

SB 546

RELATING TO FAMILY LEAVE.

Allows an employee with a family member in the United States armed forces who is on active duty or notified of a call to active duty, to use family leave for certain activities for which an employee may take military family leave under federal law. Effective July 1, 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
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January 25, 2013

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

For Hearing on Tuesday, January 29, 2013
2:50 p.m., Conference Room 224

BY

BARBARA A. KRIEG
DIRECTOR

**Senate Bill No. 546
Relating to Family Leave**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TO CHAIRPERSON ESPERO AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

S.B. 546 allows an employee with a family member in the United States armed forces who is on active duty or notified of a call to active duty, to use family leave for certain activities for which an employee may take military family leave under federal law. The effective date is July 1, 2013.

The Department of Human Resources Development supports the intent of the measure and deeply appreciates the sacrifices made by those in the military service and their family members. However, we are concerned the bill, as currently drafted, does not provide the employer with a mechanism to certify the validity of these requests for family leave as there are for other family leave purposes.

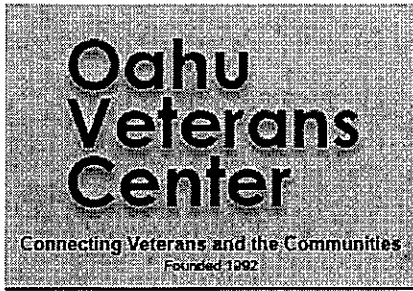
As such, we recommend that Section 398-6, "Certification," of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, be amended as follows:

"Section 398-6 Certification ***

(d) Leave for a qualifying exigency shall be supported by a copy of the covered military member's active duty orders and certification providing the appropriate facts related to the particular qualifying exigency for which leave is sought, including contact information if the leave involves meeting with a third party."

The above recommended language follows the language and application of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act certification requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



January 29, 2013

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 546
RELATING TO FAMILY LEAVE.**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY
HEARING ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 29TH AT 2:50 PM, IN CONFERENCE
ROOM 224**

Aloha Chair Espero: The Oahu Veterans Council is delegates are honored to serve at the pleasure of our veterans and their families. On January 26th, our delegates reviewed and voted unanimously to support Senate Bill 546

We are extremely grateful for your efforts to allow an employee with a family member in the United States armed forces who is on active duty or notified of a call to active duty, to use family leave for certain activities for which an employee may take military family leave under federal law.

Providing this legislative protection in state law is much appreciated by family of our deploying military personnel. They ask for no more compassion than we would expect for ourselves.

The Oahu Veterans Council respectfully urges your committee to consider passing Senate Bill 546 as written. Mahalo, for allowing us to testify, regarding this extremely important issue.

Dennis Egge

Dennis Egge; Chairman, Legislative Committee



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SB546

Submitted on: 1/25/2013

Testimony for PSM on Jan 29, 2013 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noe Foster	theStrategist	Support	No

Comments: theStrategist designs healthcare transformations for military populations that save lives and save money. We offer our support of SB546. Thank you for your kind attention, Noe Foster CEO theStrategist 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1503 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813