
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VETERANS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 363-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:
- 3 "(c) The director shall have the following principal
4 functions, duties, and powers:
- 5 (1) Serve as the principal official in state government
6 responsible for the performance, development, and
7 control of programs, policies, and activities under
8 this chapter;
- 9 (2) Oversee, supervise, and direct the performance by the
10 director's subordinates of activities in such areas as
11 planning, evaluation, and coordination of veterans
12 programs and development of a statewide service
13 delivery network;
- 14 (3) Assess the policies and practices of other agencies
15 with respect to delivery of services and benefits to
16 veterans;
- 17 (4) Administer funds allocated for the office, and apply
18 for, receive, and disburse grants and donations from



- 1 all sources for veterans programs and services
2 provided under this chapter;
- 3 (5) Establish a clearinghouse for complaints of persons
4 regarding services to veterans, or operations of state
5 and county agencies affecting veterans, investigate
6 such complaints, and refer the complaints and the
7 director's findings to the appropriate agency for
8 corrective action;
- 9 (6) Adopt, amend, and repeal rules pursuant to chapter 91
10 for the purposes of this chapter;
- 11 (7) Employ and retain such staff as may be necessary for
12 the purposes of this chapter, in conformance with
13 chapters 76, 89, and the appropriate collective
14 bargaining agreements, executive orders, executive
15 directives, or rules, except for the position of
16 coordinator and executive secretary to the director,
17 who shall be hired without regard to chapters 76 and
18 89;
- 19 (8) Contract for or grant such services as may be
20 necessary for the purposes of this chapter, including
21 a master contract with other state agencies receiving
22 federal and state funds for programs and services for



1 veterans, and purchase of service agreements with
 2 appropriate agencies; [~~and~~]

3 (9) Oversee the development, establishment, and operation
 4 of a state veterans cemetery on Oahu; develop and
 5 administer the policies and procedures of the state
 6 veterans cemetery in accordance with the United States
 7 Department of Veterans [~~Administration~~] Affairs and
 8 existing state guidelines; oversee the maintenance of
 9 state veterans cemeteries on all islands[-]; and

10 (10) Act on behalf of deceased veterans found to be
 11 indigent at the time of death and without surviving
 12 immediate family members to ensure burial or cremation
 13 services are provided and that the veteran's remains
 14 are buried or inurned in a state veterans cemetery."

15 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Veterans Rights and Benefits; Burial

Description:

Requires the Director of the Office of Veterans' Services to act on behalf of deceased veterans found to be indigent at the time of death and without surviving immediate family members to ensure the burial or cremation and inurnment of the veteran's remains in a state veterans cemetery. (SB2139 HD2)

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