

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Greenlee	Governors Advisory Board for Veteran Services	Support	No

Comments: On behalf of the more than 120,000 veterans in Hawaii, the Governors Advisory Board supports this measure to honor our veterans of our recent conflicts as the State has honored veterans of WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam conflicts.



HAWAII

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**TESTIMONY OF
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS
FEBRUARY 9, 2017
H. B. 168
RELATING TO MEMORIALS**

Chair Ito and members of the Committee, I am Jonathan Johnson, Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), and I am grateful for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of H.B.168.

The SFCA supports the concept to commission a memorial to honor and recognize those who served in the Global War on Terrorism. If it is the desire of the Legislature, the SFCA recommends forming an Art Advisory Committee (AAC) following the SFCA's collection management policy for all new works of art. AAC's assist with the selection of location, defining the medium and theme of the work of art, recommending an artist, and review of design proposals.

The SFCA supports the future appropriation of funding to implement the proposed intent, provided that doing so does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 168, RELATING TO MEMORIALS

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

BY

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

February 09, 2017
9:30 a.m.

Good morning, Chair Ito, 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 testimony **in support** of the concepts in House Bill 168.

This measure appropriates funds for the planning and design of a memorial to honor service members of the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the various theaters of the Global War on Terrorism, to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, on the island of Oahu, and replicas of the memorial to be located at state veterans cemeteries statewide.

The OVS supports the concepts and intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families.

Public Testimony
of
Allen K. Hoe
Honolulu, Hawaii

In Support of HB 168

Before the House:
Committee on Veterans, Military & International Affairs & Culture and the Arts
Thursday, February 9, 2017
9:30 a.m., Conference Rm. 429

Aloha Chair Ito and Members.

My name is Allen K. Hoe and I am a GOLD STAR FATHER. It has been 12 years now when that status was first thrust upon my family with the news that our beloved Nainoa was killed in combat in Mosul, Iraq while serving his country.

I continue to be puzzled by an apparent lack of appreciation by many in our country who somehow just do not get it. The price of our freedom is not free.

150 years ago, these words were penned by Abraham Lincoln to a mother who had lost her sons on the battlefield. No other words spoken have ever stated it as eloquently:

“I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be ours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom. Yours very sincerely and respectfully, A Lincoln.”

HB 168 presents our community with an opportunity worthy of the President Lincoln’s tribute to honor those whose memory we will cherish forever for their gift of freedom to the world.

This recognition and honor to the memory of Hawaii’s fallen heroes will move one step closer to reality with the appropriation provided by this measure to begin the planning and design of the Memorial.

Respectfully,
Allen K. Hoe