

## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 01, 2011 2:32 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** fytttt@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1215 on 4/1/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/1/2011 3:00:00 PM SB1215

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Ted Tsukiyama  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [fytttt@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:fytttt@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 4/1/2011

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**Comments:**

My name is Ted Tsukiyama, and as a veteran of the 442nd RCT and Military Intelligence Service, may I register and express my endoresement and support for the passage of SB 1215, SD2 regarding the creation of a 100th/442nd RCT legacy center in State lands within the Kapiolani Community College property and hereby urge its passage and adoption.

But I wish to point out that there were other Japanese-American units and soldiers besides the 100th/442nd RCT that fought for their country in World War II, such as the Nisei Military Intelligence Service, the 370th and 1399 Construction Engineers, the Varsity Victory Volunteers, and Nisei soldiers in the 298th and 299th Infantry Regiments. The proposed legacy center should not be limited or restricted to only the 100th/442nd RCT but be expanded to permit any of these other Japanese-American soldiers/units to house their historic archives at this legacy center, thus the scope and purpose of SB 1215 should be broadened to create a legacy center for all Japanese-American military units/soldiers who fought in World War II. As so modified SB 1215, SB2 should be adopted. Thank you for your consideration.

## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 01, 2011 2:36 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** stacer@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1215 on 4/1/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/1/2011 3:00:00 PM SB1215

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Stacey Hayashi  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [stacer@gmail.com](mailto:stacer@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 4/1/2011

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**Comments:**

My name is Stacey Hayashi, and I am writing as a private citizen in strong support of SB1215. I have worked with veterans of the 100th/442nd RCT and the Military Intelligence Service on various projects, and I really believe that their legacy should be preserved -- not only their wartime efforts but also their impact on Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration.

## FINTestimony

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From: Hamasu [eham@hawaiiintel.net]  
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2011 2:48 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Re: House Companion Bill to SB1215, Relating to Public Lands.

# LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Chairman Marcus R. Oshiro and Members, House Committee on Water Land and Ocean,

We were apprised of the subject bill, and we hastened to add our strong support for its passage.

I am currently the president of Military Intelligence Service Veterans of Hawaii. MIS Veterans of Hawaii is made up mostly of WW II veterans, who are mainly in their late 80s and 90s. Sadly, they are passing on quite rapidly. As a Korean War veteran, I am honored to serve with them. It is quite unbelievable to learn that at the start of WW II, these guys were classified as undraftable 4-c, Enemy Aliens. However, at the end the War, the 100th and 442nd became the most decorated fighting units in the U.S. Military History, and MIS was recognized for shortening that War by 2 years and saving countless lives due to their linguistic skills in the Pacific. As you may know, in WW II, U.S. Armed Forces were segregated by race. Belatedly, these "warriors" were bestowed the Nation's highest civilian award, the Congressional Gold Medal.

Chairman Oshiro and Members, time is really of the essence! The AJA veterans of WW II went through a unique experience in WW II. They looked like the enemy, so they were treated like enemies. More than 2,000 of their parents were imprisoned behind barbed wires at Sand Island and Honouliuli, and other jail houses; some were later shipped to mainland barbed wire camps. Despite our Constitution's Freedom of Religion, their main religion, Buddhism, were curtailed because all Buddhist leaders were taken away from Hawaii. There were not few cases where their sons were risking their lives in battle, while their parents were sick and dying in the barbed wire camps.

Despite these "pilikia," the AJA and their counterparts on the Mainland, showed their "true blue color." They volunteered en masse, thousands upon thousands, to fight for their country. This is truly a unique experience in the annals of WW II in Hawaii and on the mainland. And, when the war was over, the AJA continued to volunteer for the Occupation of Japan. Jeffrey J. Clarke, Chief of Military History, in the Foreword to *Nisei Linguist, 2006*, by James C. McNaughton, wrote, "Although often overlooked, the entire experience of Nisei Linguists provides valuable lessons to U.S. military, present and future. In fact, the Global War on Terrorism underlines the need for similar capabilities and programs for the sustained struggle ahead."

The records of 100th, 442nd, MIS, 1399th, and the VVV, therefore must be searched, preserved, protected and shared in perpetuity with our community. Where better than at the AJA Veterans Legacy Center. MIS Veterans of Hawaii is therefore supportive of the subject Bill, and respectfully request its passage. Thank you very much!

Edgar A. Hamasu  
President, MIS Veterans of Hawaii