

LATE TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 630
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TUITION ASSISTANCE

PRESENTATION TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G. F. LEE
ADJUTANT GENERAL
February 17, 2009

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda, and Committee Members:

I am Major General Robert G. F. Lee, State Adjutant General. I am testifying on Senate Bill 630.

We oppose Senate Bill 630 and strongly support Senate Bill 623.

Both measure broadens the scope of the tuition assistance to members of the Hawaii National Guard by including all commissioned officers rather than officers in the grade of 01 (Second Lieutenant) to 03 (Captain). Also, Senate Bill 630 includes general officers, but does not give priority to members of the Hawaii National Guard that are working toward an undergraduate degree, which was the primary intent of this tuition assistance program.

Therefore, we humbly request the passage of Senate Bill 623 rather than Senate Bill 630. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Are there any questions?