GM 500

BARBARA P. FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Disability and Communication Access Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, BARBARA P.FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG, for a term to expire 6-30-2013.



Linking, Educating, Empowering People with Assistive Technology

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ATRC: 2009026 April 13, 2009

The Honorable David Ige Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Ige:

This letter responds to your letter of March 23, 2009 requesting additional information regarding my nomination to the Disability and Communication Access Board. ("DCAB"). I have attached a copy of my resume and a list of references.

I am a long time advocate for the persons with disabilities in Hawaii and I am looking forward to continuing to apply my years of experience in helping to ensure that people with disabilities are valued equally and participate fully. While serving on the board, I will draw upon my experience as Executive Director of numerous disability related organizations as well as other entities and as personal advocate for persons with disabilities.

On a personal and family level, I am intimately familiar with the contributions that people with disabilities bring to our society. I have a vision challenges and my husband has a hearing impairment. As the Executive Director of the Assistive Technology Resource Center of Hawaii, I help people obtain the technology that they need to improve their lives and participate fully in our community.

I am not aware of any conflicts of interest that could arise during my service on the Disability and Communication Access Board. If one were to arise, the resolution would depend on the conflict.

Please contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong

A non-profit organization 501(c)(3)



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

April 15, 2009

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Governor's Message 500 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Disability and Communication Access Board; Gubernatorial Nominee Barbara P. Fischlowitz-Leong

This testimony is in support of the nomination of Ms. Barbara P. Fischlowitz-Leong to serve on the Disability and Communication Access Board. The Board is a seventeen (17) member board, of which a majority are people with disabilities, their families, or caregivers.

Ms. Fischlowitz-Leong is being appointed in the capacity of a professional, who is also a person with a disability. She is presently the Executive Director of the Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii, an organization which assists individuals with disabilities in obtaining assistive technology, a position she has held for fifteen (15) years. Ms. Fischlowitz-Leong also has experience as a planner in the field of developmental disabilities and as the former Executive Director of the Epilepsy Foundation to bring to the Board. Ms. Fischlowitz-Leong brings to the Board a tremendous amount of professional expertise to complement her personal perspective.

We believe that Ms. Fischlowitz-Leong will be an asset to the Board and recommends your confirmation of her nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Trancine Wai

FRANCINE WAI

Executive Director

PETER L. FRITZ

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THE SENATE THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE Committee on Health

Hearing April 15, 2009 Testimony on GM 500

Confirmation of Barbara P. Fischlowitz-Leong to the Disability and Communications Access Board

Chair Ige, Vice-Chair Green, members of the Committee:

I support the confirmation of Barbara P. Fischlowitz-Leong to the Disability and Communication Access Board. I have known Ms. Fischlowitz-Leong personally and professionally for more than 15 years. Ms. Fischlowitz-Leong will bring her may years of experience, unique understanding of how technology can assist disabled individuals and her unbounded thinking which enables her to identify opportunities that may not be readily apparent to others. She will be an asset to the Disability and Communication Access Board.n

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.