GM 452

HENRY OLIVA DEPUTY DIRECTOR



STATE OF HAWAII 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 452 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Robert Scott Wall 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 Mr. Robert Scott Wall 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.

Mr. Wall brings years of personal experience as a previous recipient of vocational rehabilitation services and also professional experience to the table in one of our most underserved populations of people with disabilities, those with mental health disabilities.

Mr. Wall is respected and honored in the mental health community for his continued work, commitment and advocacy for individuals who are disabled. He

brings fresh proposals and perspectives that have changed the employment possibilities and the quality of the lives of Hawaii's disabled residents.

Mr. Wall will provide representation to the SRC for Oahu.

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

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April 7, 2010

To: Senate Human Services Committee

RE: GM452: Robert Scott Wall's nomination

Dear Friends:

I am writing in support of **Robert Scott Wall's** nomination to the Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation. He is a life-long mental health consumer who has experienced many aspects of the mental health system. I have known him for the past two years as a capable, effective, intelligent, and passionate advocate on behalf of people with mental illnesses, and he would be a great asset on this Advisory Committee. He works in many arenas – volunteers for NAMI and United Self Help, is a leader in the Consumer, Youth, and Family Alliance, and has been a spokesperson on behalf of the homeless mentally ill with regard to the River Street Residences. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Mental Health America of Hawai'i.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Sincerely yours,

Marya Grambs
Executive Director

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Tuesday, April 06, 2010 1:40 PM

To:

HMS Testimony

Cc:

director@unitedselfhelp.org

Subject:

Testimony for GM452 on 4/8/2010 2:15:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 4/8/2010 2:15:00 PM GM452

Conference room: 016

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: William S. Bowles

Organization:

Address: 277 Ohua Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Phone: 808-947-5558

E-mail: director@unitedselfhelp.org

Submitted on: 4/6/2010

Comments:

I support Scott Wall for the member of the committee. He is tireless at going to consumer meetings and supporting individuals who have unique problems, especially getting consumers benefits. He would be right for the job. Bud Bowles, Executive Director, United Self Help.

Testimony of Randolph C. Hack for Governor's Message 452, in support of Governor's Nominee **Robert Scott Wall**For State Rehabilitation Council

Senate Committee on Human Services Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members Meeting Thursday, April 8, 2010, 2:15PM

I hereby express my strong support for this nominee, who is the volunteer Executive Assistant of United Self-Help. United Self-Help is a consumer-run organization which provides support groups and other activities and services for people with mental illness. Mr. Wall always goes to work with a positive attitude and has helped many individuals with a variety of needs even when others have not. He has experienced homelessness and severe mental illness and is proud to be in recovery. He was recently featured in a major series on homelessness in the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. You may not know this, but Scott worked as a stage hand for drama productions for many years and has much experience dealing with diverse actors, actresses and directors. With this lived experience, he can certainly be an asset to the State Rehabilitation Council, which deals with the diverse disability community. The disability community is very diverse consisting of cognitive, sensory, and physically disabled people, and comprises about 20% of Hawaii's population. People with mental health issues are a large part of this group and should be represented on the Council.

Senator Chun Oakland and committee members, I urge you to speed this nomination on to full Senate confirmation. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.