

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 6:39:45 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donna L. Ching	Testifying for Vice Chairman, Hawaii State World War I Centennial Task Force	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Rhoads and JUD members,

Thank you for your support of Hawaii's commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One. With your help, we can shine a light on the contributions of Hawaii's more than 10,000 military and civilian volunteers in the Great War. Our activities will ensure Hawaii's proud place in international history will be known to kama'aina and tourists alike.

Mahalo!

Donna L. Ching

Vice Chairman, Hawaii State World War One Centennial Task Force



# Military Order of the World Wars

Department of Hawaii  
Office of the Commander



Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee

March 14, 2018

Dear Senators,

The Military Order of World Wars, Department of Hawaii, is pleased to provide testimony for HB 2698 HD3, 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, resource, 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 of unpaid volunteers, and the commemoration effort, cannot operate or accomplish its assigned mission without funding.

We are only nine months away from the Centennial of Armistice Day, which saw the end of the fighting in WWI. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arthur N. Tulak".

Arthur N. Tulak  
COL, U.S. Army, Ret.  
Commander

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 12:52:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Curtis Manchester	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

The Hawaii Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars, is pleased to provide testimony for HB 2698 to fund Hawaii's official commemoration of the Centennial of the First World War. Founded in 1894 Officer Veterans of the War with Spain, and by descendants of Officer Veterans of the War of 1812, the Military Order of Foreign Wars is America's oldest Military Order whose membership are Officer Veterans (or descendants of qualifying officers) of America's Foreign Wars since the War of Independence. The Hawaii Commandery is a proud Hawaii WWI Centennial Commemoration Partner, and express full support for HB 2698. Over the last two years, the HI MOFW has supported the commemoration events organized by the WWI Centennial Task Force. The Commemoration must now shift into high gear in the remaining months of the Commemoration Period, which ends June 28, 2019, on the Centennial of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. The capstone event for Hawaii's WWI Centennial Commemoration is Veterans Day 2018, the 100th iteration of this holiday, originally known as Armistice Day, which marks the end of the fighting between the Allies and Central Powers. This legislation is urgently needed to enable Hawaii to host a respectable commemoration worthy of the service and sacrifices of the 9,800 from Hawaii who served in the Armed Forces during the Great War.

Curtis A. Manchester III, Senior Vice Commander, Hawaii Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2698 HD3, RELATING TO VETERANS

PRESENTATION TO THE  
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

BY

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

March 16, 2018  
9:30 a.m.

Good morning, Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services. I appreciate this opportunity to provide written testimony **in support** of the concepts in House Bill 2698 HD3.

This measure appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I honoring the legacy of the men and women who served in the "Great War."

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.

**The Uniformed Service Member's Voice in Government**  
**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES**  
**Hawaii Chapter (HI-1)**

3/13/2018	S	as scheduled a public hearing on 03-16-18 9:30AM in conference room 016.
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MARCH 15<sup>th</sup> 2018

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2698 HD3**  
**RELATING TO THE WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION.**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> 2018 HEARING, AT**  
**9:30AM, IN CONFERENCE ROOM 016**

Aloha Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair Rhodes: Mahalo for providing this opportunity to share our sentiments, in support of House Bill 2698 HD3. The National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is well known on Capitol Hill, as "The Service Member's Voice in Government;" while this voice is silent, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) continues their legacy, at the will and pleasure of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed services community, as an American Retirees Association affiliate.

Representing the interests of all Uniformed Service branches and pay grades, NAUS Hawaii Chapter sincerely appreciates your committee's willingness to consider

- a. honoring our WW1 veterans by
- b. appropriating TBD State general funds, in support of our WW1 commemoration activities.

Your committee's action, in support of HB 2698 will be greatly appreciated by our WW1 veterans, their families and loved ones.

Thank you for being here for us,

*D Egge*

Dennis Egge; NAUS Hawaii Chapter President



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818;  
**[Naushawaii1@yahoo.com](mailto:Naushawaii1@yahoo.com)**; 808-382-5833



National Trust *for*  
Historic Preservation  
*Save the past. Enrich the future.*

March 15, 2018

Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Attn: Chairman Brian Taniguchi  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219  
415 S Beretania St, Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Support for HB 2698: Funding for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the Armistice ending World War One**

Dear Chairman Taniguchi:

On behalf of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, please accept this letter of support for House Bill No. 2698, which would appropriate funding to for the State of Hawaii to appropriately honor the one-hundredth anniversary of the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

The State of Hawaii World War One Centennial Task Force is coordinating this once-in-a-lifetime event and has engaged a wide variety of stakeholders to make it a success. The National Trust strongly endorses HB 2698 as means to raise awareness of the role World War One played in Hawaii's history as well as establishing America's standing in the world.

The National Trust also has a direct interest in preservation of Hawaii's State World War One memorial, the War Memorial Natatorium, which was designated a National Treasure in 2014. Following the war communities across the nation constructed unique "living" memorials with a utilitarian function, often connected to local culture and landscape. They included auditoriums, gymnasiums, parks, bridges and other treasured community resources. In Hawaii the Territorial Legislature constructed the only memorial in the world to assume the form of an ocean-side swimming pool, a place for the community to honor Hawaii's indigenous swimming traditions. The preservation of the Natatorium has a broad base of supporters including the World War One Centennial Commission who has made a direct appeal to the Governor.

As our nation joins the world in reflecting on the centennial of World War One this November, we urge the Hawaii State Legislature to act and ensure that our veterans' legacy of service is not forgotten.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Turner".

Brian R. Turner  
Senior Field Officer & Public Lands Attorney

Cc: Representative Nicole E. Lowen  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senator Donovan Delacruz



March 15, 2018

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Senators,  
Re: **HB 2698 HD3**

On behalf of Daughters of the America Revolution, we are pleased to offer testimony of the Bill before your committee. We stand in full support of this legislation.

As National World War One Centennial Commemoration Partners, we note the importance of funding Hawaii's official commemoration of the Centennial of World War One. Hawaii's peoples took great pride supporting the mission of the Great War across our archipelago. We consider it a privilege to honor the sacrifices and service of Hawaii's enlisted and civilians alike, roughly 10,000 strong. We continue to observe Kapuna and Keiki alike who stand further erect as ancestral stories surrounding the Great War disseminate across our lands.

At the direction of Governor Ige, the Hawaii State World War One Centennial Task Force, all dedicated volunteers, are hard at work planning the Centennial of Armistice Day and your support is not only essential but greatly appreciated. Therefore, we respectfully request your approval coupled with sufficient resources to undergird implementation toward a successful outcome

Again, we submit this legislation is urgently needed to provide funding necessary for our people to express their love and gratitude toward those whose sacrifice paved the way for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan Adams Neely*

**Daughters of the American Revolution, Haleakala Chapter**

Service to Veterans Chair

Commemorative Events Chair





March 14, 2018

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Senators,

American Veterans Hawaii Post 2 Ewa Battlefield submits this testimony in support of HB 2698 HD3, commemorating the Centennial of WWI to honor the service of Hawaiian citizens both military and civilian.

We support this Bill coming before you and wish to see its implementation. As caretakers of the Ewa Battlefield and the USS Arizona Memorial marble name wall, we strive to preserve the recognition and importance of time honored memorials to teach its rich histories especially to young people and to also unite the citizens and families of our communities.

We urge you to provide the resources to create an opportunity to spark the spirit of community participation, respect and gratitude for the courage of those who paid the price for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Aloha,

**Ronald Y.K. Lam**  
**Commander**

**American Veterans Hawaii**  
*Post 2 Ewa Battlefield*

<http://www.AmVets-Hawaii.org>  
<http://www.facebook.com/hawaiiamvets>

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 11:24:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<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 HB2698.

Mike Golojuch, Lt Col, USAF(Ret)

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 8:41:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you for your perseverance in helping recognize service above self for the nearly 10,000 Hawaii participants of World War I.

This Bill is critical in helping to educate and to show our living veterans and their families that Hawaii doesn't forget.

Your vote to approve this bill is a demonstration of character and commitment to remember the things that are important when citizens go off to protect home and family from tyrannical regimes and dictators around the world.

I spent 30 years serving in the United States Navy with over 20 of those years in overseas operational duties. I've seen first-hand how proper remembrance aids in the recovery of personal wounds, both physically and mentally, when a country, state or municipality takes time and resources to properly remember.

Thank you for your service in our state's legislative body and I encourage your vote supporting HB 2698.

With respect,

Mo Radke, Command Master Chief (retired)

Feb. 20, 2018

To the Honorable Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I write in support of HB2698, a bill to fund 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 should be held to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice ending the war on the Western Front. 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 the committee to fully fund the commission and its plans for the centennial observances. Please approve HB2698. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis O'Shea  
307 Stanmore Rd.  
Baltimore, Md. 21212-1138  
[doshea55@comcast.net](mailto:doshea55@comcast.net)  
410-296-4103

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 6:45:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeri B.Manulani Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the appropriation of moneys for the centennial celebration to be held at the internationally recognized Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium to take place on Veterans Day 2018. This will be the 100th anniversary of the armistice which ended the Great War, in which many of our Hawaiian sons gave their 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.

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 1:20:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Good morning, Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Judiciary:

I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2698 HD3 which appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the men and women who served in the war.

I support HB 2698 to commemorate the 100th year of World War I and especially the contributions and sacrifices made by our local Hawaiian citizens in support of winning this Great War. This commemoration in

Hawaii will be held in conjunction with the nationwide commemoration of World War I.

Mahalo for supporting the more than 10,000 soldiers and civilians from Hawaii who served in the Great War. As the world commemorates the 100th anniversary of the signing of Armistice, let's bring Hawaii's WWI history alive by recalling and honoring the contributions that our state made.

Established by an Act of the U.S. Congress (Public Law 112–272 - JAN. 14, 2013) the National World War I 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 or accomplish its assigned mission without funding. As Hawaii's official World War I monument, the Natatorium is where the ceremony should be held to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armistice ending the war on the Western Front.

The plans of the World War I State Centennial Task Force to hold the observance there on Nov. 11, 2018, are very commendable and appropriate.

Aloha,

John M. Bond MCAS Ewa Field historian



**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 4:37:03 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Fawn Liebengood	Testifying for 808 Cleanups	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 5:12:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

TO the Honorable Chris Lee, Chair; the Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice-Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

TO the Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair; the Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi Vice-Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Health & Human Services:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SB2498 SD2** relating to Veterans; World War I Centennial Commemoration; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **SB2498 SD2** and strongly supports its passage.

**SB2498 SD2** is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the men and women who served in the war.

Specifically, the DPH Platform provides that "[t]he Armed Forces in Hawai'i and their families sacrifice to serve and defend our country and to help us in time of need. Hawai'i should honor their service by strongly supporting the best possible care of wounded and disabled veterans. We therefore support efforts to keep our Veteran's Hospitals fully funded.

We honor the service of all of our military members.

We support the efforts of our Congressional Delegation to extend benefits for our Reservists and National Guard who have suffered brain injury and/or PTSD. We support efforts to protect our troops from sexual predators who commit sexual assault and command rape within their service branches and support specialized treatment for victims of such crimes. (Platform of the DPH, P.10, Lines 530-539(2016)).

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources. (Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 432-433 (2016)).

Given that **SB2498 SD2** appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the men and women who served in the war, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to strongly support this

measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 7:35:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Ako DVM	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Remembering World War 1 is valuable for ALL citizens

I support HB2698

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 8:39:51 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael A. Wee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please **support** this bill. This is truly a worthwhile project. Our Veterans must not be forgotten.

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 10:09:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

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.

At the direction of Governor, the Hawaii World War One Centennial Task Force was formed to lead the State's efforts. This body of unpaid volunteers, and the commemoration effort, cannot operate or accomplish its assigned mission without funding.

We are only nine months away from the Centennial of Armistice Day, which saw the end of the fighting in WWI. 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.

thank you

Rona Adams

President, Vietnam Veterans of America. chapter 858

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 10:33:03 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I support the passage of H.B. 2698 HD3. It is crucial that we remember and properly honor the sacrifices of our veterans. We ask them to go into harm's way on our behalf. We must never allow ourselves to forget their memories.

-Carlos A. Santana

**LATE**

**HB-2698-HD-3**

Submitted on: 3/15/2018 11:21:59 PM  
Testimony for JDC on 3/16/2018 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Stongly support funds for WWI Commemoration.



**LATE**

16 March 2018

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I write to express my strong support for HB 2698 HD3, a bill funding Hawaii's World War I centennial observances.

As a private citizen who serves on the State of Hawaii World War I Centennial Task Force I support the appropriation of moneys for the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the armistice which ended the Great War. Events remembering World War One have been held across the United States over the past four years, but it would truly be a failure of leadership if the State of Hawaii did not also participate in these commemorative events due to a lack of funding.

As a professional historian and WWI Centennial Task Force Commemoration Partner Organization representative I feel it incumbent upon us to remember the nearly 10,000 residents of Hawaii who contributed to the war effort including those who gave their lives fighting in that conflict. As Hawaii's official World War I monument, the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium is the ideal location in which this celebration should be held on Veteran's Day 2018.

I urge you to fully fund the plans for this centennial observance. Please approve HB 2698 HD3.

Very Respectfully,

**Brenden L. Bliss**  
Instructor of History  
Curriculum Area Liaison – Diplomacy & Military Studies; International Studies  
Program Chair – Homeland Security  
Program Chair – Military Studies

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