

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 8, 2022

The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Thirtieth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: GM 700 – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Gubernatorial Nominee Alana Souza

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM 700** to confirm the nomination of Alana Souza for a term to expire June 30, 2023.

The Council's Federal mandate (P.L.106-402) is clear in determining the composition of this body to ensure that all the stakeholders are represented and engaged in the development and implementation of a comprehensive system of services and supports for individuals with DD.

The Governor's nominee meets all the Federal requirements for Council membership. Ms. Souza is with the Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division, Health Care Services Branch, Contract Monitoring & Compliance Section. Her appointment to the Council would fulfill the Federal requirement for a representative of Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

Ms. Souza's past positions in the Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Division and her current position with MQD would provide the Council with a direct link to convey its issues and concerns for persons with DD receiving health care services through the QUEST Integration program. Furthermore, her appointment to the Council would strengthen the Council's advocacy to assure that individuals with DD have access to quality health care services.

We welcome Ms. Souza's appointment to serve on the Council and look forward to her contributions to assist us to improve access to health care services for individuals with DD.

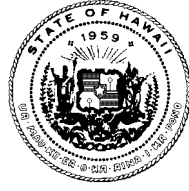
Thank you for your consideration, and for the opportunity to express our **strong support for GM 700** to confirm Ms. Alana Souza to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

+DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 5, 2022

TO: The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director
Judy Mohr Peterson, Administrator, Med-QUEST Division

SUBJECT: **GM 700 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALANA SOUZA, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.**

Hearing: April 8, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports the Governor's nominee, Alana Souza, to serve on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The Governor's nominee meets the federal requirements for Council membership. Ms. Souza works at DHS in the Med-QUEST Division (MQD). Her appointment to the Council will fulfill the federal requirement for a representative from the State's Medicaid program.

Ms. Souza's past positions in the Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division, and her current position with MQD provide her a unique ability and valuable insight to listen and understand the issues and concerns people with developmental disabilities may have when receiving health care services through the QUEST Integration program. Furthermore, her appointment will help ensure the continuation of the strong relationship of the Council with DHS, Med-QUEST.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-700

Submitted on: 4/5/2022 1:42:01 PM

Testimony for HTH on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise Yamanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the confirmation of Alana Souza to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I became acquainted with Ms. Souza when we went to college together at Hawaii Pacific University in 2009 to 2012 and continued to stay in touch as a friend till present. I worked with Ms. Souza as a social worker at a skilled nursing facility and worked as her supervisor at our post acute rehabilitation facility until other work opportunities caused her to leave. Ms. Souza's work ethics and characteristics were outstanding. She was dedicated in everything she was involved with, She worked closely with patients /residents and their families to provide the best care/discharge planning/psychosocial support. Ms. Souza supported adults of all ages at the healthcare facility who had medical conditions that were life changing. She assisted with discharge planning and coordinated services and connected patients with other resources to provide support in planning a safe discharge. Ms. Souza was always very dependable, resourceful and would always get the job done. She went above and beyond to help others in need both at work at a professional level and a personal level.

Ms. Souza will definitely be an asset and a good addition to the Council on developmental disabilities.

Denise Yamanaka, MSW, LSW, ASW-G

Manager, Social Service Department

GM-700

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 12:18:44 AM

Testimony for HTH on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Wakuta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the confirmation of Alana Souza to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

I became acquainted with Ms. Souza when she worked as a Social Worker at Ann Pearl Rehabilitation & Healthcare. Alana has excellent work ethic and is a valuable asset in all that she is involved in. She is passionate about helping and advocating for others and has proven to be an honest and loyal friend time and time again. I really miss working with her but she has since moved on to fulfill her life's mission.

She will be a good addition to the council on Developmental Disabilities.

Sincerely,
Ashley Wakuta
Staff Educator/Infection Preventionist