

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



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**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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February 9, 2012

**MEMORANDUM:**

**TO:** The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Patricia McManaman, Director

**SUBJECT: HB 2132: RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES**

**HEARING:** Thursday, February 9, 2012, 8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to establish for the State Rehabilitation Council that at least ten members constitutes a quorum to do business and a concurrence of at least a majority of quorum is necessary to validate council action

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill and the Legislature's support of proposals in the 2011 Legislative Session for a quorum amendment for the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). Since the close of the 2011 Legislative Session, the Governor has placed high importance on the appointments of qualified candidates to fill vacant seats on the SRC. As a result, there is no longer a need to establish a quorum for the SRC to conduct council business.

The Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions continues to be committed to its recruitment and appointment of SRC members for a full working council.

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



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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### TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

#### House Bill 2132 – Relating to Human Services

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) opposes House Bill 2132 that would establish a quorum of ten (10) for the State Rehabilitation Council to conduct business. In addition the bill includes that any action of the Council must be validated by a vote of a majority of the Council and has a repeal date of June 30, 2014.

DCAB understands that the federal membership required for the State Rehabilitation Council is fifteen (15). However, under state statute it is currently set at twenty-one (21). We are also a Governor appointed board and we work continually to recruit members for our Board from the community at large (both individuals with and without disabilities). Membership on our Board is seventeen (17), and we have been able to maintain that number through our recruitment efforts.

The current Administration is working in partnership with the Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and has appointed new members to raise the membership to nineteen (19). Thus only two (2) more appointments are needed for the State Rehabilitation Council to meet the state mandated membership of twenty-one (21). DCAB feels that the required number of appointments to the State Rehabilitation Council can be met and maintained. Therefore the bill is unnecessary at this time.

We ask that you hold this bill in Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG  
Chairperson

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director