCBA's and persons in the mental health and educational fields. As an optimistic University instructor, I prided myself in defining, teaching, and implementing policies that pertain to my expertise. I am specialized at teaching courses in Behavior Principles, Organizational Psychology, and Special Education Transition. My certifications include : Board Certified Behavior Analyst/Licensed Behavior Analyst Certification #1-18-30884- LBA #279; Hawaii State Board Teaching Standards, K-12 Counselor: Licensed ; Licensed Mental Health Counselor- LICN-000840097 ; Doctor of Psychology , PsyD

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

I hope to accomplish a better understanding of what leadership councils accomplish for our community. I also hope to see and create big changes to the system at large that benefit our students and individuals who need vocational rehabilitation services. Lastly, I hope to accomplish a cohesive unit between all the State divisions that work so hard for our families in need, and continue to provide education and services for the community.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Rehabilitation Council?

I believe 3 qualities that will make me stand out is 1) The ability to be flexible with ideas and think outside of the box 2) My ability to pair and build relationships with others for a meaningful connection and better outcomes 3) My background and experience to the field of special education, mental health, and psychology of human behavior.

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State Rehabilitation Council?

I have many experiences in the field of “transition”. Through being a consultant for the District in the DOE and as a University Instructor, I taught teachers and families, the appropriate assessment, programing and IEP development /implementation that resulted in our student’s with disabilities successful transitions to college, work, and independent living. I have also worked with individual adults, at Waianae Comprehensive Community Center, in developing their own individual independence living plans, and how to obtain services for themselves in order to live a life of dignity. I would like to think I aided my patients in a successful transition to a healthy and responsible lifestyle. I would like to think that my experience in a variety of settings (clinical, medical, and education), and seeing how transition education for families and individuals, are of the utmost importance to facilitating a meaningful life for the individuals in the community that the VR is dedicated to help.

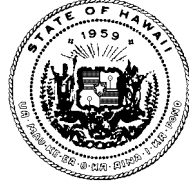
(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State Rehabilitation Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any conflicts of interest at the moment. I always overcome any possible conflict of interest, by listening to the successors that came before me, asking the necessary questions to assist solution-focused problem solving, and creating/facilitating concrete plans that everyone agrees too in order to see real change and implementation of true service and outcomes. The only agency I am employed in, is the department of education, so I do not see a business-related conflict of interest, as well.

Thank you for your time in reading this essay, and considering me for the position to sit on the State Rehabilitation Council.

Dr. Heather Chapman

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
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April 1, 2022

TO: The Honorable Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura  
Senate Committee on Human Services

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

SUBJECT: **GM 665 – Relating to consideration and confirmation to the State Rehabilitation Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dr. Heather Chapman, for a term to expire on 06-30-2023**

HEARING: Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 3:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference, State Capitol

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Department of Human Services, supports the nomination and confirmation of Dr. Heather Chapman to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

Dr. Chapman is seeking appointment to the SRC as a representative for the state educational agency responsible for the public education of students with disabilities as described by section 348-8(a)(8), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

Dr. Chapman earned a Doctorate in Psychology, is a Licensed Behavior Analyst, and is currently the Department of Education's Educational Specialist for post-secondary, incarcerated, and residential students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Dr. Chapman's role in planning, implementing, and evaluating transition education and services at the state system level ensures that transitioning students achieve their post-secondary goals.

Dr. Chapman's knowledge of school and mental health systems, learning styles, special education, behavior interventions, and student/client intervention development is a requirement and an asset to the SRC.

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