

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 129 / HOUSE RESOLUTION 82
DESIGNATING JUNE 27, 2016, AS "POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS DAY" TO
ENCOURAGE ALL PUBLIC, PRIVATE, AND MILITARY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO CONTINUE
EDUCATING SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, VICTIMS OF
ABUSE, CRIMES, AND NATURAL DISASTERS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE
CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT FOR POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURIES

BY
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
March 21, 2016

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and Members of the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts:

I am Major General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in support of the intent of House Concurrent Resolution 129 and House Resolution 82.

These resolutions will help to increase public awareness of the causes, symptoms and treatment regiments for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

What is PTSD? At the Department of Veterans Affairs PTSD website states:

Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can occur after someone goes through a traumatic event like combat, assault, or disaster. Most people have some stress reactions after a trauma. If the reactions don't go away over time or disrupt your life, you may have PTSD.

The number of reported cases of PTSD have increased after 26 years of military engagement in the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan. Our women veterans suffer higher rates of PTSD and those number will only increase after the recent Department of Defense decision to allow women to serve in all combat related career fields.

Efforts to increase public awareness will help reduce the stigma of PTSD for those who served.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of the intent of House Concurrent Resolution 129 and House Resolution 82.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 129 AND HOUSE RESOLUTION 82, DESIGNATING JUNE 27, 2016, AS "POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS DAY" TO ENCOURAGE ALL PUBLIC, PRIVATE, AND MILITARY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO CONTINUE EDUCATING SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, VICTIMS OF ABUSE, CRIMES, AND NATURAL DISASTERS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT FOR POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURIES

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE
AND THE ARTS

BY

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

March 21, 2016

Good morning, Chair Ito and Vice Chair Tokioka, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services. I appreciate this opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Concurrent Resolution 129 and House Resolution 82 as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

This measure requests that June 27th, 2016 be designated as "Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day" to heighten awareness through education the causes, symptoms and affects of this condition and injury. Also included is how this condition affects members in our community, our military service members, Veterans and their loved ones. Additionally, this measure also highlights the efforts of our healthcare service providers at all levels who provide treatment to those who require counseling and assistance.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments.