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**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

March 13, 2013
8:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 506, S.D. 2, 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 Senate Bill No. 506, S.D. 2, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing.

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 506, S.D. 2, is to amend Act 248, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, to clarify the requirements for service member licensure in Hawaii. The Department supports the bill in its current form.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 506, S.D. 2.

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

March 10, 2013

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 506SD2
RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING.
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, AND INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13TH AT 8:30 PM, IN CONFERENCE
ROOM 312

Aloha Chair Takai and Vice Chair Ito: Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding HB 506SD2. The National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is honored to be recognized as "The Service Member's Voice in Government." Here, in the great State of Hawaii, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) our 519 members serve proudly as a component part of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed service community.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) members respectfully applaud your efforts to amend Chapter 436B Hawaii Revised Statutes and help our licensing authorities assist our transitioning military veterans resume their rightful productive place in our society.

Providing this important preference in state law will help our transitioning warriors quickly reintegrate into our society.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) encourages your committee to consider passing SB506SD2 as written.

D Egge

Dennis Egge; Chapter President



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

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

8:30 AM

Conference Room 312

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 506, SD2, 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 Senate Bill No. 506, HD2**, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing.

The measure clarifies that licensing authorities that consider relevant education, training, or service of a military veteran applicant and determine the applicant meets or exceeds the requirements for licensure in Hawaii shall accept the results of the passage of a national or regional exam accepted by statute or rule in a specific licensing area or equivalent as determined by the licensing authority. Requires a certificate or evidence satisfactory to the licensing authority of having passed a national or regional exam or the equivalent to be provided to the licensing authority.

We agree that the amendments proposed would clarify the steps needed to expeditiously process licensure applications submitted by transitioning service members in Hawaii. We further agree that the proposed measure demonstrates Hawaii's continuing commitment to the nationwide effort to facilitate military veteran's transition to post-military service employment. 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.

In light of the above, we recommend the measure be approved.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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

March 11, 2013

**Testimony in Support of SENATE BILL 506
Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing
Before the
House Committee On Veterans, Military, & International Affairs,
& Culture and the Arts
Hearing On Wednesday, March 13, 2013, 8:30 A.M.
In Conference Room 312**

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito and Committee Members,

The Department of Hawaii, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) represents more than 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.

S.B. 506: Clarifies that licensing authorities that consider relevant education, training, or service of a military veteran applicant and determine the applicant meets or exceeds the requirements for licensure in Hawaii shall accept the results of the passage of a national or regional exam accepted by the statute or rule in the specific licensing area or the equivalent as determined by the licensing authority. Requires a certificate or evidence satisfactory to the licensing authority of having passed a national or regional exam or the equivalent to be provided to the licensing authority. (SD2)

This measure will ensure that transitioning veterans leaving active military service will have their documented education, training and experience favorably considered for licensure by licensing authorities subject to chapter 436B, HRS.

VFW Hawaii members are grateful for your efforts to require licensing authorities subject to chapter 436B, HRS, to accept the results of the passage of a national or regional exam, supported by a certificate or evidence satisfactory to those licensing authorities, in their evaluation process toward granting licenses to transitioning veterans.

We urge this Committee to make this measure effective upon its approval by the Governor of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the S.B. 506.

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto
VFW Hawaii State Legislative Liaison

LATE TESTIMONY

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, March 13, 2013, 8:30 a.m. Room 312
Senate Bill 506 SD 2 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 comment on Senate Bill 506 SD 2 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing. This legislation seeks to amend Act 248, SLH 2012, which provided recognition of military training for licensure requirements for professional and vocational licensure in the State of Hawaii, by extending the recognition of another state's licensure, if that state's licensure requirements meets or exceeds those established by the Hawaii licensing board or commission. It also provides that the Hawaii board or commission would have to recognize the applicant's national or regional examination, if the other state's licensure requirements are recognized.

This bill is similar to HB 1381 HD 2, which provided similar changes to Hawaii's professional and vocational licensing laws and excluded specific professions, such as medical doctors, dentists, and CPAs. As stated in testimony on this bill and HB 1381, the HDA believes that these measures be deferred this legislative sessions in order for all those professions and vocational license holder to be permitted to discuss this matter before any significant changes to Hawaii's licensure laws takes place on such a large scale.