

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2073, HD1
A BILL RELATING TO THE VETERANS

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

MAJ GEN DARRYLL D. M. WONG
STATE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND DIRECTOR OF STATE CIVIL DEFENSE
February 20 2014

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am Maj Gen Darryll D. M. Wong, State Adjutant General and Director of State Civil Defense. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 2073 HD1.

This measure will fund the planning, design, and construction of a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial.

The memorial will honor the sacrifices and contributions of veterans from Hawaii who served in the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom, and service members who engaged in the Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense, and Operation Noble Eagle. The Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe will be the location of the memorial. State veterans' cemeteries statewide will have replicas of the memorial.

This memorial has the support of the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services and veterans groups. This appropriation will allow the process toward the Hawaii Gulf War Memorial to continue.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of HB 2073 HD1.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2073, HD1 (HSCR 308-14)
RELATING TO MEMORIALS

PRESENTATION TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

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

February 20, 2014

Good morning Chair Luke, Vice-Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of House Bill 2073, HD1 Relating to Memorials which appropriates funds for the planning, design, and construction of the Hawaii Gulf War Memorial to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, on the island of Oahu, and replicas of the Memorial to be located at State Veterans Cemeteries statewide. Also, that support of this bill does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2015.

The Task Force commissioned from the last legislative session has held monthly meetings, held a public hearing, used public inputs from a questionnaire, and has published a formal legislative report. Based on the data collected and proposed site selection; there is now a need to request for funds to build and establish a memorial honoring veterans of the Persian Gulf War, and campaigns that include Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense, Operation Noble Eagle and Operation New Dawn.

Given the scope of the planning required to adequately represent the wars and campaigns mentioned, OVS would like to recommend that the same working Task Force ascend to Committee status and continue the planning and building of the Memorial. Resources obtained would be utilized to employ a contractor who would gather information concerning structures and symbols, planning, designing, and construction of this Gulf War Memorial with inputs from the Committee formed and from the public sector.

Given our present economic situation, this project could also help create construction and other jobs that will aid in our economic recovery process.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki
Comptroller

Maria E. Zielinski
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCE
ON
February 20, 2014
H.B. 2073, H.D. 1

RELATING TO MEMORIALS

Chair Luke and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B. 2073, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services supports H.B. 2073, H.D. 1 and will work collaboratively with the Office of Veterans Services and other interested parties to effectuate the purpose of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

Date: February 18, 2014

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

From: Mike Golojuch, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), Chair, Advisory Board on Veterans' Services

Subject: Strong Support for HB2073, HD1

As the Chair, Advisory Board on Veterans' Services, let me state that we support HB2073. It is fitting in the course of American tradition to recognize all service members who have serviced in various military combat missions since the initial Gulf War from August 2, 1990.

I can personally state that on a recent trip to the New England States, I found several Gulf War memorials to the veterans of all services in several states. It is such a small way to pay back those who went off to protect our way of life.

It is fitting to this memorial to be located on the grounds of the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe.

I strongly urge that you pass this measure and make funds available.

Thank you for the opportunity to express the views of the Advisory Board.



Headquarters: Department of State of Hawaii
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

February 19, 2014

**Testimony in Support of HOUSE BILL 2073 HD1
Relating to Memorials Before the
House Committee On Finance
Hearing On Thursday, February 20, 2014, 11:00 A.M. In Conference Room 308**

Chair Ige, Vice Chairs Johanson and Nishimoto and Committee Members,

The Department of Hawaii, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) represents 3,800 members in 20 Posts located throughout the State of Hawaii. VFW is a federally chartered national association of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who have served the United States of America in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign soil or in hostile waters.

H.B. 2073 HD1 Appropriates funds for the planning, design, and construction of a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, on the island of Oahu, and replicas of the memorial to be located at state veterans' cemeteries statewide.

Having selected the site for a state memorial to honor the sacrifices of members of the United States armed services from Hawaii who served in the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense and Operation Noble Eagle, it is now imperative that enough funds are appropriated for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the planning, design and construction of the Hawaii Gulf War Memorial on the grounds of the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe and for replicas to be located on the grounds of state veterans' cemeteries on other islands.

VFW Hawaii members are grateful for your efforts to promote this tangible form of recognition for all military veterans who have passed away regardless of where their remains are now located.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 2073 HD1.

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto
VFW Hawaii State Legislative Liaison

The Uniformed Service Member's Voice in Government
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES
Hawaii Chapter (HI-1)

18 February 2014

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2073 HD1
RELATING TO MEMORIALS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
HEARING ON THURSDAY, 02-20-14 AT 11:00 AM
IN CONFERENCE ROOM 308

Aloha Chair Luke and Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson: Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2073 (HB2073 HD1). On Capitol Hill the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is recognized by its peers as "The Service Member's Voice in Government." Here, in the great State of Hawaii, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) serves at the will and pleasure of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed service personnel and veterans community.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) members are extremely grateful, regarding your thoughtful efforts to appropriate funds for the planning, design, and construction of a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, on the island of Oahu, with replicas of this memorial to be located at all other state veterans' cemeteries.

Providing this recognition is very important to all of us and especially to the surviving loved ones of these fallen warriors who served us so selflessly. We respectfully encourage you to pass HB2073 HD1 as written

At your service,

D Egge

Dennis Egge; Chapter President



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
Naushawaii1@yahoo.com; 808-382-5833



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 Finance
Thursday, February 20, 2014, 11:00 am, Room 308
HB2073 Relating to Memorials**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and Committee Members

Our chapter of 500 retired and currently serving officers of the Uniformed Services strongly supports HB 2073, which funds the planning, design and construction of a War Memorial to honor those who have fought in the several conflicts since the end of the Vietnam War.

We note that the very public process to develop the design concepts and possible location of such an important and long overdue memorial allowed veterans and their families and friends to offer specific thoughts on such a memorial. I don't believe that such an open transparent process has ever been used before. I do believe that this process will result in a well designed and important addition to the existing memorials to earlier wars.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Testimony

Carswell J. Ross, Jr. M.A., Chief Master Sergeant, USAF Ret.
94-1020 Puana Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Testimony on House Bill 2073 HD1, RELATING TO MEMORIALS

Presentation to the House Committee on Finance

Good morning Chair Sylvia Luke and Vice Chairs Scott Nishimoto, Aaron Johanson, and members of the Committee on Finance.

I strongly **support** HB 2073, HD1, which appropriates funds for the planning, design, and construction of a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, on the island of Oahu and replicas of the memorial to be located at state veterans' cemeteries statewide. I was selected and served as a member of the Task Force which sought to determine the need and placement of this memorial. We met and a committee received public testimony and published and received comment through the use of a statewide survey. The results were presented to the legislature as a report. In short the Task Force found that there was sentiment for such a memorial, that the memorial should include the names and other information about the military members honored on the memorial and that placement of the memorial in the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery was appropriate provided that replicas be placed within Neighbor Island Veteran Cemeteries.

Based upon public input and the need to complete the memorials the request for five million dollars appears reasonable.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support** of this measure.

FIN-Jo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 3:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sonnyfernan@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2073 on Feb 20, 2014 11:00AM

HB2073

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 20, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Stanley Y. Fernandez Sr. | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: In full support of HB2073.

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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FIN-Jo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 3:21 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: greenlee@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2073 on Feb 20, 2014 11:00AM*

HB2073

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 20, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ann Greenlee | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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FIN-Jo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jtulang@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2073 on Feb 20, 2014 11:00AM

HB2073

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 20, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Julie Tulang | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: The family of LCDR Morgan C. Tulang supports the establishment of a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial. Morgan was part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and we look forward to the replica that will be place at Hawaii Veterans Cemetery II in Hilo.

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February 19, 2014

LATE

SUBJECT: HB 2073, HD1 RELATING TO MEMORIALS

FROM: Allen K. Hoe

TESTIMONY FOR: Chair, Representative Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair, Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair, Representative Aaron Ling Johanson and members of the Committee on Finance.

Aloha Chair Luke and members. My name is Allen K. Hoe, I am here today to speak in support of HB 2073, HD1. This measure is the outcome of the efforts by this honorable body during last year's legislative session culminating in the establishment of ACT 139 signed by Governor Abercrombie on June 21, 2013 which directed that a "Plan to give tangible and visible recognition to the sacrifices and contributions of veterans from Hawaii" who served in the war which we refer to as the Global War on Terrorism;

Under the leadership of the Office of Veterans Services a Task Force was established to carry out this Sacred Mission; I had the honor of serving on the Task Force. Each of us who served, firmly believed in the importance and the necessity of the challenge to place a high priority on this task, "Honoring the Legacy and the Memory of all those young men and women in uniform" who stepped forward from this beautiful place we call home to "give their last full measure of devotion to their country."

You have before you a copy of the results of our work, which included numerous public meetings where we received input from interested groups and members of the general public. We also took advantage of a unique internet survey protocol which allowed individuals who perhaps would not have generally had the opportunity to provide in put into this process to do so.

Based upon our findings and conclusions the Task Force has respectfully submitted its report and thus requests that House Bill 2073, HD1 "Relating to Memorials" be approved by your committee and moved on for further action by the Legislature.

Mahalo for your continuing support in Hawaii's role in Honoring the Legacy and the Memory of our Fallen Heroes.

~

Allen K. Hoe
PO Box 3589
Honolulu, Hawaii 96811

February 19, 2014

LATE

SUBJECT: HB 2073, HD1 RELATING TO MEMORIALS

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TESTIMONY FOR: Chair, Representative Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair, Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair, Representative Aaron Ling Johanson and members of the Committee on Finance.

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