



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

April 17, 2015

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawaii
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Green and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 682 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Josephine Woll

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 682** to confirm the nomination of Josephine Woll for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the players involved in the development, implementation, and use of DD supports are represented. The law specifically requires that not less than 60 percent of the membership of the Council be comprised of individuals with DD, parents, immediate relatives or guardians. Additionally, each Council shall include representatives of relevant State entities, including State entities that administer funds provided under Federal laws related to individuals with disabilities, including the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.), Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), and Titles V and XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701 et seq. and 1396 et seq.); Centers for Excellence in DD Education, Research, and Service; State Protection and Advocacy system; and representatives, at all times, of local and non-governmental agencies, and private nonprofit groups concerned with services for individuals with DD in the State. The Governor's nominee meets all the Federal requirements for Council membership.

Mrs. Woll is a parent of a young woman with a disability. She was first appointed to the Council on July 1, 2011, and fulfills the Federal requirement of parents serving on the Council. Her professional background as a Registered Nurse, extensive work

The Honorable Josh Green
Page 2
April 17, 2015

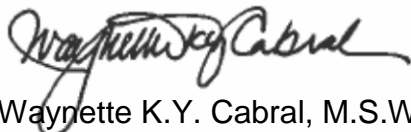
experience in early intervention services as past director of Sultan Easter Seal School, and leadership in starting a national organization called Family Voices (that became the voice for health care reform for children with special health care needs) has been a great asset for the Council in the area of early childhood development and early identification for appropriate services.

Since her appointment, Mrs. Woll has been actively involved in Council activities. She currently serves as Vice Chair to the Council, Co-Chair of the Council's Health and Early Childhood Committee that addresses the State Plan Goals that, "People with intellectual and developmental disabilities will have access to physical and mental health and medical and dental care, providing opportunities to ensure and maintain their quality of life and ability to provide their own care," and "Children and youth with special health care needs and their families have access to family-centered, community-based integrated interventions and supports providing opportunities to ensure quality of life," and participates on various task forces and workgroups as a Council representative.

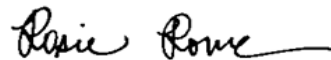
The Council is pleased with Mrs. Woll's nomination to be reappointed to serve on the Council for another term and looks forward to her continued contributions to assure that family-centered, community-based, culturally appropriate services and supports will be available to all children with special needs.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 682 to confirm Josephine Woll to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.**

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair

FAMILY VOICES OF HAWAI‘I

1319 PUNAHOU ST. STE 749 HONOLULU, HI 96826



Date: April 8, 2015

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Fr: Leolinda Parlin, State Coordinator and President of Family Voices of Hawai'i

Re: GM 682 – Support for confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOSEPHINE WOLL

On behalf of Family Voices of Hawai'i, I support GM 682. As an organization, Family Voices is a national grass roots organization of family of friends of child with special health care needs. As a state affiliate organization, we aim to achieve family centered care for all children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities by providing family resources, advocacy and support.

Over the last 20 years I have come to know, respect, admire, and love Josie Woll as a tireless and compassionate mentor and advocate for individuals with disabilities and their families. Josie was a pioneer in the family centered care and medical home movements locally and nationally. Along with Polly Arango and Julie Beckett, Josie founded Family Voices our national organization. What started off as a discussion around a kitchen table has blossomed into a framework that exists with an affiliate organization in every state across our country.

Josie not only brings insight as a parent she brings her professional experiences from her tenure as the longest serving Director of Sultan Easter Seals School. In addition, Josie is well experienced in mentoring other family leaders and with help the State Council on Developmental Disabilities mentor the next generation of advocates for our community.

Thank you for time and consideration in supporting GM 682.



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII*
MĀNOA

April 15, 2015

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Senator Green, Senator Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Health:

Re: Governor's Nominee to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities: GM 682

I am proud to support the Governor's recommendation that Ms. Josephine (Josie) C. Woll be appointed to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. I have known Ms. Woll since 1987, when she was the Director of Sultan School at Hawai'i Easter Seals. I was then Director of the Hawai'i Zero to Three Early Intervention Program, which provides intervention services for special needs children from birth to age three.

Ms. Woll was a member of the small group of leaders in our state who worked to get the State to participate in the federally funded Part C program. She served as a member of the Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council for many years, lending wise counsel to the deliberations and accomplishments of that body. Ms. Woll has not only been a leader in Hawai'i, but is recognized nationally for her accomplishments. She was one of the founding members of Family Voices, a family-led advocacy group working to improve health care access for children.

In addition to her 30 years of experience working with Easter Seals, Ms. Woll is also the mother of three children, one of whom is a young woman with developmental disabilities. Thus, she knows first-hand the challenges facing families who have a child or sibling with a developmental disability. She can bring her unique perspective to the Council on Developmental Disabilities as it provides assistance to Hawai'i's families. Since the birth of her daughter four decades ago, she has mentored countless families and supported them as they sought to obtain services for their children. Families continue to call on her for advice and support.

Ms. Woll is a woman with rare talents who knows how to effectively communicate issues involving people with special needs. When Josie Woll embraces a responsibility, she gives it her best. I am certain she will be an effective, hard-working, contributing member of the Council. Without reservation, I strongly recommend her appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jean L. Johnson".

Jean L. Johnson, DrPH
Associate Professor

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 15, 2015

Dear Senator Green and Members of the Health Committee:

My name is Dr. JoAnn Yuen. I am the director of the Center on Disability Studies (CDS), a research center in the College of Education at the University of Hawaii Manoa. I am a current appointee to the DD Council (term to expire 6/30/2018). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Governor's Message #682 to designate Josephine "Josie" Woll to the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I have known Josie for more than 25 years and we met at the Zero-to-Three Hawaii project—the roots of today's early intervention service section. As a parent of a child with a developmental disability, Josie was one of the founding mothers of Family Voices (a national, nonprofit, family-led organization promoting quality health care for all children and youth particularly those with special health care needs) and continues to be a well-respected and outspoken advocate for people with developmental and other disabilities. She has great energy and historical knowledge of Hawaii's system of care for children with special health care needs. She is the perfect person to contribute to the DD Council, as a mentor and leader.

I ask for your Committee's favorable consideration to confirm Josephine Woll.

Sincerely,



JoAnn Yuen, Ed.D.