

# **SB 669**

## **RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION**

Appropriates funds for programs, ceremonies, and activities commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

PSM, WAM

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 669  
A BILL RELATING TO VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION

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

BY  
BRIGADIER GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
ADJUTANT GENERAL  
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
February 5, 2015

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

I am Brigadier General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii  
Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 669.

This measure will appropriate funds for the planning of programs and ceremonies  
commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam War. The celebration will be a multi-year  
running with events occurring from 2015 through 2017.

Many Vietnam-era veterans were drafted into military service and served honorably. Many 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 50<sup>th</sup>  
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** Senate Bill 669.

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 669, 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 5, 2015

Good afternoon 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 Senate Bill 669 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 the fiscal years 2015-2016 and 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.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:02 AM  
**To:** PSMTestimony  
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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB669 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM\*

**SB669**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tanya Abalos	Hawaii State Teachers Association	Oppose	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.

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**SB669**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM 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 SB669. Its way overdue for all Vietnam Veterans to be formally recognized for their effort, sacrifice, and their service to their country for the Vietnam war. This program and for Hawaii to host the "International" event would be most appropriate for their military service for all Vietnam veterans.

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