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State Rehabilitation Council

Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division 601 Kamokila Boulevard, Room 515 Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

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Testimony of Rene' Berthiaume, Chairman of the Hawaii State Rehabilitation Council

To the Senate Committees on Human Services & Public Housing

April 10, 2008

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GWEN KELIIHOOMALU NOMINATION TO THE HAWAII STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Gwen Keliihoomalu to the State Rehabilitation Council.

The Federal Rehabilitation Act calls for one seat on the State Rehabilitation Council to be a qualified private rehabilitation counselor. Gwen brings this perspective to the Council. In addition, the SRC By-Laws require representation from all four counties. Gwen will provide representation from Hawaii County to the SRC. I strongly support Gwen Keliihoomalu's confirmation to the SRC.

Thank you for your consideration. Feel free to contact me anytime for further information or input.