

The Uniformed Service Member's Voice in Government
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES
Hawaii Chapter (HI-1)
January 31, 2015

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 805 WITH COMMENTS
RELATING TO VETERANS DISABILITY BENEFITS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS & CULTURE AND THE ARTS
HEARING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND AT 9:00AM,
IN CONFERENCE ROOM 309

Aloha Chair Cachola and Vice Chair Ito: Thank you for providing us with this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 805. On Capitol Hill the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is "The Service Member's Voice in Government." Here, in the great State of Hawaii, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) serves at the will and pleasure of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed services community..

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) is extremely grateful for your committee's noble efforts to exempt Federal Title 38 United States Code chapter 11 related disability benefits, from claims of creditors, attachment, levy, or seizure under any legal or equitable process, as provided by federal law; and prohibiting their being awarded to any other person.

Arizona and most recently Wyoming addressed this issue in their legislatures. In addition to the protections our HB 805 propose, these States prohibit indemnification of those who would claim access to the subject disability benefits, in a divorce action.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) respectfully urges this committee to consider:

- a. the legislative example set by the Arizona and Wyoming legislatures, regarding claimant indemnification and
- b. legislatively encouraging our courts to defer judgment to the United State's Veterans Administration's equitable disability compensation apportionment policy, before imposing scheduled support payments, in accordance with Title 42 United States Code section 659(h)(1)(A)(ii)(V), for support claimed by a subject disabled veteran's dependent children, custodian/guardian and spouse.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter respectfully encourages this committee to consider including both aforementioned additional legislative protections in part III, Chapter 651, Hawaii Revised Statutes. This legislative action will most certainly strengthen our State's support for United States Code, Title 10, Section 1408(a)(4)(B) intent, and be much appreciated by our divorcing disabled veterans and military personnel.

Thank you for being here for us,

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Dennis Egge; Chapter President



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