



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
1010 Richards Street, Suite 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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March 29, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,  
and, Health  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 636 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Gubernatorial Nominee Natalie Kama

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 636** to confirm the nomination of Natalie Kama for a second term to expire June 30, 2022.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the players involved in the development, implementation, and use of DD supports are represented. 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.

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker  
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Ms. Kama is a parent of a young woman with a disability and fulfills the Federal requirement of parent representatives serving on the Council. She was first involved with the Council in 1993 as a participant of the Council-sponsored Partners in Policymaking (PIP) Leadership Academy Training. PIP educates participants to be active partners with those who make policy, provides education, training in current disability issues, best practices, as well as legislative and systems advocacy. Her positive can-do attitude and enthusiasm was an asset in the PIP training in providing other participants with encouragement to be leaders in their community.

She has also been involved with the Maui Disability Alliance's annual Legislative Forum and participated as a panel member along with her daughter to provide feedback from a parent's perspective regarding Maui's service system for people with disabilities. As a Maui parent representative on the Council, she would serve as a liaison in conveying issues and concerns (such as housing, employment, and transportation) on Maui as they impact people with DD.

The Council welcomes Ms. Kama's nomination to continue to serve on the Council. We appreciate the opportunity to convey our **strong support for GM 636** to confirm the appointment of Natalie Kama to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

**Mr. Evan Dust**  
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April 2, 2018

Honorable Rosalyn Baker  
Senator, District 6  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: Reappointment of Natalie Kama to State Council on  
Developmental Disabilities**

Dear Honorable Senator Baker:

I offer this letter of support and recommendation to reappoint Natalie Kama for another term on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Natalie Kama and her disabled daughter Davilene for over seventeen years. I am Natalie's son-in-law and I am currently serving as a caregiver to Davilene.

Natalie Kama is uniquely qualified to continue her membership on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. She is a parent to an adult child with Downs Syndrome who needs the support provided by the State of Hawaii to achieve her greatest potential. Her experience as a parent gives her insights to the needs of her daughter and others who have developmental disabilities.

Further, Natalie Kama is fully committed to the cause of providing social justice to those who would fall behind if they were not helped by the State and other not-for-profit organizations. Her commitment is reflected in her efforts on behalf of Faith Action for Community Equity as their Maui Community Organizer. In that role, she has continuously lobbied for improvements that would benefit those needing assistance.

I thank you for the opportunity to recommend Natalie Kama's reappointment which I give without reservation.

Sincerely,



Evan Dust



Aloha Psychological Services  
Santo J. Triolo, Ph.D., ABAP  
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Kihel, Hawai'i 96753  
808-268-3833; Fax: 808-268-3833

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Hawaii State Senate, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

March 30, 2018

RE: Tasha Kama  
Reappointment to State Council on Developmental Disabilities

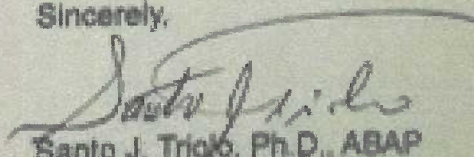
Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing this letter in support of Tasha's reappointment to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Tasha for approximately 3 years serving on the same Council with her. Without question, Tasha has been a valuable participant representing Maui. She presents a special perspective as a parent of an adult child with disabilities. In addition, she provides her own unique perspective as a native Hawaiian and an active participant addressing the needs of Maui residents. Her focus has been on taking care of the most vulnerable individuals in our community. To this end, she is extremely connected to multiple agencies and influential individuals who are also dedicated in caring for the needy.

Personally, I have learned much about the human texture of our community from her. She possesses a special wisdom and insight which has served the Council enormously, as we have navigated through the challenges facing individuals with disabilities.

These special skills have only been surpassed by her own humanity. It has been a pleasure serving with her and, with your endorsement, I look forward to four more years of being on the Council with her.

Sincerely,



Santo J. Triolo, Ph.D., ABAP  
State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Clinical psychologist  
Hawai'i License number 1257

Rev. Velma Mariano  
Waihona Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
(808) 244-0808

March 31, 2018

RE: Reappointment of Natalie Kama to State Council on Developmental  
Disabilities

Aloha Senator Baker,

I am pleased to submit my testimony on behalf of Natalie Tasha Kama in support of her reappointment to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Tasha for over 25 years working side by side in the Hawaiian community to ensure native Hawaiian beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and Office of Hawaiian Affairs are aware of these two Trust and what benefits they are entitled to.

As passionate as she is about serving her Hawaiian people, her role and responsibility as a parent with 2 adult children with intellectual and development disabilities has spurred her to move forward on their behalf as well as other families with children with special needs.

She has been involved, engaged and advocated for her special needs children since they were diagnosed with their disabilities during infancy. She is a veteran mom who assists families with their children's IEP, IFSP and most recently the transition to ACUMEN as the fiscal agent for individuals with disabilities receiving Medicaid waivers.

I believe Tasha will be asset to the Council these next four years as she has been the past four years. I ask for your support in appointing her for another four years to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Rev. Velma Mariano