

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2440
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE
MAUI OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

JANUARY 28, 2008

BY

OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Good afternoon Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committee:

I am Mark Moses, Director for the Office of Veterans' Services (OVS). We understand that the intent of Senate Bill 2440 is to create a counselor and clerical position in the Maui Office and to provide sufficient funds for equipment and office renovation.

The OVS agrees that additional counselor and clerical positions are needed to meet the growing demands for services. We would like to share that the office has just obtained new laptop computers for each counselor and has completed a contract with a vendor to provide the latest model combination Copy, FAX, scanner to each neighbor island office. We are in the process of assessing our need to digitize our files so that we can store records electronically. As for the need for other office supplies, we must admit that our operating budget has not grown sufficiently to purchase desk and chairs for the Office of Veterans' Services statewide, to include the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery.

Although our Maui office is not in a State owned building, the amount of space that is allocated is controlled by the Department of Accounting and General

Services (DAGS). There is a table specifying the amount of space each position in the state should have. This calculation is based upon the position's SR rating, the function of the position, the number of files and other factors. Based upon these requirements the Office is not able to provide a lunch room, however a conference room may be used as a lunchroom.

Thank you for allowing me to testify, this concludes my testimony.