

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of**  
**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
**Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on**  
**JUDICIARY**

**Thursday, February 27, 2014**  
**2:00 PM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of**  
**HOUSE BILL 1907, HOUSE DRAFT 1**  
**RELATING TO HUNTING LICENSES**

House Bill 1907, House Draft 1 proposes to establish a special \$3 hunting license for qualified disabled veterans and veterans who have received a purple heart. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department is pleased to honor disabled veterans and veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart. This bill also clarifies the fees for three- and seven-day hunting licenses necessary for hunting on private and commercial shooting preserves.

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ESTHER KIA'AINA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS



# **Hawaii Rifle Association**

State Affiliate of the National Rifle Association

Founded in 1857

February 25, 2014

Testimony on HB 1907, HD1

IN SUPPORT

Before JUD, Thursday, February 27, 2014, 2pm, Rm 325

Hon. Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, Members,

HRA supports our wounded veterans and this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HRA.

Dr. Maxwell A. Cooper

Legislative Liaison

**LATE**

**HB1907**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 27, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle Sylvester	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB1907. Mahalo!

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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**LATE**

**HB1907**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 27, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tony Sylvester	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission strongly supports HB1907. Mahalo, Tony Sylvester Chairperson Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission

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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BIL 1907, HD1, (HSCR 515-14)  
RELATING TO HUNTING LICENSES

PRESENTATION TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN  
DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

February 27, 2014

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and Committee members:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of the concepts in House Bill 1907, HD1, (HSCR 515-14) along with some recommendations.

Thank you for introducing this measure to allow disabled Veterans who were honorably discharged and State residents, and those who received wounds in combat earning the Award of the Purple Heart Medal, to pay only \$3 for a hunting license.

**Here are some recommendations:** That the bill be further modified for all those who are qualified disabled Veterans with a service connected disability defined by the Veterans Administration of 10% or higher. Would also recommend that the phrase "the loss of use of a lower extremity" be also stricken from the bill, as this would create a significant amount of workload for Veterans Affairs. Not only would they have to research the applicant's disability rating, but also dig deeper into records to ascertain whether or not the disability rated was the loss of the use of their lower extremities. A Veteran who has a 10% disability can have a significant difficulty with physical and/or mental mobility.

Giving back to those who have served valiantly in uniform in support and in sacrifice to our country is truly a great privilege. The freedoms we enjoy today have been paved by their dedicated and honored service.

We defer to the agency with direct responsibility for implementation.

The OVS supports the concepts and intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2015.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families in support of HB 1907, HSCR 13-14.