

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 523  
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

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

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D. M. WONG  
February 13, 2013

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am Major General Darryll D. M. Wong. I am testifying in support of House Bill 523 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's to use for his selection of the TAG. It should not be totally just a political appointment but the key role the TAG plays in the safety 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. But I only support if these two modifications in the language are 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 (0-6)" 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.
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.
5. **Has oversight of the Hawaii State Office of Veteran Services.**
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 a substantive 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.



**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 Feb 13

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 523  
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD**

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

**BY**

**Command Chief Master Sergeant Robert S.K. Lee III  
Senior Enlisted Leader – Hawaii National Guard  
February 13, 2013**

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am CMSgt Robert S.K. Lee III. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 523.

My support of HB 523 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 523.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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



11 February 2013

Representative K. Mark Takai  
Chairman, Veterans, Military and International Affairs Committee  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairman Takai and committee members,

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I strongly oppose HB 523 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 this very important position. We would be going against the national trend where more states are conducting nationwide searches to fill the position of Adjutant General. The State of Kansas and Rhode Island are recent examples.

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

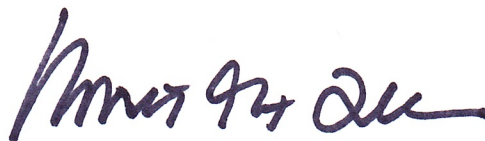
and go to war with the Hawaii Army National Guard but you cannot serve at the highest levels in the Hawaii National Guard?

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.

Why would the Hawaii State Legislature not allow a Governor to conduct a nationwide search for Adjutant General? If HB523 is passed, Major General Kelly McKeague, current commander of the Joint POW and MIA Command at Hickam Air Force Base and born and raised in the islands could not become a future Adjutant General. After graduation from Damien High School, he went to college and served in the Air Force and then the Maryland Air National Guard. I consider General McKeague very qualified to serve as Hawaii's Adjutant General.

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 523 is not necessary.



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

**vmitestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 12:24 PM  
**To:** vmitestimony  
**Cc:** danh@pbrc.hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB293 on Feb 13, 2013 08:30AM\*

**HB293**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for VMI on Feb 13, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Hartline	Individual	Support	No

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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February 11, 2013

Chairman K Mark Takai  
Vice Chair Ken Ito  
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of the bill related to The Adjutant General HB 523 and 1203

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

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 523  
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

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

BY

JOE LOGAN  
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION  
February 11, 2013

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am Joe Logan, a current member and former president of the Hawaii National Guard Association. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 523 (HB 523) with amendments.

HB 523 prohibits a person from being eligible to serve as an adjutant general unless the person has had at least five years of service as an active commissioned officer in the Hawaii National Guard.

The adjutant general for the State of Hawaii is a very prominent position within the military has two other functions

While, I fully support this bill, I would like to provide some amendments that would further define minimum qualifications that are neither in the current law nor in this bill. The current law allows a "field grade officer" to be eligible to be the adjutant general. The minimum rank in the "field grade" category is major. A major does not have the training and experience to assume the duties of an adjutant general. Even more so in the State of Hawaii where the adjutant general holds three positions, command of the Hawaii National Guard, Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor, and Director of Civil Defense. Therefore, I would like to add the following criteria to further ensure that the military officers are well suited to hold the position of adjutant general, which is a two-star military position.

The purposed amendments or criteria are as follows:

- a. Be a member of the Hawaii National Guard for a minimum of five years, this would allow the person to gain the understanding of Hawaiian culture and its prevalence in the Hawaii National Guard.
- b. Have attained the military rank of colonel, which is the last rank one can hold prior to entering into the general officer ranks.
- c. Have attended their component senior service college, also known as military education level 1, which is a requirement to be eligible for promotion into the general officer ranks.
- d. At a minimum have command experience at the battalion (Army) or group (Air Force) level to be eligible for adjutant general.

I strongly urge you to pass HB 523.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Joe Logan

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 523  
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

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

BY

David H. Molinaro  
Former President, Hawaii National Guard Association  
February 11, 2013

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am David Henry Molinaro and am offering my testimony in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 523.

As you are aware, a the key component of this initiative is to ensure officers must have held and active commission for a minimum of five years in the Hawaii National Guard to eligible for appointment to of Adjutant General

I firmly believe it is vital for an Adjutant General to have served in the HING for the minimum period in order to successfully lead and execute its mission. More than any other department head, the success of the TAG requires he/she have more than an academic understanding of the challenges and nuances of the organization. An officer rising through the ranks of the HING is better prepared then his/her AD or Reserve counterpart to meet all challenges the appointment holds. In short, the Adjutant General position is too critical to be a growth and learning opportunity

Another important facet required of the Adjutant General is their ability as a National Guard member is the ability to work with legislators and lobbying organizations such as NGAUS in order to advocate for the HING. Success in doing so is a function of having fostered meaningful relationships and being able to present yourself as a person of credibility and experience. Only an officer who comes from within the HING can successfully do so.

I strongly urge you to pass HB 523.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Respectfully,

David H. Molinaro, Colonel

## **vmitestimony**

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**From:** Suntheimer, Bryan E COL USARMY NG HIARNG (US) [bryan.e.suntheimer.mil@mail.mil]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2013 3:15 PM  
**To:** vmitestimony  
**Subject:** HB 523 Testimony (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am Bryan Suntheimer. I am testifying in SUPPORT of House Bill 523.

Key points for supporting minimum of five years membership in the Hawaii National Guard prior to becoming eligible for appointment to the position of Adjutant General.

-Although every Army and Air Force officer receives the same training and has served in similar military duty positions to attain each federally recognized rank, only National Guard officers have fulfilled the requirements and gained the experience of performing uniquely state missions.

- National Guard officers work in a unique environment under which the federal government provides resources to the state in order to meet congressional training requirements and state resources in order to support state requirements. The proper allocation of these resources is critical to the National Guard fulfilling all of missions expected of them.

- TAG must be knowledgeable of both the Army and Air missions, current and future as well as State Civil Defense (SCD), Youth Challenge Academy (YCA), and Office of Veteran Services (OVS).

Mr. Bryan Suntheimer  
Kaneohe

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 523  
A BILL RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

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

BY

Lieutenant Colonel Garrick H. Yokoe  
Commander, 291<sup>st</sup> Combat Communication Squadron  
Hilo, HI

February 14, 2013

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am Lieutenant Colonel Garrick H. Yokoe. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 523.

Key points for supporting minimum of five years membership in the Hawaii National Guard prior to becoming eligible for appointment to the position of Adjutant General.

- TAG 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 professional relationships and trust with these individuals.

- TAG 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.

- TAG must be knowledgeable of both the Army and Air missions, current and future as well as State Civil Defense (SCD), Youth Challenge Academy (YCA), and Office of Veteran Services (OVS).

I strongly urge you to pass HB 523.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely and respectfully,



## **vmitestimony**

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**From:** Ramon Quizon [rmquizon82@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2013 1:19 AM  
**To:** vmitestimony  
**Subject:** HB523: R.Maui Quizon, Testimony

Re: Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, Notice of Hearing, Tuesday, February 13, 2013, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 312, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dear Chairman K.Mark Takai,

I am Mr. Ramon Maui Quizon, President of the Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association (HNGEA), advocating on behalf of the 4,709 enlisted soldiers and airman of the Hawaii National Guard, and I am submitting written testimony in support of HB523, RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD (Prohibits a person from being eligible to serve as an adjutant general unless the person has had at least five years of service as an active commissioned officer in the Hawaii National Guard, whether army, air, or both. Grandfathers the current adjutant general. Effective July 1, 2013).

The objective of HNGEA is to promote and advance the status, welfare, and professionalism of the enlisted members of the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard, to further the interests of the Hawaii National Guard, and to promote and maintain adequate national security.

At the national level, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) objective is to provide a voice on Capitol Hill on enlisted National Guard issues that impact our men and women, their families, and retirees, issues that affect not only National Guard but all reserve component members. For over 30 years, EANGUS and HNGEA have worked hard to be the leader on issues that affect the enlisted men and women of the National Guard.

our enlisted association's commitment is to provide benefits to enhance the quality of life of enlisted National Guard members, retirees and their families for their lifetimes; HNGEA's commitment from a broader perspective is to advance the status, welfare, and professionalism of the Enlisted members of the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard.

The National Guard Empowerment and State-National Defense Integration Act of 2011, S. 1025, helped further the interests of the National Guard as it provided the additional political muscle and ability to fully take part when our nation's most senior military leadership makes decisions about the DoD in general and the Guard in particular – by making the Chief of the National Guard Bureau a full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Supporting HB 523 may have a similar impact, wherein an Adjutant General candidate with the experience of the National Guard State mission, vital to safeguarding our State of Hawaii, will help further the interests and advance the status, welfare, and professionalism of the enlisted members of the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard. Additionally, a HI- TAG candidates thorough knowledge of the unique State and Federal missions, the status of soldiers and airmen, and their ability to accomplish these missions, through local leadership, will enhance his/her ability to work with Hawaii State legislative issues benefitting Hawaii National Guard members.

Thank you for your time, Mr. Chairman and members of the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts; I am Mr. Ramon Maui Quizon, President, HNGEA, and I support of HB523.

Sincerely,

//SIGNED//

R.MAUI QUIZON, President

Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association

**GEORGE M. WAIALEALE**

910 KAPAHULU AVENUE #703  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816  
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**LATE TESTIMONY**

FEBRUARY 13, 2013

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

HOUSE BILL 523 RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD

I REQUEST THAT YOU HOLD HB 523 BECAUSE IT DISCRIMINATES AGAINST EVERY SOLDIER WHO SERVES IN THE 100<sup>TH</sup> BN./442<sup>ND</sup> INF.


SINCE 1968 THE SOLDIERS OF THE 100<sup>TH</sup> BN./442<sup>ND</sup> INF HAVE SERVED WITH THE SOLDIERS OF THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD 29<sup>TH</sup> BRIGADE WHEN CALLED UP TO ACTIVE DUTY.

THESE SOLDIERS OF THE 100<sup>TH</sup> BN./442<sup>ND</sup> INF. HAVE SERVED, FOUGHT AND PAID THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE AS PART OF THE 29<sup>TH</sup> BRIGADE. NOW THEY WILL BE TOLD THEY CANNOT ACHIEVE COMMAND RANK BECAUSE OF THE FIVE YEAR QUALIFICATION IN THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD IN ORDER TO BECOME THE ADJUTANT GENERAL. THIS IS VERY DISCRIMINATORY AND IT REMINDS ME OF HOW BLACK SOLDIERS WERE TREATED IN WWII AND THE CIVIL WAR AND ALSO 100<sup>TH</sup> BN./442<sup>ND</sup> INF. IN WWII SEPARATE BUT EQUAL

LET US NOT GO BACK TO THE DAYS OF JIM CROW DISCRIMINATION AND LET US SAY "WHY NOT THE BEST".

I ASK THAT YOU HOLD THIS BILL.

ALOHA AND MAHALO.

  
GEORGE M. WAIALEALE  
FORMER SGT E-5  
CHARLIE COMPANY  
100<sup>TH</sup> BN./442<sup>ND</sup> INF.