

HB 1203, HD1

Measure Title:

RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

Description:

Provides preference for a person who has had at least five years of service as an active commissioned officer in the Hawaii National Guard, whether army, air, or both for eligibility to serve as adjutant general. Provides second preference for national guard members to serve as adjutant general over members of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve component thereof. Grandfathers the current adjutant general. (HB1203 HD1)

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1203 HD1
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

PRESENTATION TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D. M. WONG
March 14, 2013

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee.

I am Major General Darryll D. M. Wong. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 1203 HD1 but only if two proposed amendments to the language are made.

I am writing this personal testimony not representing the Department of Defense but as a military leader and the current Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii (TAG). As the current TAG I would like to provide insight on the role of the TAG here in the State of Hawaii. This will provide a substantive reason for my testimony and reasons for support if changes are made to the current language.

Currently the State of Hawaii does not have a very substantive qualifying criteria for the Governor to use for his selection of the TAG. The key role the TAG plays in the safety and security of the people of the State of Hawaii warrants this person to have some qualifying experience.

I support the bill and its intent to provide some substantive qualifying criteria for selection of the TAG. I recommend these two modifications in the language be made. in Section 1(2) to read - "possess at least five years of service as an active commissioned officer in the national guard, whether army or air" vice "Hawaii National Guard". In Section 2 (1) to read "Hold or has held a commission of at least the rank of colonel (O-6)" vice "field grade officer".

Both of these are important changes to be made in the language. It is broad enough to provide the type of the experience a TAG needs as well as define the minimum rank required to have the years of maturity, experiences, and readiness to do this job and for promotion to a General Officer. All are critical components.

I have been a member of the active duty Air Force, the Air Force Reserves and the Air National Guard. And as the current TAG I believe all these experiences will provide you the basis for my testimony.

1. The National Guard is a State entity.
2. There is no other organization like it in the world. It trains to do its war-time tasking and also takes that training and transitions it seamlessly to do domestic operations to support the Governor and the people of the State of Hawaii.
3. The TAG of Hawaii is a cabinet level appointee. Therefore he is a State employee but with the federal recognition of a General Officer in the United States Armed Forces. He

needs to have understanding of how the State civilian system works. It is also important to have experience in understanding and working with the State Legislature.

4. He commands both the Army and the Air National Guard of Hawaii. This is what we call a joint command.
5. Hawaii's National Guard is unique. In most States the Army NG is almost 3-5 times larger than its Air NG. Here in Hawaii they are almost equal in size.
6. The Hawaii Air National Guard is the 9th largest in the 54 States and Territories. It flies the most updated equipment in the Air force inventory. The only Air NG that owns and flies the F-22.
7. Our Air NG also performs not only a 24/7 Air Defense mission with its F-22's but also provide 24/7 watch by radar of all the aircraft transiting in/out of Hawaii. Very few States do this mission.
8. Our Army NG flies the most update UH-60's and CH-47's. Therefore understanding Army aviation as well as its ground units is important. Understanding how to modernize and sustain the use those assets and integrate them into a disaster plan is important.
9. The National Guard has a State Partnership Program that no other service component in the United States military has. Hawaii's international partner in the Pacific is Indonesia and we also help Guam with the Philippines. The role and ability of the TAG to nurture and grow this relationship is key to helping his partner country as well as foster our national security objectives.

Other important factor to understand is that the role of the **TAG in Hawaii is more than just a military leader. Therefore to only define a qualifying criteria as a military leader would be too narrow.** Unlike most of the other State TAGs, the TAG of Hawaii is not only the commander of the Army and Air NG, he is also:

1. **Director of State Civil Defense**, therefore head of emergency management in the State of Hawaii. This is a tremendously important role the TAG of Hawaii plays. It is important for the people of Hawaii to have someone that has experience in working in this system before he becomes in-charge of it. You would not get much of this experience outside the National Guard.
2. **Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor.** In charge of the security for the State of Hawaii for all hazards to include, terrorism, cyber attack, nuclear, biological attack, and more. This is another very important job that the Hawaii TAG has. There are only 12 other TAGs in the United States that have this role also. Military training alone will not prepare you to take on this role. Building the strategy for this department is key. Having prior networking and understanding and having experience working with local, State, and federal law enforcement is important. Having the ability to work with the private sector in this area is also important. Cyber security will be key in the future. Understanding how to work with the University, private, public, local, DoD, and Federal partners will be important.
3. **State Authorization Agent (SAA)** for which all Department of Homeland Security Grants come through for the State of Hawaii. He should understand how the FEMA grant system works and provide strong leadership in collaboration across the State to define capability gaps and use proper DHS grants to mitigate those gaps. The grants

funds in the State of Hawaii have decreased appreciably and understanding how to try increase the amount of funding the State of Hawaii can write to is tremendously important.

4. **Responsible for the Youth Challenge Program in the State.** Hawaii is one of a few States that have more than one program. Understanding and using this program to help save Hawaii's at risk kids is key. Working with the community to increase its enrollment and building a strong Board to help with additional funding is also important.
5. **Has oversight of the Hawaii State Office of Veteran Services.** Having knowledge of Hawaii and the historic role our veterans have and their needs is important.
6. **In-charge of the State's Civil Support Team (CST)** which is on call to help across the State in responding to any chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incident. There is no other unit like this in any of the other services.
7. **In-charge of State's Counter Drug Program.** Current TAG needs to understand its critical role in the community and fight for its federal budget. This will be with the National Guard Bureau in the Pentagon.
8. **In-charge of the Hawaii National Guard Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERF-P) team.** A team that has medical, urban search and rescue and decontamination components and used in any consequence management response here in our State. We have sent portions to help American Samoa after their earthquake and tsunami response. Key for TAG to understand its role, how to resource it and deploy it.

The TAG is the senior leader of Hawaii's National Guard Association organization which is the State component of the overall National Guard Association of the United States. These two organizations provide National Guard inputs to Congress for those issues to promote National Guard readiness and welfare concerns. The TAG must understand his National Guard units to help affect changes that need to be advocated to congress.

The TAG is also a member of the Adjutant General Association of the United States (AGAUS). This organization is made up of all the TAGs of the 54 States and Territories. This group meets to provide requirements, policy and direction for issues and concerns on the readiness, equipment, force structure, and military construction to the Chief of the National Guard as well as the congress of the United States. The TAG must know how the Pentagon works, how the congress of the United States work, and above all know his own State's congressional delegation to help provide the information and updates to them for any political influence needed.

In Summary:

As the current TAG of Hawaii, I have tried to provide you an understanding of the uniqueness of the role of the TAG and especially that of the TAG in Hawaii. Because of the changing world and economic environment, it is different from the TAGs that came before me and will surely change for those that come after me. But I feel it is important to have some substantive qualifying criteria for selection.

The role of the TAG in Hawaii is more than just a military leader. To only define the qualifying criteria solely in terms of the military aspect is too narrow and would not provide the people of the State of Hawaii the best selection for the TAG. The National Guard is a State entity and

there is no other organization like it in the world. The role of the TAG in Hawaii and the two other key roles he plays as the Director of State Civil Defense and Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor is also unique and only duplicated in 12 other States.

Therefore to truly understand the National Guard, its interrelationship with Domestic Operations, Homeland Security within the State Department of Defense, to lead it at the highest level, and to be effective immediately upon selection, a person needs to have spent some time in the National Guard. The requirement to at least be a colonel (O-6) or above is also important. It ensures a minimum amount of professional development, experiences, and maturity to become a General Officer and operate in that circle.

The proposed criteria are broad enough and offer good requirements for qualifications as a TAG for the people of the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo for giving me this opportunity to provide my testimony in support but with amendments to the language.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs**

Thursday, March 14, 2013

2:55 PM

Conference Room 224

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1203, HD1, RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, 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 House Bill No. 1203, HD1**, Relating to the National Guard.

The measure provides preference for a person who has had at least five years of service as an active commissioned officer in the Hawaii National Guard, whether Army, Air, or both for eligibility to serve as adjutant general. The measure further provides second preference for National Guard members to serve as adjutant general over members of the Armed Forces of the United States or a Reserve component thereof, and grandfathers the current adjutant general.

The measure proposes to give preference to a qualified commissioned officer who has served with the Hawaii Army or Air National Guard, or both. This experience is intended to ensure that the officer has had direct experience in supervising or participating in the various state programs and projects that are under the purview of the Hawaii Department of Defense.

We agree with the proposed qualifications in selecting Hawaii's adjutant general with one exception, and that is to require that the TAG be a legal resident of the state of Hawaii.

To avoid any misunderstanding, we suggest that Section 1, subparagraph (c) (2) be revised to clearly specify that preference will be given to legal residents of Hawaii.

In light of the above, we recommend the measure be amended accordingly.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII AIR NATIONAL GUARD
HEADQUARTERS 154TH WING

13 March 2013

CMSgt Willie P. Rafael
154th Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant
Hawaii Air National Guard
360 Mamala Bay Drive
JBPH-H Honolulu, HI 96853

To whom it may concern,
RE: House Bill 1203 TAG Bill

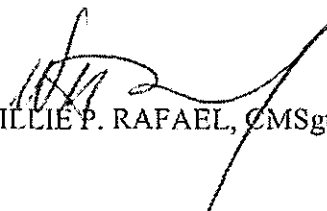
I am in support of House Bill 1203 TAG Bill making it a mandatory requirement for individuals selected to the position of "The Adjutants General (TAG)" as having served a minimum of 5 years in the Hawaii National Guard (HING).

Having served in the HING will make the transition from the outgoing and incoming TAGs seamless. The individual will already have an in depth understanding of the organization. He or she will not be a stranger to the soldiers and airmen within, their culture, and homeland. This individual will continue to shape the organizations strategy and direction and drive the HINGs performance to higher standards.

This individual will more than likely have easier time negotiating for and accessing additional systems and resources when necessary for a critical response or mission accomplishment, due to his/her experience within the military system of Hawaii.

Member who have served in the HING will continue to ensure that effective controls are developed and maintained for the integrity of the organization and will hold self and others accountable for rules and responsibilities. Please consider passing the bill!

Sincerely



WILLIE P. RAFAEL, CMSgt, HIANG

From: Tom Ito [doristom.ito@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 7:58 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Subject: HB 1203.HD1
Attachments: TAG.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hearing: Thursday, March 14, 2013
Conference Room 224 @ 2:55 p.m.

HB1203, HD1

Mr. Chairman, I am Thomas S. Ito, a retired Brigadier General and am here to testify in favor of the inclusion in the Hawaii Revised Statutes to require the Adjutant General nominee to have as a minimum of 5 years experience in the National Guard before appointment to the position.

This is a logical amendment to the statutes as it will update and reflect the minimum qualifications of the Adjutant General to meet the demands of the modern National Guard and its specific Federal and State mission requirements. Reasons for my support are:

First and foremost is the National Guard is no longer a rag tag militia and a second rate organization with obsolete equipment as in previous years, but it is a full fledged partner with the Active Forces as evidenced by the mobilization of the Hawaii Army National Guard's 29th Bde and other units and the active support provided by the Hawaii Air National Guard in the Air Defense, Transport, Refueling and Communication missions with the US Air Force. The vital importance of the Guard in support of the national defense is further evidenced by the recent appointment of the Chief, National Guard Bureau as a full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff along with the Regular Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, reporting directly to the Secretary of Defense..

Second and of equal importance is this change will allay the demoralizing affect on the morale of the fully qualified members of the Hawaii National Guard and the affect on the continuity of operations when the current "no minimum experience" criteria is applied and the selection is made of the Adjutant General under this criteria.

Having spent 4 years of active duty in the Pentagon in the office of the Chief, National Guard Bureau and 4 years as the Deputy Adjutant General, I am fully aware of the relationship of the State Adjutants General and the Chief, National Guard. It is one of mutual respect, trust, full knowledge and understanding of the Guard . The wise counsel and advice provided by the Adjutant General is utilized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau to justify the State's National Guard's force structure, budget and mission requirements in personnel, training, maintenance, logistics and military construction.

Based on the foregoing, it is my sincere belief that the individual to be appointed as the Adjutant General must have the National Guard experience and perspective in order to fully and effectively function as the chief advisor to the Governor and the Chief, National Guard Bureau on state National Guard matters. I strongly recommend favorable consideration of the amendment.

Thomas S. Ito
Brig Gen (ret)

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/13/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brig Gen Joseph Kim	Individual	Support	Yes

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1203 HD1
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

PRESENTATION TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH K. KIM
March 14, 2013

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee:

I am Brigadier General Joseph K Kim. I am testifying IN SUPPORT of House Bill 1203 HD1 with recommended amendments.

I support the bill and its intent to provide some criteria selection of the Adjutant General. I strongly recommend the following amendments. In Section 1(2) to read - "possess at least five years of service as an active commissioned officer in the National Guard, whether Army or Air" vice "Hawaii National Guard". In Section 2 (1) to read "Hold or has held a commission of at least the rank of colonel (O-6)" vice "field grade officer".

The two recommended changes above are essential in attempting to quantify the leadership and professional qualifications necessary to be an effective Adjutant General.

The Adjutant General is a Cabinet member, with multi-faceted departmental responsibilities, being the Commander for the State's 5,500 Air and Army National Guard, Director for Civil Defense and Homeland Security Advisor for the Governor.

Foremost a military leader, the Adjutant General will, or has been through a stringent Federal recognition, a screening process requiring Presidential approval and United States Senate confirmation. The minimum grade suggested more effectively insures that an appointed Adjutant General, having achieved the rank of Colonel (O-6) will have the training, breadth of experience and qualifications necessary to be promoted to the rank of General Officer in a timely manner.

Our Hawaii Army and Air National Guard are unique, complex, have dual Federal and State roles with the Air National Guard in particular containing the most complex flying organization in the United States. In addition, the Hawaii National Guard is a participant in the National Guard-led State Partnership Program. In the Asia Pacific Region, Hawaii has Indonesia as a State Partner, where the National Guard's capability in domestic operations are instrumental in building lasting partnerships, helping to foster stability in what our national strategy sees as the next focus area. The State mission of the National Guard in domestic operations, is a capability resident only within the National Guard, and is the only organization lawfully authorized for immediate disaster response to a Governor. An Adjutant General without National Guard experience would not have a functioning knowledge of this domestic capability.

In summary, to understand and effectively lead the National Guard, its dual Federal and Domestic missions, it is of utmost importance that a person has experience and service as a National Guard commissioned officer.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support with recommended amendments to House Bill 1203 HD1

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position Present at Hearing	
Raymond Jardine Jr.	Individual	Support	No

March 11, 2013

Chairman Senator Espero

Vice Chair Senator Baker

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of the bill related to The Adjutant General HB 1203 HD1

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Committee, I thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the bill related to The Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii.

I'm Dr. Raymond Jardine Jr. and I retired from the Hawaii National Guard after serving my state and nation for nearly 33 years, as a enlisted soldier, NCO and as a commissioned officer. I have the distinct honor of being the Deputy Commander of the 29th Enhanced Separate Infantry Brigade when it went from worst to first in the nation in readiness. I was also the Officer-In-Charge full-time when the 103rd Troop Command achieved the highest readiness in its history. I was the president of the National Guard Association Hawaii Insurance Trust and as the president of the Hawaii National Guard Association we achieved 100% membership for the first time in its existence. I am the past Executive Director for the Hawaii National Guard Association, The Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association, National Guard Association – Hawaii Insurance Trust, Board of Directors for the National Guard Association of the United States and currently the Chairman & CEO of Native Hawaiian Veterans, LLC. I was appointed by the President of the United State to the National Veterans Business Development Corporation and currently serve on the Civil Defense Advisory Board and the Veterans Administration Advisory Committee for Minority Veterans. I mention this to provide you a short background of my service, performance, character, and dedication to duty.

I fully support the criteria requiring The Adjutant General to have at least 5 years of service as a commissioned officer in the National Guard. The position of Adjutant General is a critical position, requiring the selection of the best qualified and experience individual. It requires thorough knowledge of the unique state and federal missions, the status of soldiers and airmen, and an ability to accomplish these missions, through local leadership, other TAG's, congressional leaders, National Guard Association of the United States, and the National Guard Bureau.

The Adjutant General must have the basic foundation and qualifications to command this unique organization from the first day on the job, and not have to learn the basics. While serving on the board of directors for the National Guard Association of the United States, it was determined that 90% of the states already got this right and have some sort of provision that requires the Adjutant General to have National Guard experience. In discussion with Lieutenant General (Retired) Russell Davis, the former Chief of the National Guard Bureau, he also agrees that you must possess National Guard experience in order to properly execute the duties of the Adjutant General.

As a former key leader in state missions, such as, Hurricane Iniki, Operations Green Harvest, Operation Kokua (the flooding on the Leeward Coast), and most recently as the Ground Forces Component Commander for the Security of our Airports throughout our State after the tragedy of 9/11, I cannot see

how anyone without knowledge and experience in the National Guard State Mission, could lead our state in a crisis be it manmade or a natural disaster.

I submit to you that these bills set the foundation to provide the State of Hawaii the best possibility to select the right person to lead the Hawaii National Guard and our State Civil Defense.

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Committee, I thank you once again for this opportunity to present my views on this critical bill to safeguard the State of Hawaii.

Colonel Raymond Jardine Jr.
United State Army Retired

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 2:49 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: robert.lee.4@us.af.mil
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1203 on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM
Attachments: HB 1203 Testimony.docx

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/12/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CMSgt Robert S.K. Lee III	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER
HEADQUARTERS HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495



Personal Data - Privacy Act 1974 (Title 5 USC 552a)

12 Mar 13

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1203
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

Command Chief Master Sergeant Robert S.K. Lee III
Senior Enlisted Leader – Hawaii National Guard
March 12, 2013

Chair Espero, Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I am CMSgt Robert S.K. Lee III. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 1203.

My support of HB 1203 stems from my 27+ years of serving in the Hawaii National Guard, whereas this experience provides an understanding of when the position of the Adjutant General is being considered for appointment by the Governor, consideration **MUST** be taken into account that the candidate possesses a strong understanding of the unique complexity of how the Department of Defense is comprised with the membership of the Hawaii National Guard, State Civil Defense and Homeland Defense. There are intricacies embedded within each DoD entity that in order to be successful in operating at its highest capabilities that must be intimately understood. The experience of a member of the Hawaii National Guard with at least 5 years membership would provide a background of understanding the culture and importance of what the needs are of the people of the State of Hawaii in terms of domestic operations, national and state security and the defense of our public freedoms.

The Adjutant General should know her/his counterparts in other states, the National Guard Bureau, and the Army and Air Force staff at the Pentagon and the major commands. The minimum five years in the National Guard as a senior leader will allow her/him to establish bonds, friendships, and trust with these individuals.

The Adjutant General must have the network, experience, and trust of the congressional members, both Hawaii's team and other key members of congress to successfully lobby and understand the process for missions, manpower, and operational funds.

I strongly urge you to pass HB 1203.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

ROBERT S.K. LEE III, CMSgt, HING
Senior Enlisted Leader - HING

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/13/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arthur "Joe" Logan	Individual	Support	Yes

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1203 HD1
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

PRESENTATION TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

COLONEL JOE LOGAN
March 13, 2013

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee.

I am Colonel Arthur "Joe" Logan. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 1203 HD1 but only if the proposed amendments to the language are made.

I am writing this personal testimony not representing my current position as the Hawaii National Guard, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, JFHQ-HI, State Department of Defense, State of Hawaii, but as a military leader and former President of the Hawaii National Guard Association. I have lived in the State of Hawaii for the past 41 years, and I have worn the uniform of the U.S. Army upon enlisting in June 1978, first serving in the U.S. Army Reserve at Ft. DeRussy, Hawaii; and with the Hawaii National Guard since 1980.

My career spans at total of 34 years with the first 21 years as an M-Day or part-time Soldier while pursuing a career with the Honolulu Police Department. However, since the summer of 2000, I have been a full-time employee in the Hawaii National Guard serving as an AGR Officer and more currently as a Military-Technician. I was mobilized on Active Duty for OEF and served in Afghanistan alongside active, guard, and reserve Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines. I have commanded at the platoon through battalion level, and was one of a few National Guard Officers, whose civilian skills, qualified me to command active, guard, and reserve Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines in a combat zone during my tour in Afghanistan. I have been mobilized by the Hawaii National Guard commanding units and being a staff officer for many events and disaster responses from APEC 2011 going all the way back to 1992 during Hurricane Iniki support on the Island of Kauai.

My background provides me with very diverse and invaluable experiences that I will use to provide substantive reasons for my testimony and support of changes to the current language.

The office of the Adjutant General (TAG), State of Hawaii is very complex with multiple laws, regulations, and duties requiring a vast array of experiences, maturity, and abilities that we as military leaders gain over time. While, there are no set criteria for Governors to choose their candidate for TAG, currently the HING has Army and Air National Guard officers at and above the rank of Colonel/O6 who are fully qualified to hold the position of TAG. These HING Officers have attended the necessary Senior Service College or MEL 1 schools and have lead units within the organization that prepare one for the role of TAG.

I support the bill and its intent to provide qualifying criteria for selection of the TAG. I recommend the following four modifications in the language:

1. Section 1(c) (1)) to read "Hold or has held a commission of at least the rank of colonel (O-6)" vice "...at least an O-5, ...".

2. Section 1(c) (2) to read - "Has served as a federally recognized commissioned officer for at least five years in the Hawaii Army or Air National Guard ", vice "Has served as a commissioned officer in one or more of the armed forces of the United States for a total of at least ten years;".

3. Delete the portion after "...year; provided that preference for the appointment..." because there are always officers in the HING that will meet the criteria in 1 and 2 above. Therefore a Governor would likely never get to the second preference.

4. Add into Section 1(c) (3) "Has attended the military education level 1; such as Army or Air Senior Service College or its equivalent, appropriate to their service component."

The reasons I believe a nomination for TAG should be a Colonel/O-6 and not a Lieutenant Colonel/O-5 is due to Human Capitol or personnel process. The State of Hawaii is one of only a few states with an extremely large Active military presence such as, Pacific Command, Pacific Air Force, U.S. Army Pacific, Pacific Fleet, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The TAG must work alongside our active component services and therefore is required to be qualified as a federally recognized general officer, as well as, have held leadership positions that are commensurate with his active and reserve component counterparts. An officer in the rank/grade of Lieutenant Colonel/O-5 does not have the depth of experiences a colonel has but more importantly it would take a O-5 a minimum of three years just to reach the minimum qualification required for a Brigadier General. Also, to be eligible for general officer an officer must have completed their military education level 1 (MEL 1), and if they did not it would take two years to complete the appropriate MEL 1 requirement. By this time, the first term of the Governor is coming to a close and the TAG would only now enter into the rank of General Officer and hold respect and experience needed to lead the state militia, lead emergency management, and be the expert in the area of Homeland Security to the Governor.

The officer being nominated for TAG must fully understand the roles and responsibilities of the TAG and the various units within the Hawaii National Guard. In my many years of working alongside our sister services, and our foreign nation counterparts, I have come to the realization that explaining the intricate details of how the National Guard works, its many statuses, such as AGR, Military Technician, or State Active Duty, and how the it is called to active service for its federal or state mission takes requires a tremendous amount of patience and time. Because the National Guard is very unique it is not something you should learn by way of "on the job training."

In Summary:

The TAG requires someone who has all the skills and abilities to lead a very unique and complex organization like no other. While there are 53 TAGs and each State or Territory is similar there are stark differences and therefore unique to their local legislators, citizens, and communities. It would not be prudent to nominate an officer to the position of TAG just because they wear a military uniform, but, more importantly someone who has grown up as National Guardsperson who fully understands its culture, idiosyncrasies, and complex systems.

Mahalo for giving me this opportunity to provide my testimony in support but with amendments to the language.

Testimony in Support of HB 1203, HD 1,
A Bill Relating to the National Guard
To
The Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental Affairs and Military Affairs.

Chairman Willie Espero, Vice Chairman Rosalyn Baker and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental Affairs and Military Affairs:

I am Edward V. Richardson, Major General, USAF (Ret) and former State Adjutant General for the State of Hawaii. I am submitting testimony in support of HB 1203, HD1 that will ""prohibit a person from being eligible to serve as the Adjutant General unless the person has at least 5 years of service as an active commissioned officer in the Hawaii National Guard."

The wording on the proposed amendment sounds self-serving and protective of the officers now serving in the Hawaii National Guard. However, the wording as presented is the same as forty (40) other states in our nation.

I am not here to protect the self-interests of the National Guard; rather I am here to insure that we are working toward getting the best-trained, best-qualified leader for the Adjutant General's position. There is no school in the US Military or the civilian sector that trains someone to be the Adjutant General. If there were such a school it would have to include courses such as:

- The history of the National Guard of the United States.
- How to lead and manage the Army National Guard.
- How to lead and manage the Air National Guard.
- How to supervise the Emergency Management Program of a State.
- How to oversee the Veterans Program for a State.
- How to run a State Counter-drug program.
- How to manage the State's Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package Team.
- How to manage the State's Youth Challenge Program.

How to oversee the Hawaii Air National Guard's role in the Hawaii Air Defense System.

How to develop strong working relationships with military commanders and organizations that are stationed and located in this State.

How to work with the major commanders and staff members at the Pentagon and the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon, the National Guard Bureau and Association, other National Guard units, the FBI, Secret Service and other law enforcement agencies, our governor and his staff and our congressional delegation to insure that our Hawaii National Guard is manned, trained and equipped to do an outstanding job for the State of Hawaii and our Nation.

And there are other areas that I have not mentioned. This hypothetical school will need to insure that the courses include: Laws and regulations, budgeting procedures, pay procedures, facilities, equipment, personnel hiring and training requirements for each entity mentioned.

And, because funding comes from State and Federal sources, there numerous audits conducted by the Air Force, Army, GAO, US Audit Agency, Safety Offices and the State Auditor.

My point is that the in-coming Adjutant General needs to be trained before assuming his duties. He needs to be able to hit the road running. The time and place to train him/her would be the time spent in the Hawaii National Guard before taking office.

I was lucky to have served in various positions within the National Guard. I served during Hurricane Iwa and many State disaster recovery operations. I was also involved in operations that prepared us for possible riot control duty at the prisons. I served in Vietnam with the first Air National Guard all-volunteer F-102 flying unit. I was here when the 29th INF Brigade got activated during the Vietnam War and knew of the problems that they encountered. I was a dedicated and enthusiastic participant in the National Guard Association of the United States and went to all of their conferences and developed a network of National Guard friends' nation-wide. Many of them came to help us during Hurricane Iniki.

I was later assigned to Headquarters, HIANG where I learned the budgeting process and was taught how to do long range planning and how to deal with the National Guard Bureau and the Active Air Force. I also learned how to work with the Army National Guard and State Civil Defense

Projects for the Adjutant General's position should come from the Officers within the Hawaii National Guard. A training program needs to be in place that is all-inclusive and covers areas mentioned above as a minimum. The incumbent Adjutant General is key in maintaining and encouraging training for his/her officers.

As we all know, the Governor of the State of Hawaii is the person who selects the Adjutant General to serve on his cabinet. He needs to know that there are trained and qualified people ready to serve on his team. If he is not satisfied with his choices then he should have the prerogative to conduct a nation wide search within the National Guard of the United States.

The bottom line is that we need to insure that there is an Adjutant General that is trained and ready to step in from day one to run and manage the Hawaii National Guard. Our well-being and safety of our citizens depend on it.

Thank you for your kind attention. Are there any questions?

KENJI SUMIDA
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Senator Will Esperos, Chairman
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Dear Chairman Esperos and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1203, Relating to the National Guard. I retired as Commander, Hawaii Air National Guard in August, 1991 after 38 years of military service including three years in the active Air Force. This background has made me acutely aware of the differences between the National Guard and other branches of the service, including the active Army and Air Force, the Army Reserves, and the Air Force Reserves. The key difference lies in the fact the National Guard is the only service that is a State organization with the Governor as its Commander-In-Chief. The rest of the services report to and are under the control of the United States Department of Defense through its respective channels of command.

During my tenure in the Hawaii Air National Guard headquarters both as Director of Operations and later as its Commander, I worked closely with the Governor, the Adjutant General and Senator Inouye in ensuring that the needs of Hawaii came first in priority, consistent with the needs of the Nation. This meant that when necessary, we had to disagree with decisions made by the active Army and Air Force when in our judgment, those decisions were not in the best interest of the State of Hawaii or the Hawaii National Guard. Over the years, we were able to establish close working relationships with the active commands in Hawaii as well in Washington, DC that allowed us to provide input in the planning phase before decisions were made regarding missions and resources assigned to the Hawaii National Guard. We were able to do this because during peacetime, the National Guard is under the command of the Governor, and not under direct Federal control. Unlike the National Guard, the other active and reserve forces are controlled by the Department of Defense, and would find it difficult to disagree with decisions handed down as command from higher headquarters.

I include this explanation only to emphasize the importance of the provision in HB 1203 that gives preference to persons with at least 5 years of active commissioned service in the Hawaii National Guard. The unique culture of the Hawaii National Guard as a State Militia under the command of the Governor of Hawaii cannot be fully learned and acted upon easily by those from other services with loyalty only to the active commands under which they fall.

Finally, I should also point out that there are always many highly qualified officers in both the Hawaii Army National Guard and the Hawaii Air National Guard that can be called on to take on the responsibilities of the Adjutant General. This bill would ensure that a member of the Hawaii National Guard would be afforded that opportunity over others with less appropriate backgrounds. I would therefore urge your support for HB 1203.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenji Sumida
Brig Gen (retired)
Hawaii Air National Guard

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/12/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Lee	Individual	Oppose	Yes



12 March 2013

Senator Will Espero
Chairman, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee
Senator Rosalyn Baker
Vice Chair, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee
Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and committee members,

I strongly oppose HB 1203 HD1 for the following reasons:

First, the current language in the State Constitution and Hawaii Revised Statutes is sufficient. We should not change legislation that will reduce the pool of qualified candidates for the position of Adjutant General to the handful of candidates in the Hawaii National Guard.

Second, our Soldiers and Airmen of the Hawaii National Guard have served with distinction when mobilized and deployed to combat zones such as Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Horn of Africa since 2003. Our Hawaii National Guard leaders and units have commanded active duty and reserve Soldiers and Airmen and on occasions served under active duty or reserve forces. This is possible because we all adhere to a common set of military standards and training that applies to the Active, Reserve or National Guard force. Former Hawaii National Guard members who retired before 2003 do not understand the Hawaii National Guard today. It is very much different from the Guard they served with. The National Guard currently has equality with the Active and Reserve forces and senior leaders in the Armed Forces of the United States acknowledge this. This equality will surely be destroyed if the Hawaii State Legislature passes this bill which really states: "only National Guard members are good enough."

Since 1968, the 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry from the Army Reserve has served under the command and control of the 29th Brigade of the Hawaii Army National Guard. They joined the 29th Brigade for combat in Vietnam and most recently in Iraq (twice). Do we want to tell the citizen soldiers of the famed 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment (Senator Inouye's Regiment) that it is ok to serve with

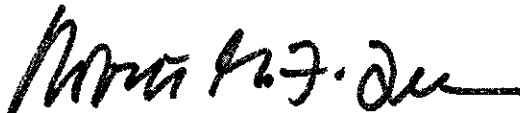
and go to war with the Hawaii Army National Guard but you cannot serve at the highest levels in the Hawaii National Guard?

Third, I feel that the State of Hawaii needs to have the very best military leader for the position of Adjutant General. If a future Governor should desire a General with a rank of 3 star or higher to serve as the State's Adjutant General, it would be ludicrous to think someone with credentials like General Eric Shinseki could not serve because they lacked the proper "membership" to be Adjutant General. Selecting someone like General Shinseki is not out of the question because Governor John Burns appointed General Webster, a retired Air Force 3 star general, to serve as his Adjutant General. What worked during the early years of Statehood has stood the test of time.

What is the purpose of the preferences stated in this bill? Is it binding on a future Governor? This bill is flawed because it does not take into account the high potential of the merger of reserve component forces (Guard and Reserves) to comply with budget constraints.

I recommended a list of currently serving Hawaii National Guard Generals for the position of Adjutant General to Governor Abercrombie. I am elated that he selected Major General Darryll Wong. General Wong was a very capable commander of the Hawaii Air National Guard and respected in the US Air Force. The recently concluded APEC security organization had the Hawaii National Guard commanding Active Duty units with much success. General Wong's leadership is what makes him a good Adjutant General, not his 5 years of membership in the Hawaii National Guard.

Therefore, HB 1203 HD1 is not necessary.



Robert G.F. Lee
Major General, US Army (Ret)
(Former Hawaii Adjutant General)

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/13/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
colbert low	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity for me to submit my written testimony in opposition to the bill. Much mahalo.

12 March 2013

Senator Will Espero
Chairman, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Vice Chair, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee

Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and committee members,

I strongly oppose HB 1203 HD1.

I am a former Commanding Officer of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment (United States Army Reserve) and served under the command of the 29th Infantry Brigade (Hawaii Army National Guard). We have served together on exercises, training, and war (Operation IRAQI FREEDOM III). I am proud to say that I am entitled to wear the shoulder patch of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team as my combat patch. I have many good friends in the Hawaii National Guard and am very familiar with the operations of the Hawaii National Guard. I would feel unduly and unfairly excluded at not being able to be considered for the position of Hawaii Adjutant General. This is an arbitrary exclusion and there is no objective basis to impose a 5 year "membership" in the Hawaii National Guard.



COLBERT LOW
Former Commander
100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry
United States Army Reserve

HB1203

Submitted on: 3/13/2013

Testimony for PSM on Mar 14, 2013 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith K. Horikawa	Individual	Oppose	No

12 March 2013

Senator Will Espero

Chairman, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee

Senator Rosalyn Baker

Vice Chair, Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee

Hawaii State Senate

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and committee members,

I strongly oppose HB 1203 HD1.

I am a former Commanding Officer of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment (US Army Reserve) and served under the command of the 29th Infantry Brigade, Hawaii Army National Guard, for the majority of my 22-year career, to include two overseas combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. I have served with the Hawaii Army National Guard on exercises, training, and war; wear the same uniform; and know how the Hawaii National Guard operates, trains, and fights. As a veteran of the famed 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, which fought for equality and fairness at great cost during World War II, I feel HB 1203 HD1 is discriminatory against non-National Guard officers and imposes unnecessary restrictions against otherwise well-qualified Adjutant General candidates. This is an arbitrary exclusion with no basis to impose a 5-year "membership" in the Hawaii National Guard.



Keith K. Horikawa

Lieutenant Colonel, USAR

Former Commander, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry