## GM561 Sean Knox Questionnaire

Statement of Interest for Appointment to the Commission on Fatherhood for the State of Hawaii – Sean Knox

## Introduction

Aloha – I am honored to be nominated to be a member of the State Rehabilitation Council. Below are my responses to Senator Buenaventura's questions.

1) Why do you wish to be a member of the State Rehabilitation Council? I feel I can be a strong contributor to the SRC and will be able to assist with discussions and voting to achieve SRC initiatives.

(2) <u>How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Rehabilitation Council?</u> My responsibility is to actively participate in the SRC Quarterly meetings. Also, it is required that a member of the State of Hawaii Workforce Development Council (WDC) be represented at the SRC. I am able to fulfill that role

(3) <u>Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Rehabilitation</u> <u>Council, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of</u> <u>your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the</u> <u>State Rehabilitation Council</u>. My background is unique because of my role as the owner of an employment agency. With this responsibility, I serve 2 clients. One being the organizations (both for profit and non-profit) that pay HiEmployment to provide temporary and permanent employees. The other being the employees themselves. Only when the needs of both are met, is a placement successful.

(4) <u>What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?</u> I look forward to helping to develop and reviewing State Vocational Rehabilitation plans

(5) <u>Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Rehabilitation Council?</u>

- 1. Experienced: I have served 6 years in the State WDC and can use that knowledge during discussions and voting decisions.
- 2. Reliable: When I commit to a role, I will be attentive and active.
- 3. Communicative: I am able to discuss topics and articulate what I feel are strengths and weaknesses.

(6) <u>Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State</u> <u>Rehabilitation Council?</u> I currently sit on the Workforce Development Board and participate as the Chairman of the Special Projects Committee. This experience has been helpful when providing input on various workforce development programs in the State, including workforce training and education programs.

(7) <u>Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State</u> <u>Rehabilitation Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?</u> I do not.

Sean K. Knox

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.** GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS DIRECTOR KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II DEPUTY DIRECTOR KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

TRISTA SPEER DEPUTY DIRECTOR KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

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February 24, 2024

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

## FROM: Cathy Betts, Director Lea Dias, Administrator, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

SUBJECT: **GM 561 – Relating to Consideration and Confirmation to the State** Rehabilitation Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Sean Knox, for a Term to Expire 06-30-2025.

> Hearing: February 28, 2024, 1:00 p.m. Conference Room 225 & Videoconferencing, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION**: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the nomination and confirmation of Mr. Sean Knox to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

**PURPOSE**: The SRC was established by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The SRC works in partnership with the DHS Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) on services that address the employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Knox is seeking an appointment to the SRC as a representative of the State Workforce Development Council (WDC) per section 348-8(a)(9), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

Mr. Knox is President/CEO/Partner of Hawaii Employment Services, an employment and staffing agency that meets the needs of job-seekers and businesses. Mr. Knox's appointment on the WDC fulfills the SRC's representative requirement, and his expertise in providing businesses with employees and assisting people obtain employment would be an asset to the February 24, 2024 Page 2

SCR as it advises DVR regarding its responsibility to serve persons with disabilities in achieving employment outcomes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Mr. Knox.

## <u>GM-561</u> Submitted on: 2/21/2024 11:59:47 AM Testimony for HHS on 2/28/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brian Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mr. Sean Knox will make an outstanding Board Member for the Hawaii State Rehabilitation Council as nominated in GM561.

Having known and worked with him for many years on some sometimes difficult and important situations, I can confirm Mr. Knox is a hard worker who is very knowledgeable, and cares deeply for the people of Hawaii. I am certain Mr. Knox do a diligent job administering to his duties in anything he does.

Mahalo for this opportunity to express my strong support for Mr. Sean Knox.