

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 1282

H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Veterans, Military, & International
Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.B. No.
1282 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY SERVICE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to continue to recognize and
honor Hawaii service members who have borne the incredible burden
of war by:

- (1) Clarifying that members of the Hawaii National Guard or
United States military reserves must have been activated
into service at the time they were killed in action to
be eligible to receive the Hawaii Medal of Honor; and
- (2) Allowing service members who commit suicide on the
battlefield or while on deployment to be eligible to
receive the Hawaii Medal of Honor if all other
requirements for the Medal of Honor have been met.

The Department of Hawaii Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
United States, National Association for Uniformed Services Hawaii
Chapter, and a concerned individual testified in support of this
bill. The State of Hawaii Department of Defense and several
concerned individuals testified in opposition to this measure.



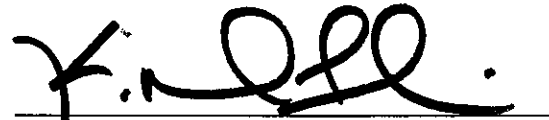
Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have allowed service members who commit suicide on the battlefield or while on deployment to be eligible to receive the Hawaii Medal of Honor;
- (2) Inserting language to expand eligibility for the Hawaii Medal of Honor by including individuals who were killed in action while:
 - (A) Serving in direct support of military operations in a combat zone if that service was designated as such by the United States Department of Defense; and
 - (B) Performing duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger if that duty qualifies the individual for special military pay as determined by the United States Department of Defense;
- (3) Making conforming amendments to the purpose section of the bill to reflect the substantive provisions of the bill as amended; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1282, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1282, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Veterans,
Military, & International
Affairs, & Culture and the
Arts,


K. MARK TAKAI, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-seventh Legislature

HSCR 604

Record of Votes of the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1282	Committee Referral: VMI	Date: 2/13/13		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
VMI Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TAKAI, K. Mark (C)	✓			
2. ITO, Ken (VC)	✓			
3. BROWER, Tom	✓			
4. CACHOLA, Romy M.	✓			
5. CHOY, Isaac W.	✓			
6. OHNO, Takashi	✓			
7. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	✓			
9. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
10. MCDERMOTT, Bob	✓			
TOTAL (10)	10			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">[Signature]</div>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				