



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
1010 RICHARDS STREET, SUITE 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 08, 2022

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

Dear Senator Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 821 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Mark Vierra

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS GM821** to confirm the nomination of Mark Vierra for a term to expire June 30, 2026.

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 Governor's Nominee meets all the Federal Requirements for Council membership.

Mr. Vierra is the parent of a child with a developmental disability. His appointment to the Council fulfills the Federal requirement of parents serving on the Council. Mr. Vierra has extensive experiencing helping his daughter received the best care they can find. His daughters experience receiving services from the Developmental Disabilities Division is a good inside perspective of a individual receiving services. He is well suited to lending a parents and a neighbor island perspective to pertinent discussions surround developmental disabilities.

The Council appreciates the opportunity to express our **support for GM GM821** to confirm the appointment of Mark Vierra to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

April 6th, 2022

The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair Senate Committee on Health
The Thirty-First Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Keohokalole,

It is my pleasure to submit this letter of recommendation for Mr Mark Vierra, nominee for the Developmental Disabilities Council. I have known Mark for 25 years and can vouch for his personal and professional integrity, and proven commitment to creating a responsive community environment of care for those with disabilities.

Mark and his wife Tammy understand the complex landscape of abilities/disabilities, both here in Hawaii as well as nationally. Both are grounded in family driven and family centered care, and are experienced and seasoned through life circumstances and care for their daughter. As the parents of a daughter born with disabilities, I have personally observed them both walk through some extremely difficult times, and seen them patiently and maturely navigate it through.

As a Father of four, I highly recommend Mark as an extremely committed and loving Father!! I encourage that you take full advantage of his residency and recruit him for this very important role. If you would like to discuss this further, I can be reached at 1-808-333-0736

Thank you very much!!

Sincerely

Bob Fitts

April 5, 2022
The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senate Committee on Health
The Thirty-First Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Keohokalole,

I am pleased to offer my recommendation for Mr. Mark Viera as a nominee for the Developmental Disabilities Council. I have known Mark in the community for about ten years now and he has always shown himself to be remarkable in the continued care which he and his wife provide for their daughter who has severe developmental disabilities. They are personally acquainted with the overwhelming need for help beyond their capabilities in a community which has critical limits to the services which are of significant impact.

Having seen their daughter periodically over the years and knowing of the often and extreme medical help they have been faced with needing, I find myself always appreciative of their struggles and their constant perseverance in finding the help and resources needed to continue caring meaningfully for her. I do believe this long, deep struggle gives Mark an understanding of how much is needed and how findable it needs to be.

Mark is a long time businessman and resident here in Hawai'i and as such is understanding of business needs and interactions which affect all goods and services, even such as the services needed in these regards. He is able to approach this with a true understanding of someone with such an extreme need and realistically not knowing where to turn or what resources are available, so has a lot to offer having gone from the ground up finding their way. I do believe he has a very valuable perspective in the process as it will be considered and therefore would like to recommend him to be included in the council.

I am available if there is a need to contact me, my cell is 808-896-7281 and my email is mahaiula00@gmail.com .

Best regards,
Bob Hudson