

LATE



Hawaii Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 1185
Kailua, Hawaii 96734-1185

Testimony of Thomas Smyth

Military Officers Association of America, Hawaii Chapter

**Before the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs**

Tuesday, March 27, 2012, 2:45 am, Room 224

**SCR 106 Requesting Hawaii's Congressional Delegation To
Vote In Favor Of H.R. 2148, To Extend Military Commissary And
Exchange Store Privileges To Veterans With A Compensable Service-
Connected Disability And Their Dependents**

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and Committee Members

Our chapter of more than 400 retired and currently serving officers of the Uniformed Services strongly supports SCR 106 asking that our Congressional Delegation vote for legislation extending Commissary and Exchange privileges to Service-Connected Disabled Veterans and their families.

On Oahu, there are four large Defense Commissary Agency facilities. There are also four large military exchange facilities, operated by each of the services. This means that there is more than enough room to add additional customers for these facilities. Strict control is maintained in each facility to ensure that only eligible persons may make purchases. All veterans with a Service-Connected Disability have identification indicating their Department of Veterans Affairs status so there is no problem verifying their eligibility.

Currently only those veterans with a 100% disability rating are extended this privilege. It is only fair that that be changed to allow all veterans with a service-connected disability to have the same opportunity. They have certainly earned the privilege.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

From: Dale Wilson [docdale6@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 10:29 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: Carolle Brulee-Wilson; Joe Kaleikini; Don Bennett; Tommy Tanaka; Emile Wery; Ken Moyer; Ken Fujimoto; Camron Fox; Penny Fox; Mindy Alles; Rex Weigel; rex shafer
Subject: Testimony in Support of SCR 106

I wish to make the following statement as testimony in support of SCR 106, REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF H.R. 2148, 112TH CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION, TO EXTEND MILITARY COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE STORE PRIVILEGES TO VETERANS WITH A COMPENSABLE SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY AND THEIR DEPENDENTS:

We have a large service-connected disabled veterans population here in Hawaii. Many of these men and women are compensated at levels lower than the 100% required for PX and commissary privileges. In these tough economic times, it would be a blessing to those who have sacrificed so much for their nation to grant them access to these facilities.

As both a retired army officer and 100% service-connected disabled veteran, I can attest to the significant savings that would accrue to these vets and their families and strongly support extending these benefits to them in recognition of their sacrifices.

Mahalo in advance for your support on this important legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dale E. Wilson, Ph.D.
Major, U.S. Army (Ret.)
HI Dept. Sr. Vice Cdr./Adjutant, Big Island Chap. 731,
Military Order of the Purple Heart &
Treasurer, DAV Puna Chap. 9



<http://army.togetherweserved.com/sbv/DaleWilson>