

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 2013

RE: S.B. No. 539
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Transportation and International Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 539 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERANS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to exempt certain totally and permanently disabled veterans from paying motor vehicle registration expenses.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the State Office of Veterans' Services; the City and County of Honolulu Division of Motor Vehicle, Licensing, and Permits; and several individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that it is necessary to give back to veterans who have served valiantly in support of and sacrifice to the United States. Furthermore, the nature of veterans' disabilities often will not allow them to pursue paid employment, and their fixed income generally falls short of their cost of living. The exemption of certain totally and permanently disabled veterans from paying motor vehicle registration expenses will improve the quality of life for the veterans and their dependents.

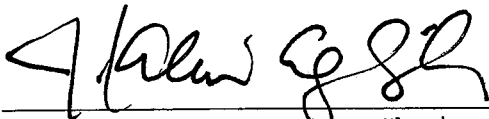
Your Committees have amended this measure by:



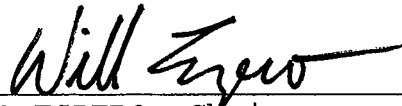
- (1) Deleting the honorable discharge eligibility requirement for the exemption and specifying instead that a veteran who is discharged from the United States uniformed armed forces is eligible except if dishonorably discharged; and
- (2) Excluding vehicles used for commercial purposes and more than one vehicle of a disabled veteran from the exemption.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Transportation and International Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 539, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 539, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs and Transportation and
International Affairs,



J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair

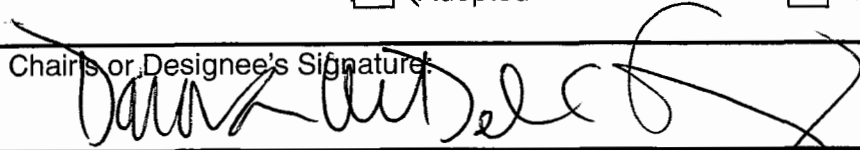


WILL ESPERO, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
TIA

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 539	PSM/TIA, WAM	1/29/13		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (C)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (VC)	/			
ESPERO, Will	/			
GABBARD, Mike				/
KAHELE, Gilbert	/			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	/			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.	/			
SOLOMON, Malama				/
SLOM, Sam				/
TOTAL	6			3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes