

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 11:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rswright08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1438 on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM

HB1438

Submitted on: 2/21/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ronald wright	Oahu Veterans Center	Support	Yes

Comments: The Oahu Veterans Center and Council strongly support this Bill. The WW1 commemoration is a must to not only recognize those that fought during that war but also educate the local community about Hawaii's contribution to the war effort. Many of those businesses that supported "The Great War" are still in business today.

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The Friends of the Natatorium, Hawaii's World War I Memorial, are proud to render their support for House Bill 1438.

As the centennial of the U.S. entry into WWI fast approaches, there are significant ties that bind us to that terrible war. April 1, 1917 marks the sinking of the SS Aztec by a German U-Boat where five Hawaii Seaman died.

We try as a people to calibrate our compasses by how we remember our past. Hawaii stepped up when called upon and close to 10,000 served with 101 giving their all.

As we commemorate Hawaii's son's and daughters for their selfless sacrifices and indomitable spirit of service, please support and pass HB 1437 so that adequate commemorative events can be planned with the greatest degree of respect and honor.

Aloha Pumehana,
Mo Radke, President,
Friends of the Natatorium

Testimony on House Bill 1438, relating to the

WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

to the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts

Alex Holowicki
Task Force Historian
Hawaii World War I Centennial Task Force

February 21, 2017

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita

I am testifying in support of House Bill 1438.

The World War I Centennial project is shedding new light on the important contributions that Maui residents made to the war effort. Maui residents served in various philanthropic and outreach roles that should not go unnoticed. These stories enrich our understanding of Maui and are of interest to educators, residents, and even tourists.

Though the Task Force hinges on the support of many generous volunteers, the adoption of House Bill 1438 would help remedy the burden of necessary operating costs.

Feb. 21, 2017

To the Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance:

I write in support of HB 1438, a bill funding Hawaii's World War I centennial observances.

I am a citizen of another state, but I have visited Hawaii several times and greatly admire its history and culture, including the involvement of 10,000 of its citizens as volunteers in service during World War I.

In particular, I admire the War Memorial Natatorium in Waikiki. I am a proponent for its renewal and reopening.

As Hawaii's official World War I monument, the Natatorium is where the ceremony commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armistice should be. The plans of the World War I State Centennial Task Force to hold the observance there on Nov. 11, 2018, are commendable and appropriate.

I urge you to fully fund the commission and its plans for the centennial observances over this year and next. Please approve HB 1438. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis O'Shea
307 Stanmore Rd.
Baltimore, Md. 21212-1138
doshea55@comcast.net
410-296-4103

Support for HB 1438

Relating to Funding for the WWI Centennial

Mahalo Legislators for your support of state funding for Hawaii's commemoration of the Centennial of World War One.

The WWI Centennial is a global event with Europe already well into their observances beginning in 2014. The US involvement and Hawaii's direct tie to the Great War was triggered with the April 2, 1917 sinking of a merchant marine ship, the USS Aztec. Five Hawaii residents were aboard that ship. Four days later, congress authorized the declaration of war. More than 10,000 from Hawaii would end up volunteering to serve in WWI. The civilian contributions included bandage rolling at Iolani Palace and much more. We are determined to share Hawaii's WWI history.

The national World War One Centennial Commission in Washington, DC is coordinating efforts in every state to honor the nation's contributions to that war effort and sacrifices made.

To that end, Governor Ige's task force has developed a public education and events plan for a commemoration period that runs from April 2, 2017 to the 100th anniversary of the armistice that brought the war to an end on November 11, 1918 (what we now know in the US as Veterans Day).

State and private funding are required to stage the events and education efforts we have planned for this 19-month period. Your support for HB 1438 is vital to Hawaii's commemoration.

As we move past the grand 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor through the 50th anniversary of Vietnam in 2017, we must not allow the 100th anniversary of the end "Great War" to be forgotten. There are no longer living veterans from that war. It is our solemn kuleana to ensure they are not forgotten.

Mahalo!

Donna L. Ching

2212-A Wilder Ave, Honolulu, HI 96822

Testimony on House Bill 1438, relating to the

WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

Anita Manning
Task Force Historian
Hawaii World War I Centennial Task Force

February 21, 2017

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance

I am testifying in support of House Bill 1438.

I have been researching Hawaii citizens and World War I since 2003. The years of the Great War saw Hawai'i men in military service, Hawai'i citizens of all ages contributing through volunteer activity and sacrifice, and many local activities that helped build today's Hawai'i. Men on all islands from all communities volunteered or were drafted and served in the military. Women on all islands stepped forward to take over 'men's jobs' filling the gap caused by enlistment. Men and women volunteer their time to charitable activities. And all islands struggled with social questions many of which are currently relevant. Yet this era's history is not well known today. The work of the Task Force is to commemorate these stories of the Hawaii community through education.

Despite the volunteer work of many to ensure success of the Task Force's activity, some operating costs are associated with the project and I urge the funding of House Bill 1438 to assist with those costs.

Anita Manning
94-610 Palai Street, Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797-4535 USA
tel 808-676-4974
cell 808-342-4090
fax 808-677-3721

email <manninga001@hawaii.rr.com>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:08 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jwilliam@ucla.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1438 on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM

HB1438

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeri B.Manulani Williams	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support the appropriation of moneys for the centennial celebration to be awarded and be held at the internationally recognized Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium, to take place on Veteran's Day 2018. This will be the 100th anniversary of the armistice which ended the Great War, in which many of our Hawaiian sons gave there lives for our country. In my humble opinion, there is no other site which should or could compare to our proud jewel of the Pacific.

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1438, RELATING TO THE WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

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

February 23, 2017
11:00 a.m.

Good morning, Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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 1438.

This measure seeks to honor and remember Hawaii's military veterans who served during the Great War, to educate Hawaii on our local contributions to the War effort and to help facilitate grass-roots centennial commemorations.

The Governor has formed a State of Hawaii World War I Centennial Task Force to develop and identify events of significance that are worthy of commemoration, to partner with local organizations (Civic, Patriotic, Veterans), historians, and the local military.

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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 3:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: johnh2oog@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1438 on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM

HB1438

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
john hoogsteden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support HB 1438. We need to recognize our veterans and we need to inform current generations of the sacrifices they made for our country. Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 3:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ewabond@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1438 on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM

HB1438

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 23, 2017 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and members of the Committee: I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1438 This measure seeks to honor and remember Hawaii's military veterans who served during the Great War, to educate Hawaii on our local contributions to the War effort and to help facilitate grass-roots centennial commemorations. Established by an Act of the U.S. Congress (Public Law 112-272—JAN. 14, 2013) the National World War One Centennial Commemoration relies on each State and Territory to plan and carry out its own commemoration programs. At the direction of Governor, the Hawaii World War One Centennial Task Force was formed to lead the State's efforts. This body, and the commemoration effort, cannot operate without funding. The US involvement and Hawaii's direct tie to the Great War was triggered with the April 2, 1917 sinking of a merchant marine ship, the USS Aztec. Five Hawaii residents were aboard that ship. Four days later, congress authorized the declaration of war. More than 10,000 from Hawaii would end up volunteering to serve in WWI. This legislation is needed to provide the resources that will allow the people of Hawaii to express their respect, admiration, and gratitude to the generation who served during the Great War. The State of Hawaii World War I Centennial Task Force was created to identify events of significance that are worthy of commemoration, to partner with local organizations (Civic, Patriotic, Veterans), historians, and the local military. As Hawaii's official World War I monument, the War Memorial Natatorium in Waikiki Natatorium is where the ceremony commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armistice should be held along with a parade through Waikiki. Mahalo, John Bond Ewa Battlefield historian, Ewa, Oahu

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LATE



Military Order of the World Wars

Department of Hawaii
Office of the Commander

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Finance Committee

February 22, 2017

Dear Representative Luke,

The Military Order of World Wars, Department of Hawaii, is pleased to provide testimony for HB 1438 to fund Hawaii's official commemoration of the Centennial of World War One, and to honor the sacrifices and service of Hawaii's citizens, both military and civilian, during the Great War. The Military Order of World Wars was born out of WWI, and was formed in 1919 by Officers who served on the Staff of General John Pershing, Commander of the American Expeditionary Force. In the preamble to our Order's constitution, our members dedicate themselves ***"To encourage and assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of memorials of the World Wars."***

We are pleased to see this Bill come before your committee and fully support its approval and implementation, along with adequate resources to ensure its success. Established by an Act of the U.S. Congress (Public Law 112-272—JAN. 14, 2013) the National World War One Centennial Commemoration relies on each State and Territory to plan and carry out its own commemoration programs. At the direction of Governor, the Hawaii World War One Centennial Task Force was formed to lead the State's efforts. This body, and the commemoration effort, cannot operate without funding.

While the Task Force is pursuing a general strategy of grass-roots commemoration activities, there are operating costs associated with these, as well as the planned capstone event for Veterans' Day 2018, which will mark the Centennial of the Armistice.

If Hawaii is to have a commemoration worthy of the sacrifices and service of the roughly 10,000 citizens who served either in uniform or civilian capacity, it must be funded by the State.

This legislation is urgently needed to provide the resources that will allow the people of Hawaii to express their respect, admiration, and gratitude to the generation who served during the Great War.

Very Respectfully,

Arthur N. Tulak
COL, U.S. Army, Ret.
Commander
Hawaii@MOFWUS.org

OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL
President - Ed Cruickshank
1st V.P. - Kyro Carter
2nd V.P. - COL Ret. Arthur Tulak
Secretary - Jan K. N. DeRego
Treasurer - Eugenia Woodward

OAHU VETERANS CENTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Claire Levinson

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Aux. Dept. of HI
American Legion Post #17
AMVETS
AUSA
Blacks in Government
Combat Infantrymen's Assn.
Disabled American Veterans
Disabled American Veterans -
Chapter 3
Go For Broke Association
Hawaii National Guard Association
Hawaii Korean American Veterans
Marine Corps League
Military Officers Assn. of America -
Hawaii Aloha Chapter
MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Military Order of Foreign Wars
Military Order of World Wars
Military Reserves Retiree Assoc.
Military Women of America #2
National Assn. of Uniformed Services
National Assn. of Atomic Veterans
National Sojourners—Hawaiian #9
National Sojourners—Honolulu #11
National Sojourners—
Kamehameha #439
Society of Military Widows -
Aloha Chapter #25
Special Forces Assn. - Chapter VIII
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Dept. of Hawaii and Auxiliary
VFW Post # 2875 and Aux
VFW Post #94 Ladies Aux
VFW Post # 970
VFW Post #849
VFW Francis Wai Post #3292
MIS Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post #110
Veterans Benefits Administration
(Honolulu Regional Office)
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post # 10276
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter #858
VA Pacific Island Health Care System
State Office of Veterans Services



LATE

February 22, 2017

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Finance Committee

Aloha Rep. Luke,

On behalf of the council we are in support of providing funding for HB 1438 to provide funding for the commemoration of the Centennial of World War One.

We must never forget roughly the 10,000 citizens or soldiers that served this nation.

For further information, please contact the OVC Executive Director, Ms. Claire Levinson , at tel. (808) 422-4000 clevinson@oahuveteranscenter.com

Respectfully,

Edward Cruickshank

Col Edward Cruickshank
President of Oahu Veterans
Council



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