



# SB3112

Measure Title: RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION.  
Report Title: Vietnam War; 50th Anniversary (\$)  
Description: Appropriates funds for programs, ceremonies, and activities commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.  
Companion: [HB2491](#)  
Package: None  
Current Referral: PSM, WAM  
Introducer(s): NISHIHARA, ESPERO

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SEANTE BILL 3112  
A BILL RELATING TO THE VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION

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  
February 16, 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. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 3112.

This measure appropriates funds for the planning of programs and ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The celebration will be a multi-year running with events occurring through 2025.

Many Vietnam-era veterans were drafted into military service and served honorably. Thousands were wounded and many made the ultimate sacrifice. When they returned from their service, they were greeted by a divided nation that did not celebrate their return from the war.

This 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War will be a closure for these forgotten veterans. It will be a fitting way to recognize their service to America.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 3112.

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3112, RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR  
COMMEMORATION

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

BY

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

February 16, 2016

Good afternoon Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services. I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 3112 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 of programs, ceremonies, parades, and other activities to honor our Vietnam-era Veterans for the purpose of commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam War during fiscal years 2016-2017.

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 the 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](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [greenlee@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:greenlee@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:21:18 PM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann Greenlee	Governors Advisory Board on Veteran Services	Support	No

Comments: As Chairman of the Governors Advisory Board on Veteran Services and representing the 121,000 veterans statewide, we strongly support this legislation and urge the Senate to pass this.

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senate Committee on Public Safety & Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

February 12, 2016

Testimony of Rene Berthiaume in **Support** of SB3112

Aloha Chair Nishihara & Committee Members

My name is Rene Berthiaume and I am a member of the State of Hawaii 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration Committee and also Chair of its legislative committee. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is a result of President Obama's issuance of a proclamation as well as a similar proclamation by Governor Abercrombie. As Veterans of the war we were asked to serve on this Committee in order to organize, plan, develop and carry out a commemoration program that gives thanks and honors our Vietnam Veterans and their families. Though we are all volunteers, we are tasked with carrying out these objectives. Since these proclamations came with no real resources in terms of funding these activities, it also fell to us to request government assistance and support as well as from private sector businesses, individuals, veterans groups, etc. in order to complete our mission. These committees are active in on 50 states and also will include participation of our allies during that war i.e. South Korea, Thailand, Australia, etc. However, Hawaii has emerged as a main focal point for these efforts due to our very high visibility and the role played during Vietnam time. This high visibility will have a positive effect on us as a state and a boost to our local economy.

Again, I strongly Support this bill and look forward to its passage. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Mahalo,

Rene Berthiaume

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [traxlerj@yahoo.com](mailto:traxlerj@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 13, 2016 2:12:31 PM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/13/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James H. Traxler	State Veterans Advisory Board	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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
Tuesday, February 16, 2015 at 1:18 P.M.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

**RE: SENATE BILL 3112 RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kamakana Kaimuloa, and I am the Vice President of Military Affairs at The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (The Chamber). I am here to state that The Chamber **supports** SB 3112, which appropriates funds for the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

In 2012, a presidential proclamation established that the Vietnam War Commemoration would extend from Memorial Day 2012 through Veterans Day 2025. While the Hawaii 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vietnam Commemorative Committee has done an incredible amount of work on behalf of the State in trying to create opportunities to recognize and honor Vietnam veterans and their families through programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Although this commemorative committee was established in 2014, it has faced numerous challenges in developing programs, ceremonies, and activities linked to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War due to a lack of funding. This legislation will go far in helping recognize the sacrifices of those who served in Vietnam.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [edward.cruickshank@gmail.com](mailto:edward.cruickshank@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 9:15:09 AM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
edward cruickshank	oahu veterans council	Comments Only	No

Comments: On behalf of Oahu Veterans Council I totally support the request for funding in support of SB 3112. As always we need the funding to put on this event successfully and recognize the 30,000 Hawaii residents that fought in the Vietnam war. Thank you for your consideration and support. Edward Cruickshank President of Oahu Veterans council

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu](mailto:mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:16:27 PM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the appropriation of funds for programs, ceremonies, and activities commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. Thank you for allowing me to state my position. Mike Golojuch, LT Col, USAF (Ret)

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [sonnyfernan@msn.com](mailto:sonnyfernan@msn.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:21:27 PM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: In Support of State funding to support SB3112. Its time to officially recognize all veterans that served in Vietnam for their service and sacrifice. This activity will bring high recognition to the State of Hawaii for hosting the National Vietnam Veteran Welcome Home activities in Hawaii.

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [santy2506@yahoo.com](mailto:santy2506@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:55:46 AM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carlos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It's time to honor these veterans. Don't wait any longer.

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3112, RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR

COMMEMORATION

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY Carswell J. Ross, Jr. CMSgt. USAF (Ret.)

Date of Hearing: Monday, February 16, 2016

Thank Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair and Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair and members of the committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, for this opportunity to **strongly support SB3112**. This measure appropriates funds for the programs, ceremonies and activities commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War and Hawaii's veterans who served both in country and within the Era.

This measure will afford Hawaii 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.

I thank the committee for allowing me this opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3112, RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR  
COMMEMORATION

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

BY Rona F. Adams

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Thank you chairman and vice chairman of this committee for this opportunity to **strongly support HB3112**. This measure appropriates funds for the programs, ceremonies and activities commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War and Hawaii's veterans who served both in country and within the Era.

I am a decorated Vietnam Veteran that served 2 tours as a Captain in the US Army Nurse in the height of the war. I am a 1968 TET Offensive survivor. I also am a member of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. When I was asked to be on this committee, my first thought was “HA!!! Too little, too Late” but then I thought about it and said, “ OK, Better Late than Never” .....

I want to tell you that WAR is HELL.... Anyone that has been in a combat zone will agree with me.... And I hope you or your family members have to be in that situation. Those young men and women that were in that hell zone and came home alive had another hell to face once they got home.....They were spit on, called baby killers, and other horrendous things....I was fortunate like some other young women coming home, even though we came home in uniform, most people

didn't think we were coming back from Vietnam and didn't treat us so horribly bad when we landed at our home airport.

This measure will afford Hawaii to honor all military members, their families, and other government and non-government organization which supported our effort during the Vietnam War. As I stated we 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.

I am a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee member. I am also the person responsible for setting up concerts as one of the events in May 2017. I am trying to have USO Arlington work with us to pick up the entire cost of the entertainment but if we don't meet their criteria, USO Hawaii will pick up the cost of the entertainers ( several groups of the 60's) but we will have to pay for the travel along with room and board. We are considering having this function at the Aloha Stadium, the Shell or the Kaneohe Marine Base. We will also need to bus the veterans to and fro either of the aforementioned locations

PLEASE, let us say THANK YOU and WELCOME HOME in 2017

I thank the committee for allowing me this opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.

**From:** [dbam71@aol.com](mailto:dbam71@aol.com)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB3112, Relating to Vietnam War Commemoration  
**Date:** Saturday, February 13, 2016 7:03:27 AM

---

Aloha Committee Chair and Members:

I write in support of SB 3112, the Bill Relating to the Vietnam War Commemoration.

Our nation is officially in the "Commemoration Window" of remembrance of the Vietnam War and of those who served their country during that period. As you may know, Hawaii was central to the conflict, as the Kaneohe Marines and soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division were among the first to deploy to the combat zone. I know personally as I deployed with the 25th in 1965.

Throughout the long war, Hawaii served as a Rest and Recuperation (R&R) location for deployed troops to meet their spouses, families, and friends. Many veterans today recall that short 6-7 day respite in Hawaii with great warmth and genuine nostalgia. I have heard the stories repeatedly when old friends visit and they recall the R&R days on the beach, the Don Ho show, where they stayed, etc. It was a respite filled with happy memories.

Our state has an energetic committee, chaired by Colonel (Ret) Gene Castagnetti, USMC, that is developing a commemorative program of activities to remind our state to remember and to educate younger generations on that period in our history.

The Committee needs financial support to insure this program is offered and presented in the appropriate manner so as to remember and honor. The Committee anticipates a significant influx of veterans from around the country, as well as increased visits from veterans of other nations (Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Thailand, and others), when the schedule of events are announced.

I ask you to consider favorably SB3112 and shepherd it through to law. Mahalo.

Sincerely,

David A. Bramlett  
General, US Army (Ret)  
Hawaii Resident (1651 Pensacola St, 96822)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [PSMTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [hawaiifishingfanatic@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiifishingfanatic@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3112 on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, February 15, 2016 10:45:04 PM

---

**SB3112**

Submitted on: 2/15/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:18PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Aweau	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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Testimony of  
Thomas K. Lee Jr.

In consideration of  
Senate Bill 3112  
RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION

I would like to testify in support of this bill. I as a veteran of OIF/OEF was welcomed home with the warmest regard and appreciation from the citizens of the United States that those who served in Vietnam, my father being one of them, did not. The way in which they were treated upon their returns from war were quite the opposite.

Let us all now recognize those great veterans from the war in Vietnam and honor them appropriately during the Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Vietnam War. This bill will help to ensure that the commemoration ceremonies are carried out in the proper manner befitting our nation's veterans of Vietnam.