

GM 448

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



LILLIAN B. KOLLER, ESQ.
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 8, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: GM 448 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Regina Goo to the State
Rehabilitation Council

HEARING: April 8, 2010 - 2:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services supports the nomination of Regina Goo 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 Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Regina Goo brings great understanding of the complexities of the deaf and hard of hearing community and their needs for employment as a previous recipient of vocational rehabilitation services.

Ms. Goo has numerous years working in education and advocating for the independence of people with disabilities. She has a broad network of resources, a

willingness to do the work and a passionate commitment to the cause of those in Hawai'i with disabilities.

Ms. Goo will provide representation to the SRC for Oahu.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to this Committee.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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April 8, 2010

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Governor's Message 448 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the State Rehabilitation Council; Gubernatorial Nominee Regina Goo

Ms. Goo represents deaf and hard of hearing people in the local community. She is very active as a volunteer with the Department of Human Services' Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB), the Senate's Deaf and Blind Task Force, and has regularly attended meetings of the State Rehabilitation Council as a guest for the past four (4) years. She is currently employed as an educational aide with the Department of Education and works with deaf and hard of hearing children in the public school setting, so she can offer feedback on the education of deaf and hard of hearing children as well. Her other past work experience includes jobs with Vocational Rehabilitation in the Deaf Services Section and with Goodwill Industries of Honolulu. With her work experience in these various settings, Ms. Goo can offer invaluable advice to the Council.

Ms. Goo has a strong interest in community service and works to improve the community, especially in the area of communication access for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. Her insights and willingness to share her experiences will be an asset to the State Rehabilitation Council.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director

April 8, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun-Oakland
Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Nomination of Regina Goo to the State Rehabilitation Council

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

My name is Regina Goo, and I am willing to serve as a member of the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). I have been attending SRC meeting, as a visitor, for the past four (4) years, as a representative from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) at DHS. I wanted to learn more about the Council and its role and felt I could provide feedback, about Vocational Rehabilitations for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people, as well as support the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.

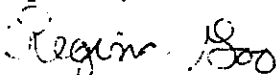
I have been serving as a member of DHHAB under Vocational Rehabilitation for the past thirteen (13) years as representing individuals who are hard of hearing. I also serve as representative for people who are hard of hearing on the Legislature Deaf and Blind Task Force hosted by Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland.

Other experience I have is in employment. My work experience includes being an educational assistant with Department of Education, staff assistant with Deaf Services Section of Vocational Rehabilitation, and vocational assistant at Goodwill Industries of Hawaii. These jobs have given me the opportunity to learn about deaf people from the time they are childhood through adulthood. The knowledge I've learned at work enhance my skills and allow me to provide important input to the State Rehabilitation Council on employment of and communication with adults who are deaf or hard of hearing.

It would be my pleasure to serve on the State Rehabilitation Council as a representative for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. I hope I can provide recommendations to improve employment opportunities for all people with disabilities served by Vocational Rehabilitation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Respectfully submitted,


Regina Goo

ART FRANK
86-363 KAWILI ST
WAIANAE, HI 96792-2941
7 APRIL 2010

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, CHAIR

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Gm 447

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF REGINA GOO TO
STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL**

My name is ART FRANK and I am the Chair of the Deaf Hard of Hearing Advisory Board for Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept of Human Services. Regina Goo is a member of our board. I've known Regina for over 20 years so I know she has been very active in serving our community in various organizations/agencies. She has a good attitude so with her experience and background I know she would be a great asset to the SRC so I strongly support her appointment.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



ART FRANK, WAIANAE COAST

JAN L. FRIED • American Sign Language/English Interpreter

• RID Certified-IC, CI, CT • Educator • Consultant •

07 April 2010

The Senate

Twenty-Fifth Legislature, 2010, State of Hawai'i

Senate Committee on Human Services

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator Les Ihara Jr., Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of GM 447 and GM 448, Relating to the State Rehabilitation Council

Aloha Senators Chun Oakland and Ihara and Human Services Committee Members,

It is without hesitation that I recommend Dr. Judith Coryell and Ms. Regina Goo to be confirmed as members of the State Rehabilitation Council. I have known both of these extremely capable women personally and professionally, through my work as an interpreter educator and an American Sign Language English interpreter in private practice, for a number of years.

Their presence on the State Rehabilitation Council would ensure that the concerns of the Deaf Community, people who are hard of hearing, and educators who work with children who are deaf or hard of hearing are appropriately represented. Dr. Coryell, for example, brings her experience as a mother of two Deaf daughters and perspective as a leading authority on the education of deaf children. In addition, she is the director of the Gallaudet University Regional Center-Pacific and the Kapi'olani Deaf Center at Kapi'olani Community College. These positions allow her access to valuable resources locally, regionally and nationally that can benefit the Council. Ms. Goo, as someone who is hard of hearing, can continue to serve as an advocate for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. She is no stranger to the legislative process and regularly encourages other Deaf Community members to become similarly involved. As a result of the many years Ms. Goo has spent in pre-K-5 classrooms, she also provides an insight into the kinds of services and supports children with special needs and their families require.

I appreciate this opportunity to encourage the committee to confirm Dr. Judith Coryell and Ms. Regina Goo as members of the State Rehabilitation Council. Their presence on this council and the contributions they will make will surely have a profound and positive impact.

Respectfully,

Jan L. Fried

Jan L. Fried, CI and CT

Nationally Certified ASL/English Interpreter