

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1974, RELATING TO VETERANS  
PRESENTATION TO THE  
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY & MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN  
DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

February 9, 2012

Chair Aquino and Committee members:

I am Ron Han, Director of the Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of the concepts in House Bill 1974 with the following recommended amendments:

**Recommend Line 1 of Page 2 be amended to read:**

2) Eligible Veterans set forth in the Department of Veterans Affairs established criterion: "entering military service after September 7, 1980, as an enlisted person, and service after October 16, 1980, as an officer, must be a minimum of 24 continuous months or the full period for which the person was called to active duty (as in the case of a Reservist)."

**Recommend Line 5 of Page 2 be amended to read:**

3) Eligible Veterans who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable of the armed forces of the United States with either peacetime or wartime service

**Recommend Line 9 on Page 2 be amended to read:**

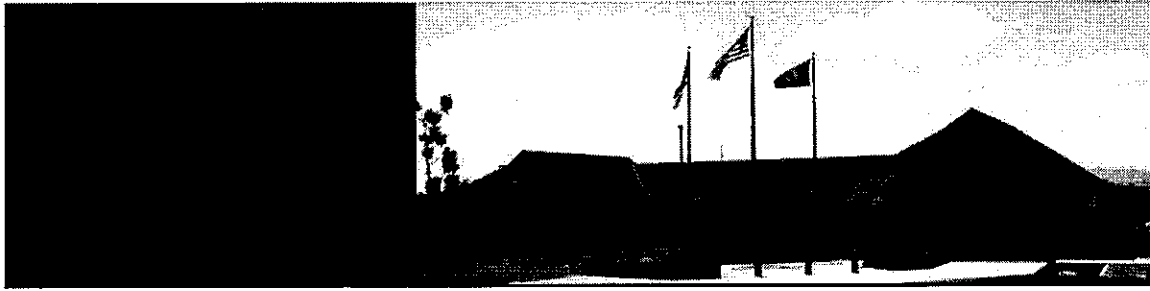
(4) The wife, husband, or minor children, and eligible physically challenged dependent adults, who predecease a service member or veteran, who would be entitled to internment, are eligible to be interred in any State Veterans Cemetery

Overall, this measure would allow Service members who died while in the Armed Forces of the United States; eligible Veterans under the criterion established by the Department of Veterans Affairs of the Armed Forces of the United States with either peacetime or wartime service; the widows, widowers, or minor children, and physically challenged dependent adults of deceased service

members or veterans; the wife, husband, or minor children who predecease a service member or veteran – all the above-mentioned would be allowed to be buried in the veterans cemeteries of each county without any residential commitments.

The OVS supports the concepts and intent of this bill with recommended amendments as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Years 2012-2013.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families in support of HB 1974.



February 7, 2012

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1974  
RELATING TO VETERANS**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
HEARING ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, AT 9:00 AM, IN CONFERENCE  
ROOM 309**

Aloha Chair Aquino: The Oahu Veterans Council' delegates, are honored to represent the interests of our veterans and their families. Our Legislative Committee voted unanimously to support House Bill 1974.

We sincerely appreciate your efforts to remove residency requirements for the burial of members of the armed services and their dependants in our veterans' cemeteries.

The Oahu Veterans Council respectfully urges your committee to consider passing House Bill 1974 as written; mahalo, for allowing us to testify, regarding this extremely important issue.

*Dennis Egge*

Dennis Egge; Chairman, Legislative Committee



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

Email: [sballard@oahuveternascenter.com](mailto:sballard@oahuveternascenter.com); Phone: 808-422-4000; Fax: 808-422-4001

[www.oahuveternascenter.com](http://www.oahuveternascenter.com)