

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 402
Honolulu, HI 96813

Testimony to the House Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business,
and Military Affairs
Tuesday, January 26, 2010
8:30 AM
Conference Room 312

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1900, RELATING TO MILITARY PERSONNEL

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Choy, and members of the committee.

My name is Charles Ota and I am the Vice President for Military Affairs at The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (The Chamber). I am here to state The Chamber's support of House Bill 1900, Relating To Military Personnel.

The Chamber's Military Affairs Council (MAC) serves as the liaison for the state in matters relating to the US military and its civilian workforce and families, and has provided oversight for the state's multi-billion dollar defense industry since 1985.

The measure proposes to recognize the designations of prisoner of war (POW) and missing in action (MIA) as valid descriptions of casualty status and category classifications for military personnel.

This measure proposes to use official designations and classifications established by the US government to enable processing of POW/MIA personnel actions in a timely manner.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the proposed measure be approved for further review and adoption.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.