

PANKAJ BHANOT

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation 1010 Richards Street, Room 217 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 12, 2020

TO: The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Maureen Bates, Administrator

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

SUBJECT: GM 724 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Rehabilitation

Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Stanley Young, for a term to expire 06-30-2022

Hearing: Thursday, May 14, 2020, 3:00pm

Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services, on behalf of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), supports the confirmation of Mr. Stanley "Stan" K. Young 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 DVR on services that address employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Young is seeking appointment to the SRC as representative for the Disability Advocacy Groups representing a cross section of individuals with physical, cognitive, sensory, and mental disabilities, and parents, family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives of individuals with disabilities who have difficulty in representing themselves or are unable due to their disabilities to represent themselves per section 348-8(a)(6), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Mr. Young is a person with a disability whose personal experiences can provide insight to advocacy for the disability community about the vocational rehabilitation process. Mr. Young is a blind vendor of a newsstand at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport and along with his partners employ over 80 individuals with disabilities. Mr. Young's first-hand experiences are exactly the type of knowledge needed to advise DVR on what programs best suit the needs of individuals with disabilities seeking employment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support.