

Testimony to the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Thursday, March 29, 2012  
10:00 AM  
Conference Room 309

RE: HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 216/HOUSE RESOLUTION 167, URGING THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL TO ACT FAVORABLY ON H.R. 2148 AND TO REPORT THE BILL TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR FUTURE ACTION.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen, 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 HCR 216/HR 167, Urging The House Of Representatives Armed Services Committee And Subcommittee on Military Personnel To Act Favorably On H.R. 2148 And To Report The Bill To the United States House Of Representatives for Further Action.

The Chamber's Military Affairs Council serves as the liaison for the state in matters relating to the US military and in providing oversight for the state's \$12.2 billion defense industry.

The Chamber supports the proposal in H.R. 2148 to amend Title 10 of the US Code to extend military commissary and exchange privileges to veterans with a compensable service-connected disability and their dependents. The granting of purchasing privileges for this group of deserving veterans has been ignored over the years and should be corrected as soon as possible.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important resolution.