

Honolulu, Hawaii  
March 19, 2010

RE: S.B. No. 2139  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2010  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2139, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERANS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide indigent veterans without immediate family members with a proper burial by requiring the Director of the Office of Veterans' Services to ensure the burial or cremation and interment of the veteran's remains in a state veterans cemetery.

The Office of Veterans Services (OVS) and Oahu Veterans Council supported this bill.

Your Committee finds that the federal government provides burial benefits for veterans who die without a next of kin or other person claiming the veteran's remains, where there are insufficient resources to cover burial and funeral costs, and the veteran served honorably during any war or was discharged because of a service-connected disability. These funds are made available to provide a proper burial and avoid the risk that an indigent veteran who dies alone, without immediate family members, is interred in a pauper's grave.



This bill will allow the OVS Director to ensure that the service of our veterans is honored by a proper burial in a veterans cemetery.

Your Committee has amended this bill by replacing its substance with that of H.B. No. 1943, H.D. 1. As amended, the bill adds "inurnment" to the alternatives for the disposition of a veteran's remains.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2139, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2139, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Economic  
Revitalization, Business, &  
Military Affairs,



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ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



