



THE MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS HAWAII COMMANDERY

Oahu Veterans Center
1298 Kukila St
Honolulu, HI 96818



3 February 2015

Senator Will Espero, Chairman
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Senator Espero,

The Hawaii Commandery, Military Order of Foreign Wars, is pleased to provide testimony for SB686. It is encouraging to see that your committee is reviving the work initiated by Act 139 signed by Governor Abercrombie.

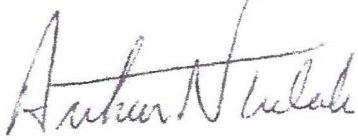
MOFW Hawaii members recommend that the Committee fully consider the previous work of the Hawaii State Dept. of Defense and the appointed Gulf War Memorial Task Force (GWMTF) for implementation when SB 686 is passed. The GWMTF provided well-researched recommendations on the best location(s) for the GWM and validated widespread community support. While procedural problems delayed this important work when the final report was submitted to the State Legislature in Jan 2014, it is time to get back on-track with providing the resources and approvals to move forward with the recommendations submitted over one year ago. The Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery was the recommended site, and the Hawaii MOFW Commandery supports this recommendation.

The Gulf War, and subsequent military actions associated with the Global War on Terror have seen the longest periods of sustained military conflict carried out by generations of service members. With the GWOT still raging, and with new threats emerging such as ISIL, this memorial will come at a critical time, and permit the citizens of the State of Hawaii the means to honor the sacrifices of our military personnel from 1990 until today, and into the future. Hawaii's Gulf War combatants are now veterans living in our community, and the same is true for many who served in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and subsequent overseas contingency operations. It is appropriate for Hawaii to follow the example of other states in erecting its monuments to these veterans, and in particular those who died in service to the nation.

Visit our website: www.MOFWUS.org

I can be reached at 477-8195, or e-mail arthur.tulak@earthlink.net

"Deus et Libertas"

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arthur N. Tulak". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Arthur N. Tulak
Colonel, U.S. Army, Ret.
Commander, HI Commandery
Military Order of Foreign Wars

Visit our website: www.MOFWUS.org

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 686, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A
WAR MEMORIAL

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

February 5, 2015

Good afternoon Chair Will Espero and Vice Chair Rosalyn Baker. As a member of the committee who received comments and testimony from the public on an appropriate and lasting tribute to the men and women with a relation to Hawaii, whose lives were taken during the various operations which occurred during the Gulf War, I fully **support** SB 686 which seeks funds the planning, design, and construction of a veterans' memorial with replicas located on the Neighbor Islands veterans cemeteries. These monuments will stand to remind us that Freedom is not free. It is paid for by the sacrifices of our best, and the memories that linger with their family members of what might have been.

These monuments are in recognition of their lost and stand as testament of our Nation's values and freedoms. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 686.

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:59 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: cazzbear@prodigy.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB686 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM
Attachments: TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 686.docx

SB686

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM 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.

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~~LATE TESTIMONY~~

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:19 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: wusstig@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB686 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM*

SB686

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenny Wusstig	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: Dale Wilson <docdale6@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:16 PM
To: PSMTTestimony
Cc: Penny M. Fox; Camron Fox; Wayne Manning; Ken Fujimoto; Orlander Keller; Ed Cruickshank; Henry Lee; William Castro; Ron Baptista; Bob Williams; Bob Cox; Bob Sugel; Joe Kaleikini; Ron MacPherson; Bob Walker; James Pihana; James Kaleohano; Barry Periatt; Bert Imada; Danny Kosora; Del Pranke; Dennis Hill; Emile Wery; Frank Olivera; Jim Browne; Jose Meris; Michael Kim; Rex Weigel; Rick Kama; Rick Ryken; Robert Gibbons; William Sell; Daniel Torres; Dan Malakie; Daryl Smith; Tommy Tanaka; Chuck Sanders; Carolle Brulee-Wilson; Keoni Delacruz; Jimmy Enocencio
Subject: Hearing PSM 02-05-2015

Aloha, Senators!

As commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Hawaii, I am writing on behalf of all combat-wounded veterans in the state as well as my fellow disabled veterans and other veterans of America's conflicts.

The bills you are hearing today are important to all of us. Especially critical is SB1159, which exempts veterans' disability payments from attachment, levy or seizure by creditors or other third party, as provided by federal law.

We Vietnam veterans also support SB669, which would appropriate monies to help fund fiftieth anniversary of the Vietnam War programs, ceremonies and activities from now through November 11, 2025.

Also of interest to all veterans is **SB686**, which would appropriate funds to support the creation of a war memorial honoring veterans who participated in America's most recent conflicts, beginning with the Persian Gulf War up to the present and/or who protected our nations borders by land, sea and air during that period.

Finally, we strongly support SB559 and its amendments to the Hawaii Revised Statutes pertaining to the military and veterans.

It is my hope that you will honor Hawaii's service personnel and veterans by passing these bills on our behalf.

Mahalo in advance for your kokua in this matter.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

dale

Dale E. Wilson
Major, U.S. Army (Ret.)

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:52 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB686 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM

SB686

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

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

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

Comments: As we have in the past the Advisory Board to the Office of Veterans' Services, representing over 170,000 veterans, strongly supports this measure, HB686 to appropriate funds for the planning, design, and construction of a Gulf War Memorial.

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