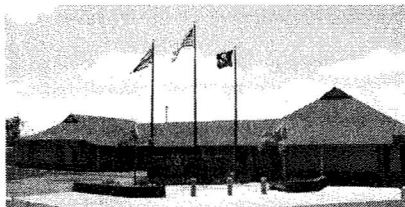


OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL

LATE TESTIMONY

OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL

President - Fred Ballard
1st V.P. - Cecil Meadows
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"a gathering place for veterans"

OAHU VETERANS CENTER

OAHU VETERANS CENTER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sandy Ballard

February 1, 2010

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

5th Regimental Combat Team
45th Infantry Division Assn.
Air Force Assn. - Chapter 138
Air Force Sergeants Association
American Legion Aux. Dept. of HI
American Legion - Dept. of HI
American Legion Post 32
American Veterans Empowerment &
Support Community Operations
BPOE VAWS Hawaii Dist.
China-Burma-India Veterans Assn.
Chosin Few - Aloha Chapter
Combat Infantrymen's Assn.
Combat Veterans Motorcycle Club
Disabled American Veterans -
Chapter 3
Fleet Reserve Association Branch
And Unit 46
Hawaii Multiple Schools Unit - Jr. ROTC
Korean War Veterans Assn -
Chapter 1
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Radiated Veterans
Samoan Providers
Society of Military Widows -
Aloha Chapter
Sons & Daughters of
Pearl Harbor Survivors
Special Forces Assn. - Chapter VIII
State Office of Veterans Services
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Dept. of Hawaii
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 970
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 858
Waves National - Unit 131
Women Veterans of America #26

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HOUSE BILL 1943 RELATING TO VETERANS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS & MILITARY AFFAIRS

HEARING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010, 8:30 AM, ROOM 312

Aloha Chair Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Representative Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee. My name is Fred Ballard, President Oahu Veterans Council. The Oahu Veterans Council is comprised of over 35 Oahu veteran organizations that in turn represent over 80,000 veterans and their families. The Council's legislative committee recently met and voted unanimously to communicate our complete support of House Bill 1943.

Every veteran who served our country deserves a decent burial and military honors if they can be provided. It is unfortunate that some find themselves indigent, and with no family to turn to for burial assistance. The State Office of Veterans Services is the logical agency to ensure they receive a proper burial in a state veterans cemetery. It is only right that they receive their last military related benefit and be afforded the decency of a veterans burial where they can rest with their comrades in arms.

The Oahu Veterans Council strongly supports the passage of House Bill 1943.

Mahalo for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of this very important bill.

Fred Ballard
President
Oahu Veterans Council



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