

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways
And Means**

Thursday, February 23, 2012

9:00 AM

Conference Room 211

**RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2582, SD1, RELATING TO THE HAWAII
PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CODE**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, 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 Senate Bill No. 2582, SD1, Relating to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code.

The measure proposes to clarify that, of the 20% of the State's annual purchasing expenditures set aside to be awarded to small businesses, at least 3% shall be awarded to veteran-owned small businesses or service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses having fifty or fewer employees.

We concur with the proposal to set aside state procurement contracts specifically for veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses that have fifty or less employees.

We recommend the proposal be approved.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.