

HB 564

RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION

Appropriates funds for programs, ceremonies, and activities commemorating the 50th
Anniversary of the Vietnam War

PSM, WAM

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 564, RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION

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

BY

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

March 17, 2015

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 564 as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

This bill requests that an appropriation of funds out of general revenues of the State of Hawaii to the State Department of Defense for the planning and execution of programs, ceremonies, and other activities to honor our Vietnam-era Veterans for the purpose of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War during the Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017.

Many Vietnam-era Veterans who were drafted came home to angry protestors, confronted with signs humiliating them at airports and harbors, and treated with incredible disrespect because they fulfilled their compulsory duties as citizens of this great country. Because of their resilience and pride in overcoming this travesty, the military members and Veterans of the Gulf War today did not have to endure this type of disgrace and shame. This current generation stood on the shoulders of these Vietnam-era Veterans who paved the way and brought back dignity and respect to those who defend our freedoms and liberties. This small token of our thanks and appreciation is long overdue.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:04 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB564 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM

HB564

Submitted on: 3/14/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch	Veterans Advisory Board	Support	No

Comments: The Advisory Board of the Office of Veterans Services supports the appropriation of funds for programs, ceremonies, and activities commemorating the 50TH Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:18 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: tjsmyth6@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB564 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM
Attachments: MOAA HB564.3.17.15_PSM_Vietnam War Commoration.docx

HB564

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Smyth	Military Officers Association	Support	Yes

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
Thomas Smyth
Military Officers Association of America, Hawaii Chapter
Before the
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental And Military Affairs
Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 1:45 p.m., Room 229
HB 564 Relating to Vietnam War Commemoration
Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Committee Members

Our chapter of 500 retired and currently serving officers of the Uniformed Services strongly supports HB 564. This important bill provides for a series of activities that together would commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

As a veteran of the Vietnam War myself, I welcome the opportunity to join with my friends and former comrades in commemorating the importance of the end of this very significant event in our lives. Families and friends of those involved in the Vietnam War also can join in the celebration that notes the end of this very significant part of Hawaii's military history.

The specific programs, ceremonies, their locations and dates and times can be determined by the State Department of Defense with strong input from veterans and the coordinated network of Veteran Organizations here. My veteran's organization will be happy to be part of the planning and execution of these activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:16 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: sonnyfernan@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB564 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM

HB564

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanley Y. Fernandez Sr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In support of HB564. Funding will be used to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. To honor all veterans who proudly served In Vietnam defending freedom. This event to take place in Hawaii honoring all veterans. In support of HB564.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 12:12 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: cazzbear@prodigy.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB564 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM
Attachments: TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 564 Senate.docx

HB564

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caz Ross	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 564, RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION

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

BY

CARSWELL J. ROSS, JR. Chief Master Sergeant, USAF. Ret.;
Counselor Emeritus, Office of Veterans' Services

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Good afternoon Chair Will Espero, Vice Chair Rosalyn Baker, and members of the committee on Finance. As a member of the planning committee, and a Vietnam Era veteran, I **strongly support** the propose of HB 564 which is to honor all military members, their families, and other government and non-government organization which supported our effort during the Vietnam War. These individuals were not given an appropriate "welcome home" and as this the 50th Anniversary of the War it is fitting to recognize these individuals and their family members while they are able to receive the recognition.

Thank you for this opportunity to strongly support this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 1:37 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: wusstig@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB564 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM*

HB564

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenny Wusstig	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov