



GM653

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Advisory Board On Veterans' Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHELSEA FERNANDEZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Advisory Board On Veterans' Services

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: PSM

Introducer(s):

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 653
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS' SERVICES,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHELSEA FERNANDEZ,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020

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

BY
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
March 24, 2016

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I am Major General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA). I am providing written testimony in **FULL SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 653, which considers and confirms Chelsea Fernandez to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

Chelsea Fernandez has brought an energetic vision to the board over the last four years. She represented the military members who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and are readjusting back to civilian life. She provides significant insights about the views of female veterans, who are now an increasing portion of the overall veteran population.

I ask the committee confirm Chelsea Fernandez for another four-year term on the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services. Her confirmation will allow her to continue her valuable contributions to the board and veterans statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **FULL SUPPORT** of Governor Message 653.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY

GM 653 Submitting for consideration and confirmation
To the Advisory Board on Veterans Services,
Gubernatorial Nominee,
CHELSEA FERNANDEZ for a term to expire
6-30-2020

PRESENTATION TO THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

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

MARCH 24, 2016

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero and Committee members:

I'm Ron Han, Director for the State Office of Veterans' Services (OVS). The OVS **strongly supports** the GM 653 confirmation Chelsea Fernandez to be appointed to the State Advisory Board on Veterans' Services for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my wholehearted support to Chelsea Ann Fernandez for a second term with the State Advisory Board on Veterans Services. Chelsea has done stellar work supporting the more than 121,000 Veterans across the State serving as a sub-committee chair on the Advisory Board. As our island of Maui representative to the board, she ties in with the Maui Veterans Council and is cognizant of the myriad of issues affecting our Veterans and their loved ones not only on Maui, but on Molokai and Lanai as well. Chelsea is known for her soft-spoken approach to dealing with issues. But make no mistake, she is passionate about helping Veterans in need and has set up Veteran workshops and facilitated the establishment of the Veterans Resource Center on the campus of Maui College with the University of Hawaii.

Chelsea is also a Hawaii Army National Guard Veteran who deployed with her unit to support combat activities in the Southwest Asia region. Her service to her Nation and to her State has been exemplary and she has earned unit commendation awards and accolades. In 2012, the Women's Legislative Caucus

bestowed on her the honor of a Woman of Distinction for her leadership in the community as a young entrepreneur helping physically challenged citizens with opportunities for rehabilitation and employment. As a working mother, she has offered her services to help stand down events on Maui and here on Oahu assisting Women Veterans and their families. As a Hawaii Women's Military Veterans Task Force original cadre member, she helped to turn the task force into a permanent sub-committee. Her strong backing and advocacy of the State's first Women's Military and Veterans Conference in 2015 attended by close to 200 women, reflects very well on her personal commitment and determination in seeing that Women Veterans receive the attention and supportive services they richly deserve.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Chelsea Fernandez's confirmation and consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Cc: greenlee@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM653 on Mar 24, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 4:07:32 PM

GM653

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for PSM on Mar 24, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Ms Fernandez has done an excellent job serving on the Advisory Board during her first term. I recommend she be reappointed.

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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March 17, 2016

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara
Chairman
Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations and Military affairs
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: PSM Testimony 03-24-16 GM 653

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of the committee

It is a privilege to support the recommendation of the Governor for nominee Chelsea Fernandez for a second term to represent Maui on the Advisory Board for Veterans' Services.

I have had the Opportunity of working with Chelsea as a fellow member of the present Advisory Board. She has earned a high degree of respect from the current Board for her involvement and efforts to help the Veterans on Maui. Her performance and personal rapport, her keen interest in Veterans' issues and ability to define and offer solutions to them make her an extremely creditable representative on the Board. Her focus on improving the lives of women veterans is an important part of our Board responsibility.

I look forward to having Chelsea as part of our Advisory Board team for the next term.

Mahalo,

Sincerely,

Jim Traxler

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Cc: michael@njlaw.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM653 on Mar 24, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Monday, March 21, 2016 8:59:50 AM

GM653

Submitted on: 3/21/2016

Testimony for PSM on Mar 24, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael A Lilly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have worked with Chelsea on the Governor's Advisory Board on Veterans Services and give her my unqualified support for this appointment. If confirmed she will continue to serve as a welcome addition to the Board.

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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March 21, 2016

Dear Senator Nishihara and Members of the Military Affairs Committee,

I would like to provide a letter of support for nominee Chelsea Fernandez's appointment to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

I have had the opportunity to work alongside Ms. Fernandez on the Advisory Board and believe that she is uniquely qualified to serve and provide input on veterans' issues because of her past military service, her veteran status, the relationships she has cultivated in our community, and because she represents our neighbor island veterans and provides them a voice to the Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

//signed//

Bridget Komine