

**LATE**

March 24, 2010

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
The Hawaii State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 231  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: S.C.R. NO. 218 EXPRESSING LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE RIGHT TO  
DISPLAY THE UNITED STATES FLAG

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of S.C.R. No. 218. I would like to express my full support for this resolution.

This country was built on the principle of freedom. It is the ability to express our pride and allegiance that makes us Americans at our cores. Allowing the freedom to show the best symbol that reflects our freedoms is essential to our society. It should not and cannot be the authority of a local commission to prohibit one of the purest expressions of unity and patriotism that we possess as Americans.

I completely agree with S.C.R No. 218 and believe that it is vital that we protect and uphold one of our simplest, yet, most substantial rights of displaying the flag of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

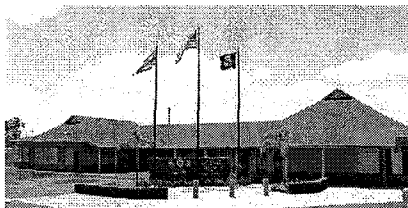
Gary G. Molina Jr.  
gmolinajr@hotmail.com

# OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL

# LATE

## OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL

President - Fred Ballard  
1st V.P. - Cecil Meadows  
2nd V.P. - Jim Santos  
Secretary - John Harms  
Treasurer - Eugenia Woodward  
Chaplain - Frank Lamson



*"a gathering place for veterans"*  
**OAHU VETERANS CENTER**

## OAHU VETERANS CENTER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Sandy Ballard

## 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 VAVS 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  
Military Officers Assn. of America -  
Aloha Chapter  
Military Officers Assn. of America -  
Hawaii State Chapter  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
Military Order of World Wars  
National Assn. for Atomic Veterans  
National Assn. of Uniformed Services  
National Sojourners - Hawaiian # 9  
National Sojourners - Honolulu # 11  
National Sojourners - Kamehameha #439  
Pearl Harbor Survivors Association  
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

March 23, 2010

## TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTION 218

### RELATING TO PLANNED COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

### SENATE COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

### HEARING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010, 10:00AM, ROOM 229

Aloha Senators Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, David Y. Ige, 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.

A fundamental right of all Americans is the right to fly the American flag at their residence. One form of displaying the flag is on a flag pole if that is their preference. HB 2311 allows for flag poles in residential areas that are part of a planned community. The bill also allows for reasonable restrictions on the use of flag poles by the associations. The council views this as a win-win for both sides. The Council does not support Senate Consolidated Resolution 218 because of its non-binding nature. The council understands the passion surrounding the display of the American flag.

The Oahu Veterans Council strongly supports the passage of House Bill 2311, and not CSR 218.

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

*Fred Ballard*

Fred Ballard  
President  
Oahu Veterans Council



1298 Kukila St.



Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

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**RE: S.C.R. NO. 218 EXPRESSING LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE  
RIGHT TO DISPLAY THE UNITED STATES FLAG**

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Greetings and salutations! I would like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify on S.C.R. NO. 218. My name is Dexter Asuncion and I support this resolution.

We live in a world, country, state, and city in which people are different. At times it is hard to see one thing in which brings us together and that is what the United States of America flag symbolizes. Each person has their own definition of what that flag may mean to them, but it is something that brings us all together. Many of us are proud to live in a country in which allows us to do so many different things in which some countries may not be able to do. This is why we question why not show how proud you are of being a part of something great. These are ideas that we incorporate our students to learn in our schools by saying the Pledge of Allegiance or singing the Star Spangled Banner during events such as sports games or state gatherings. Military personnel put these flags up to show how proud they are to serve or have served this great nation. As we see all these incorporations of growth and understanding of our country through the years, the idea of having a flag being put up shows that we care about the history and tradition of what our founding fathers led us to believe.

Sincerely,

Dexter Asuncion  
98-321 Ponohale Street  
Aiea, HI 96701  
Dasuncion68@gmail.com

**baker4 - Cathy**

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**From:** Sen. Roz Baker  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 11:03 PM  
**To:** CPN Testimony; Eric Arquero  
**Subject:** FW: SCR 218 -- Late testimony that came to my e-mail

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Sheryll Kresnak

Hearing Date: March 24, 2010, 10 a.m.

Re: SCR 218

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 218, relating to the right to display the American flag.

With all of the newer housing developments having covenants that no one freely negotiates but are "take it or leave it," home owners are restricted in many aspects such as reducing electricity use, choice of home color and outer decor, use of our garages and external space, gardening and fences, and other matters. The right to display the American flag, however, is one that carries significance beyond personal decorative preferences, and for this reason should be distinguished and permitted without charge or hindrance by community associations. The flag is the common motif for every United States citizen.

The American flag symbolizes our loyalty to our country, our sense of patriotism, and our devotion to our nation. With the many immigrants arriving daily and bringing their cultures to mix into ours, many Americans wish to show others that we are all united by a common gratitude to the principles of our unique Constitution and the society it created. Not simply fleeting fashion, the display of the American flag shows our belief in our principles of equality and opportunity for all, and the willingness to sacrifice to promote the general welfare of our fellow citizens. Most of all, it expresses a kindred spirit with the most patriotic of Americans, our men and women in uniform, who offer their lives to protect and defend our government and our way of life throughout the world. Displaying the American flag lets our military know that we support them and appreciate the sacrifices they and their families make.

Please pass this resolution so that all of us who bear this deep reverence for our nation can express our hearts freely by flying the American flag outside of our homes. Thank you for your consideration.

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Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on  
S.C.R. NO. 218. My name is Brandon Elefante and I strongly  
support this resolution.

Every American should have the right to display the United  
States (U.S.) flag. It is a symbol of freedom, bravery,  
and honor. In addition, the U.S. flag instills hope for  
all Americans during times of adversity and prosperity. No  
American should be denied the right to publicly display the  
U.S. flag. Moreover, the U.S. flag not only represents our  
past and present, but our patriotism to stand firm on our  
country's principles and ideals.

I humbly ask each of you to support this resolution and  
uphold our right as American citizens to publicly display  
the U.S. flag as stated in this resolution.

Sincerely,

Brandon Elefante  
99-729 Aliipoe Drive  
Aiea, HI 96701  
brandon.elefante@gmail.com

