



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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DRAFT MINUTES

Legislative Committee Meeting

Location: Virtual Location Via Zoom

Date: February 12, 2021

Time: 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Rosanna Daniel-Kanetake, Chairperson; Anthony Akamine, Dean Georgiev, Violet Horvath, Board Members; Kirby Shaw, Colin Whited, Staff

GUEST: Peter Fritz

SIGN LANGUAGE

INTERPRETER: Mala Arkin

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Rosanna Daniel-Kanetake called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

II. Introductions

The attendees introduced themselves.

III. Approval of February 5, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Staff reported that the February 5, 2021 meeting minutes are still being finalized, therefore approval will take place at the next Committee meeting.

NOTE: The minutes were written in the order the items were shown on the agenda, not as they were discussed at the meeting.

IV. Staff Update – 2021 Legislative Session

Staff provided an update on bills that DCAB has testified on. These bills are: HB 838 and SB 538, Relating to the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission, in support; HB 986 and SB 1140, Relating to the Newborn Hearing Screening, in support; HB 987 and SB 1141, Relating to the Hearing and Vision Program, in support; HB 839, Relating to Hearing Aids, in support, although the measure was deferred; HB 381 and SB 280, Relating to Fair Housing Reasonable Accommodations, offering comments; SB 548, Relating to Elections By Mail, in support and offering comments; HB 941, Relating to Electronic Filing by the Public Utilities Commission, offering comments; HB 840 and SB 537, Relating to American Sign Language, in support; SB 135, Relating to Telecommunication, offering comments; SB 1034, Relating to Sunshine

Law Boards, in support; and SB 534, Relating to Electronic Transmission of Ballots, in support.

V. New Business

A. DCAB Legislative Position Statements

The Committee voted to have the DCAB Legislative Position Statements updated to reflect positions taken by the Committee at Legislative Committee meetings (M/S/P Horvath/Georgiev).

B. Parking for Persons with Disabilities

C. Nondiscrimination Against Persons with Disabilities/Civil Rights

D. Communication Access

E. Service Animals for Persons with Disabilities

F. Building Code/Design

G. Community Based Services and Employment for Persons with Disabilities

- HB 582 – Relating to Preferences Under the Procurement Code. Establishes a preference under the procurement code for employers who pledge to hire individuals with disabilities when contracting for goods, services, or construction through competitive sealed bidding, competitive sealed proposals, or both.

ACTION: SUPPORT (M/S/P Horvath/Georgiev)

- HB 603/SB 793 – Relating to the Minimum Wage. Repeals the exemption of persons with disabilities from minimum wage requirements. Takes effect on 1/1/2022.

ACTION: SUPPORT (M/S/P Horvath/Georgiev)

- HB 1112/SB 1233 – Relating to the Vending Facilities Program. Allows persons with a mental illness to participate in the vending facilities program. Limits vending facilities owned or operated by persons with mental health disorders to only those state or county public buildings not currently occupied by blind or visually handicapped vendors.

ACTION: MONITOR (M/S/P Horvath/Georgiev)

- SCR 6/SR 6 – Urging the Department of Education to develop and implement a program to recruit and employ qualified blind persons to serve as orientation and mobility instructors and in other positions as teachers of visually impaired students.

ACTION: SUPPORT (M/S/P Horvath/Georgiev, Abstain: Akamine)

H. Transportation and Mobility

I. Emergency Preparedness

- SB 553 – Relating to Smoking. Allows the governor to order mitigating measures including prohibiting smoking in multi-unit residences during an emergency order to stay at home.

ACTION: MONITOR (M/S/P Horvath/Akamine)

J. Administrative

K. Other

VI. Open Forum

Guest Peter Fritz asked that DCAB ensure that testimony submitted to the Legislature is accessible. He also asked whether the Legislative Committee would be meeting weekly, as it had done prior to 2020. Staff explained that with the adoption of the DCAB Legislative Position Statements, the goal is for the Committee to meet only as needed. After some discussion, the Committee decided that meetings would be scheduled bi-weekly and take place only when needed. Staff will send regular updates to the Committee on bills that DCAB has testified on.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, February 26, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

VIII. Announcements

No announcements were made.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

COLIN WHITED