



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, &
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Wednesday, January 30, 2013
8:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 323, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING.**

THE HONORABLE K. MARK TAKAI, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator for the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill No. 323, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing.

The purpose of House Bill No. 323 is to amend Act 248, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, to clarify the requirements for service member licensure in Hawaii. The Department supports the intent of the bill as it mirrors the language for licensure for nonresident military spouses.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 323.



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY)

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

DoD-State Liaison Office

Chair Takai

House Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

January 25, 2013

**Testimony of
Laurie Crehan, Ed.D.**

**Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community & Family Policy
DoD-State Liaison Office**

**HB 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing;
Military Training, Education, and Service**

Chair Takai and members of the Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts, on behalf of the Department of Defense, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 323, a bill relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing; Military Training, Education, and Service. My name is Laurie Crehan. I am with the Department of Defense State Liaison Office which operates under the direction of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy.

During the 2012 legislative session, Hawaii passed legislation that facilitated Service members receiving consideration of their military education, training, and experience toward meeting state criteria when applying for a state license. This policy addressed the problem separating Service members frequently face of delays in getting post-Service employment even though they have applicable military education, training and experience which can qualify them for licenses.

HB 323 provides support for transitioning Service members who come to Hawaii with a professional license from another state. We support this policy that will help those Service members enter the workforce quickly. **However, the bill also seeks to restrict the number of veterans to which this statute applies. It does so in two ways, both of which we feel will have unintended consequences and diminish its ability to meet the needs of our separating Service members.**

First, HB 323 limits the policy to Service members who have transitioned out of the military within the previous six months. While the Department of Defense's intent in asking for assistance with this issue was to meet the needs of separating Service members and not all veterans at large, we believe that six months is too short of a timeframe. The separation process can be time consuming, often requiring a move from the final duty station. At the point of separation, a Service member may not have all the requirements met in terms of education and experience to apply for a license in Hawaii but have met some of the requirements through

Improving the Lives of Military Members and their Families

education and training received while on active duty. If they return to school to complete the remaining requirements, they would probably miss the six month deadline for applying for a license. Missing this deadline would mean the Service member would have to repeat education and training completed during their military career to obtain an occupational license. We understand the desire to define "separating Service member" and feel a time limit of 12 to 24 months would be fairer and mean less chance that an otherwise deserving Service member might be excluded.

The second concern we have is restricting the statute to Service members who are stationed in Hawaii or those who were stationed in Hawaii immediately prior to their discharge. Given the number of Service members currently stationed in Hawaii, that would mean this statute would only apply to 3.6% of all Service members. More importantly, it would eliminate most of the returning Hawaii veterans from consideration. In 2012, 2434 Service members who list Hawaii as their home of record transitioned out of the military. Chances are that most of these Service members were stationed outside of Hawaii at the time of their discharge. Under the policy in HB 323, these Service members would not have their military training and education considered if they returned to Hawaii and applied for a Hawaii occupational license. They would be forced to start their education all over, delaying the process of becoming employed. It could possibly lead some Hawaii veterans to choose not to return to Hawaii but to move to one of the 23 other states that now provide this support to our transitioning Service members (with more states considering friendly policies this year).

These two criteria in HB 323 would negate important gains our veterans have made in Hawaii in getting their education and training considered towards meeting state criteria when applying for an occupational license in Hawaii. We understand the desire to limit the application of the statute to transitioning Service members but ask that this Committee eliminate the unintended consequences of this bill by 1) lengthening the time after transitioning out of the military, and 2) eliminating the requirement that the Service member is stationed in Hawaii or was stationed in Hawaii at the time of discharge.

This issue of consideration of military education and training towards meeting state criteria for licensing is one of the key elements of the Veterans Employment Initiative of President Obama. We request that this Committee give careful consideration to making the needed amendments to the language in HB 323 in order to guarantee our Service members can quickly re-enter the workforce.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Laurie Crehan, Ed.D.

Laurie.Crehan@osd.mil

703-380-6538

Hawaii State Legislature
State House of Representatives
Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts

State Representative K. Mark Takai, Chair
State Representative Ken Ito, Vice Chair
Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts

Wednesday, January 30, 2013, 8:30 a.m. Room 312
House Bill 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing

Honorable Chair K. Mark Takai, Vice Chair Ken Ito and members of
the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts,

My name is Russel Yamashita and I am the legislative representative for the Hawaii Dental Association (HDA) and its 960 member dentists. I appreciate the opportunity to testify in opposition of House Bill 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing. The bill before you today would seek to provide for the licensure by credential and reciprocity for all licenses issued by the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Professional and Vocational Licensing Division. As one of state boards and commissions under that licensing protocol, the Board of Dental Examiners would be subject to the provisions of this new statute. It should be clear that this bill seeks to make substantial changes to the licensing laws that are currently govern the issuance of a large number of licenses issued by the State of Hawaii.

The HDA does not support this legislation. This legislation abdicates all 47 boards and commissions authority to regulate and police their respective profession to protect the citizens of Hawaii from unqualified persons engaging in numerous licensed vocations and professions. By providing virtually no licensing standards for anyone who has a license from another jurisdiction, all Hawaii consumers would be subject to no protection and no recourse against licensees that will be capable of injuring our citizens physically, mentally and financially.

In the case of the Board of Dental Examiners under Chapter 448, a special license category for Community Service dentist was established to provide the Federally Qualified Community Health Centers with an easier process to hire dentists who were willing to treat the under served in remote and rural communities throughout Hawaii. This legislation would nullify the original purpose of the Community Service dentist license, and make it much more difficult for the health centers to hire dentists to staff their clinics because an easier avenue to licensure would not limit their practice to the under served areas.

Additionally, the objective of the original legislation that the Obama Administration proposed was to address the situation where the newer, post 9/11 veterans would be offered benefits and opportunities due to their service in the long, drawn out wars where frequent deployments to combat zones was a different situation than that of the previous wartime deployments. The original legislation that created current law as Act 247 and Act 248 of 2012 does not address the targeted military population, because it is overly broad and poorly drafted legislation that creates substantial issues for licensing agencies and problems for veterans and their spouses. To add to the confusion of this legislation, only a handful of states have passed this legislation. Most of those states passing this legislation, unlike Hawaii, do not have a significant military bases, for example Montana.

Also, this bill does not provide for any proper oversight or enforcement over violations of the licensing laws, or any proper framework for issuing of any license by the DCCA's Professional and Vocational Licensing Division. Therefore, the Hawaii Dental Association opposes the passage of this legislation and desires that it be held by this committee.



January 29, 2013

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 323
RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING
WITH COMMENTS.**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS MILITARY AND INTERNATIONAL
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30TH AT 8:30 AM, IN CONFERENCE
ROOM 312**

Aloha Chair Takai: The Oahu Veterans Council is honored to serve at the pleasure of our veterans and their families. On January 26th, our delegates reviewed and voted unanimously to support House Bill 323.

We are extremely grateful for your efforts to clarify that licensing authorities shall consider relevant education, training, or service completed by (military) service members. Specifies which service members are subject to these provisions. Permits licensure by endorsement or licensure by reciprocity in certain situations for service members. Establishes procedures for service members to receive a license by endorsement or license by reciprocity. Permits issuance of a temporary license if certain requirements are met. Requires the licensing authority to expedite consideration of the application and issuance of a license by endorsement, license by reciprocity, or temporary license to a qualified service member.

We respectfully ask this Committee lengthen the time from discharge, and eliminate the requirement that the Service member is stationed in Hawaii or was stationed in Hawaii at the time of discharge.

Providing this legislative professional recognition in state law is so important to our veterans and national guard and military personnel who serve so selflessly and ask for no more recognition than we would expect for ourselves.

The Oahu Veterans Council respectfully urges your committee to consider passing House Bill 323 as written. Mahalo, for allowing us to testify, regarding this extremely important issue.

Dennis Egge

Dennis Egge; Chairman, Legislative Committee



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

Email: sballard@oahuveternascenter.com; Phone: 808-422-4000; Fax: 808-422-4001

www.oahuveternascenter.com

Testimony to the House Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

8:30 AM

Conference Room 312

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 323, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, 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 the intent* of House Bill No. 323, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing.

The measure clarifies that licensing authorities shall consider relevant education, training, or service completed by service members when considering the issuance of a license by endorsement, license by reciprocity, or temporary license to a qualified service member.

The measure cites a need to amend the implementing provisions in Act 248 to better define the requirements for service member licensure in Hawaii.

The Chamber agrees that the amendments proposed would clarify the steps needed to expeditiously process licensure applications submitted by transitioning service members in Hawaii. They are in keeping with the desires of the President of the United States and the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs in placing top priority for the employment of our military veterans.

We would like to cite two areas, however, where we believe the proposed amendments would place undue hardships on service members.

1. Section 1 (b) (2) limits eligibility to service members who have transitioned out of the military within the previous six months.

Many service members choose to take advantage of their GI Bill and enroll in a college immediately upon transitioning from active military service. This may take two years or more. We believe that the measure should allow for this educational opportunity and provide a two year limitation.

2. Section 1 (b) (2) also requires that the service member must have been stationed in Hawaii immediately prior to the service member's honorable discharge. Among other things, this restriction would eliminate Hawaii residents that separate from active service outside Hawaii but desire to return home. We believe that this restriction should be eliminated to encourage and enable highly trained and educated veterans to choose to live and work in Hawaii.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Organized August 7, 1943
P.O. BOX 61043
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96839



Before the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

Conference Room 312

Re: Opposition to HB 323

Chair K. Mark Takai, Vice Chair Ken Ito, and Committee Members:

I am the State President of the Hawaii Association of Public Accountants (HAPA). HAPA is a state-wide organization with chapters in all of Hawaii's counties. I am also a licensed CPA and a principal in the firm Niwao & Roberts, Certified Public Accountants, a Professional Corporation, located on Maui.

HAPA opposes HB 323 as it applies to the licenses pertaining to certified public accountants for the reasons described below.

By way of background, HAPA's membership includes licensed professionals who previously served in the United States military and in the foreign service. Some received commendations and citations in recognition of their service while in harm's way overseas. None who served either sought or received special accommodation or relief from the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or the Board of Public Accountancy when they completed their national service, transitioned to Hawaii's civilian workforce, and applied for a Hawaii CPA license or permit to practice.

In a non-statistical telephone sample of HAPA members who previously performed national service, those queried expressed the opinion that their national service was a privilege and a reward in itself, regardless of whether they were drafted or volunteered. They also shared the opinion that Hawaii's laws and administrative rules governing the licensure and practice of public accounting were enacted for the protection of the public for good reason and should not be compromised, regardless of how noble the related intentions are. Our system of governance, which includes the processes for developing the laws and rules for regulating the CPA profession in Hawaii, are part of what they worked to protect through their national service. To make exceptions or lower the standards for professional licensing for any special class of citizens degrades their own sacrifices made in national service.

HAPA's opposition to HB 323 stems from three primary concerns: Substantial Equivalency and CPA Mobility; Self-Certification and Abdication of Jurisdiction; and Failure to Recognize Non-Military National Service.

- Substantial Equivalency and CPA Mobility: Together with other Hawaii and national stakeholders, HAPA has labored for approximately 15 years with the definition and application of the concept of Substantial Equivalency in CPA licensing as part of our efforts to reach a mutually agreeable compromise for CPA mobility legislation in Hawaii. The heart of the matter is that the education and experience requirements for CPA licensure can vary greatly from state to state. If great care is not used in defining and applying Substantial Equivalency in the CPA context, the end result will be to lower Hawaii's time-tested licensing standards to the lowest common denominator in the nation. The unintended consequence of this would be to needlessly put Hawaii's consumers at risk. Furthermore, it would create two classes of CPAs in Hawaii: those with military backgrounds who became licensed in Hawaii under the lowest standards available in other states and those without military backgrounds who became licensed under Hawaii's high standards developed for consumer protection.

Over the last few months, the CPA mobility stakeholders in Hawaii came very close to reaching agreement on CPA mobility legislation. For the first time, we can now see the finish line in the distance. The negotiations collapsed primarily over other issues just before the start of this legislative session. Nonetheless, HAPA remains optimistic that the stakeholders will resume work in a cooperative spirit and finally complete draft legislation after this legislative session if no outside influences muddy the waters. Unfortunately, through its broad use of the term and concept of Substantial Equivalency, HB 323 oversimplifies a very complex issue for the CPA community and threatens to derail our efforts to reach consensus on CPA mobility legislation.

- Self-Certification and Abdication of Jurisdiction: HAPA is concerned that the Licensure by Endorsement and Licensure by Reciprocity provisions of HB 323 will be essentially equivalent in practice to self-certification by the applicant that they meet the requirements for a CPA license and permit to practice in Hawaii, resulting in a de facto abdication of jurisdiction by the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and the Board of Public Accountancy. Coupled with the requirement that the licensing authority "shall expedite consideration" again creates a two-class CPA licensing regime resulting in those with military service receiving preferential treatment above those without military service. Those without prior military service will continue to have to undergo full licensing credentials and "good standing" verifications with other states by the Hawaii Board of Public Accountancy. The wording of HB 323 suggests that those with military backgrounds will not. Because of the nature of public accounting, it is very difficult for CPA applicants to self-assess the adequacy of their experience for the reason that they do not know what they do not know.

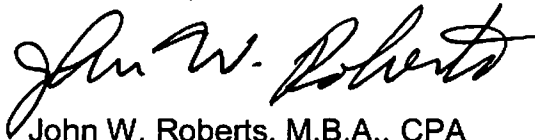
Therefore, we do not believe that self-certification is adequate for the protection of the public.

- Failure to Recognize Non-military National Service: HB 323 only recognizes military service. It is silent about those who serve in equally dangerous non-military or civil service positions in the national intelligence community, foreign service, and other branches of the U.S. Government. In fairness to all who have performed national service, any relaxing of the licensing standards should recognize their competencies gained while serving their country as well.

The process of carving out exceptions to professional licensing standards is a slippery slope similar, by analogy, to granting the now voluminous exceptions to the Hawaii General Excise Tax. Once Hawaii starts down this road, it will be near impossible to not make exceptions for others, all at the expense of consumer protection. Although appreciative and proud of the military service of this latest generation who are now joining the ranks of veterans, it is for the greater good of Hawaii's citizens that HAPA opposes HB 323 for the reasons described above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John W. Roberts, M.B.A., CPA
HAPA State President

Testimony to the House Committee on Veterans, Military, and International Affairs,
and Culture and the Arts

HB 323

Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing

By

Neil C. Nunokawa D.D.S.

1885 Main Street Suite 204

Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Representative K. Mark Takai, Chair

Representative Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 30, 2013, 8:30 am

Conference room 312

Re: HB 323, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing

Honorable Chair K. Mark Takai, Vice Chair Ken Ito and members of the House Committee on Veterans, Military, and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts:

As the immediate Past President of the Hawaii Dental Association and a practicing dentist in Hawaii for over 36 years, I am writing in opposition to HB 323, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensure . I am proud to include as my colleagues military veterans, active and inactive service members, National Guard and Reserve dentists.

This bill diminishes the regulatory oversight of the Hawaii State Board of Dental Examiners that protects the dental health and safety of Hawaii's citizens. In addition, this proposed bill negates the intent of previous legislation that serves to provide economic opportunities for post 9/11 veterans.

Finally, the purpose of the existing Community Service License is already a form of licensure by credentials that serves to funnel dentists to clinics that provide for the indigent and underserved. This proposed bill would seriously weaken the intent of Hawaii's Community Service License for dentists.

Again, I urge you to oppose the passage of HB 323.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Nunokawa D.D.S.

vmitestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 3:22 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: teruyadt@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB323 on Jan 30, 2013 08:30AM

HB323

Submitted on: 1/28/2013

Testimony for VMI on Jan 30, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darrell Teruya, DDS	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Honorable Representatives Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, esteemed members of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts. I am writing in opposition to HB 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing. I am a Licensed Dentist, practicing in the State of Hawaii. My colleagues include Military Veterans, active and inactive service members, National Guard and Reserve Dentists. 1) This bill relaxes the regulatory safeguards that protect the health and safety of dental patients in the State of Hawaii. Licensure by reciprocity or endorsement circumvents the professional standards and regulations that have protected and provided safeguards for Hawaii residents. 2) The proposed bill fails to protect the intent of previous legislation which provides economic opportunities for post 9/11 veterans. 3) The proposed bill duplicates what the state allows under its Community Service License, which would then undermine the requirement to practice only in federally qualified health centers, Native Hawaiian health systems centers, or post-secondary dental auxiliary training programs. So, in effect, this would jeopardize the status of the community license for dentists who have been instrumental in addressing the dental access issues. I respectfully ask that you oppose the passage of HB 323. Thank you for your consideration.

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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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 323, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
& CULTURE AND THE ARTS

BY

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

January 30, 2013

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito 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 323.

This measure seeks to clarify that licensing authorities consider relevant education, training and service time completed by members of the armed forces when these individuals apply for these licenses. The bill would permit licensure by endorsement or licensure by reciprocity in certain situations for members of the armed forces who received qualifying training through training programs developed by the Department of Defense.

We also suggest the following changes be considered: The definition of service members should not be restricted to individuals who are currently stationed in Hawaii. Based upon data received by OVS, approximately 2,400 service members who transitioned out of the military in 2012, listed Hawaii as their home of record. Most of these individuals were not stationed in Hawaii. As written these individuals would not be eligible for the program should they return to Hawaii. However there are 23 other states that also provide this program. We should open the program to accept these individuals, should they decide to come home.

Secondly, the time line of six months may not be reasonable. Leaving the military and deciding what to do with your life may take longer than six months. Many individuals have a lot on their minds during this transition period. A reasonable time period of 36 months may be more realistic.

LATE TESTIMONY

The OVS supports the intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Biennium 2013-2015.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families in support of HB 323.



DoD-State Liaison Office

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY)

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

LATE TESTIMONY

Chair Takai

House Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

January 25, 2013

Testimony of

Laurie Crehan, Ed.D.

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community & Family Policy

DoD-State Liaison Office

**HB 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing;
Military Training, Education, and Service**

Chair Takai and members of the Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts, on behalf of the Department of Defense, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 323, a bill relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing; Military Training, Education, and Service. My name is Laurie Crehan. I am with the Department of Defense State Liaison Office which operates under the direction of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy.

During the 2012 legislative session, Hawaii passed legislation that facilitated Service members receiving consideration of their military education, training, and experience toward meeting state criteria when applying for a state license. This policy addressed the problem separating Service members frequently face of delays in getting post-Service employment even though they have applicable military education, training and experience which can qualify them for licenses.

HB 323 provides support for transitioning Service members who come to Hawaii with a professional license from another state. We support this policy that will help those Service members enter the workforce quickly. **However, the bill also seeks to restrict the number of veterans to which this statute applies. It does so in two ways, both of which we feel will have unintended consequences and diminish its ability to meet the needs of our separating Service members.**

First, HB 323 limits the policy to Service members who have transitioned out of the military within the previous six months. While the Department of Defense's intent in asking for assistance with this issue was to meet the needs of separating Service members and not all veterans at large, we believe that six months is too short of a timeframe. The separation process can be time consuming, often requiring a move from the final duty station. At the point of separation, a Service member may not have all the requirements met in terms of education and experience to apply for a license in Hawaii but have met some of the requirements through

Improving the Lives of Military Members and their Families

LATE TESTIMONY

education and training received while on active duty. If they return to school to complete the remaining requirements, they would probably miss the six month deadline for applying for a license. Missing this deadline would mean the Service member would have to repeat education and training completed during their military career to obtain an occupational license. We understand the desire to define “separating Service member” and feel a time limit of 12 to 24 months would be fairer and mean less chance that an otherwise deserving Service member might be excluded.

The second concern we have is restricting the statute to Service members who are stationed in Hawaii or those who were stationed in Hawaii immediately prior to their discharge. Given the number of Service members currently stationed in Hawaii, that would mean this statute would only apply to 3.6% of all Service members. More importantly, it would eliminate most of the returning Hawaii veterans from consideration. In 2012, 2434 Service members who list Hawaii as their home of record transitioned out of the military. Chances are that most of these Service members were stationed outside of Hawaii at the time of their discharge. Under the policy in HB 323, these Service members would not have their military training and education considered if they returned to Hawaii and applied for a Hawaii occupational license. They would be forced to start their education all over, delaying the process of becoming employed. It could possibly lead some Hawaii veterans to choose not to return to Hawaii but to move to one of the 23 other states that now provide this support to our transitioning Service members (with more states considering friendly policies this year).

These two criteria in HB 323 would negate important gains our veterans have made in Hawaii in getting their education and training considered towards meeting state criteria when applying for an occupational license in Hawaii. We understand the desire to limit the application of the statute to transitioning Service members but ask that this Committee eliminate the unintended consequences of this bill by 1) lengthening the time after transitioning out of the military, and 2) eliminating the requirement that the Service member is stationed in Hawaii or was stationed in Hawaii at the time of discharge.

This issue of consideration of military education and training towards meeting state criteria for licensing is one of the key elements of the Veterans Employment Initiative of President Obama. We request that this Committee give careful consideration to making the needed amendments to the language in HB 323 in order to guarantee our Service members can quickly re-enter the workforce.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Laurie Crehan, Ed.D.
Laurie.Crehan@osd.mil
703-380-6538

LATE TESTIMONY

Hawaii State Legislature
State House of Representatives
Committee on Veterans, Military, International Affairs and Culture and the Arts

Chairman Representative K. Mark Takai
Vice Chairman Ken Ito
Committee on Veterans, Military, International Affairs and Culture and the Arts

Wednesday January 30, 2013, 8:30 AM
HB 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing

We, the members of the Hawaii County Dental Society, are writing **in opposition** to HB 323 for the following reasons:

This bill will relax the regulatory safeguards that protect the health and safety of dental patients in the State of Hawaii by removing the current licensing standards for dentists practicing in the State of Hawaii.

This bill fails to protect the intent of previous legislation to provide economic opportunities for post 9/11 veterans.

Finally, this bill jeopardizes the status of the community license for dentists that have been instrumental in addressing dental access issues.

We are highly supportive of all individuals who have served in the military.

As practicing dentists, we oppose this bill and ask that it not be passed out of the Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

The members of the Hawaii County Dental Society

LATE TESTIMONY

vmitestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2013 4:07 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: cshimizu@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB323 on Jan 30, 2013 08:30AM

HB323

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for VMI on Jan 30, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt S. Shimizu, DDS	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS Wednesday, January 30, 2013 8:30 a.m. Conference Room 312 HB323 RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING Clarifies that licensing authorities shall consider relevant education, training, or service completed by service members. Specifies which service members are subject to these provisions. Permits licensure by endorsement or licensure by reciprocity in certain situations for service members. Establishes procedures for service members to receive a license by endorsement or license by reciprocity. Permits issuance of a temporary license if certain requirements are met. Requires the licensing authority to expedite consideration of the application and issuance of a license by endorsement, license by reciprocity, or temporary license to a qualified service member. Honorable Representatives Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, esteemed members of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts. I am writing in opposition to HB 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing. I am a Licensed Dentist, practicing in the State of Hawaii. My colleagues include Military Veterans, active and inactive service members, National Guard and Reserve Dentists. 1) This bill relaxes the regulatory safeguards that protect the health and safety of dental patients in the State of Hawaii. Licensure by reciprocity or endorsement circumvents the professional standards and regulations that have protected and provided safeguards for Hawaii residents. 2) The proposed bill fails to protect the intent of previous legislation which provides economic opportunities for post 9/11 veterans. 3) The proposed bill duplicates what the state allows under its Community Service License, which would then undermine the requirement to practice only in federally qualified health centers, Native Hawaiian health systems centers, or post-secondary dental auxiliary training programs. So, in effect, this would jeopardize the status of the community license for dentists who have been instrumental in addressing the dental access issues. I respectfully ask that you oppose the passage of HB 323. Thank you for your consideration. Curt S. Shimizu, DDS Curt S. Shimizu, DDS 1441 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 412 Honolulu, HI 96814 ph. 949-1202 cshimizu@hawaiiantel.net

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vmitestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2013 4:04 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: lkhorton@lava.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB323 on Jan 30, 2013 08:30AM

LATE TESTIMONY

HB323

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for VMI on Jan 30, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lili Horton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Representative Takai, I am a Licensed Dentist in the State of Hawaii and although I am very appreciative and proud of my colleagues and friends who are military veterans, active service members, National Guard and Reserve Dentists, I need to oppose HB 323 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing for the following reasons: 1) This bill relaxes the regulatory safeguards that protect the health and safety of dental patients in the State of Hawaii. Licensure by reciprocity or endorsement circumvents the professional standards and regulations that have protected and provided safeguards for Hawaii residents. 2) The proposed bill fails to protect the intent of previous legislation which provides economic opportunities for post 9/11 veterans. 3) The proposed bill duplicates what the state allows under its Community Service License, which would then undermine the requirement to practice only in federally qualified health centers, Native Hawaiian health systems centers, or post-secondary dental auxiliary training programs. So, in effect, this would jeopardize the status of the community license for dentists who have been instrumental in addressing the dental access issues. I respectfully ask that you oppose the passage of HB 323. Thank you very much for your consideration. Sincerely, Lili Horton

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