



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

Ka 'Oihana Ho'oka'a'ike no ka Po'e Kīnānā

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April 8, 2026

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Governor's Message 531 - Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Disability and Communication Access Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Charlotte Townsend for a Term to Expire June 30, 2029

The Disability and Communication Access Board is a statewide Governor-appointed Board with a majority of its members being persons with disabilities or family members. The Board's mission is to advocate and promote full inclusion, independence, equal access, and quality of life for persons with disabilities in society.

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the nomination of Ms. Charlotte Townsend to the Board. This will be the second appointment of Ms. Townsend to serve on the Board.

DCAB is mandated to have a majority of members be consumers, persons with disabilities, or their family members. Ms. Townsend belongs to that majority category, as a person with a mobility disability. Ms. Townsend currently serves as the Board Chairperson and has extensive background in the disability field. Ms. Townsend is a very active member on the Board, sitting on the Legislative Committee, Standing Committee on Transportation, and Standing Committee on Parking, as well as on the Executive Committee. Ms. Townsend has also worked in the private, nonprofit, and other government settings to ensure individuals with disabilities have access to programs, services, and activities.

We highly recommend that the Senate reconfirm Ms. Townsend for a term on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

KRISTINE PAGANO
Acting Executive Director

LATE

GM-531

Submitted on: 4/8/2026 8:34:16 AM

Testimony for HHS on 4/8/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlotte Townsend	Individual	Comments	In Person

Comments:

GM531

Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, thank you for your consideration on my nomination to the Disability and Communication Access Board. I look forward to working with other committed individuals to advance opportunities for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Charlotte Townsend