## GM627

Measure Title:Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State<br/>Rehabilitation Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GRETCHEN LAWSON,<br/>for a term to expire 6-30-2015.Report Title:State Rehabilitation CouncilDescription:Companion:Package:Current Referral:HMSIntroducer(s):



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## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES P. O. Box 339

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February 19, 2013

## MEMORANDUM:

- TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senate Committee on Human Services
- FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director
- SUBJECT: G.M. 627 Gubernatorial Nomination of Gretchen Lawson to the State Rehabilitation Council
  - Hearing: Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 1:15 p.m. Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the nomination of Ms. Gretchen Lawson 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 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Gretchen Lawson is seeking reappointment for her second term on the council. Ms. Lawson is the current chair of the council and has been a strong participant during her first three year term.

Ms. Lawson is active in the county of Hawaii as a professional in the field of vocational rehabilitation as the executive director of the ARC of Kona, an organization that provides employment services for people with disabilities. Ms. Lawson has brought

valuable insight to the council and is committed to continue the work of the council in her second term. Ms. Lawson will provide representation to the council as a representative of community rehabilitation service providers and the county of Hawaii.

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