## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

#### TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2698, HD 3, SD 1, RELATING TO VETERANS

# PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY

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

April 3, 2018 10:00 a.m.

Good morning, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

I am 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, SD1.

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." This centennial event is the culmination of over two years of deliberate planning by the WWI Centennial State Task Force. These Task Force volunteers are preparing to hold this major commemoration event on Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 on the grounds of the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium, recognized as Hawaii's WWI Memorial which is also on the National Register of Historic Places.

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.



March 29, 2018

Hawaii Senate Committee on Ways and Means Hawaii State Capitol 415 S Beretania St, Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Support for HB 2698, HD3, SD1: Funding for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the Armistice ending World War One

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice Chairman Keith-Agaran, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, please accept this letter of support for House Bill No. 2698, HD3, SD1, which would appropriate funding 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, HD3, SD1 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 known memorial 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,

Brian R. Turner

Senior Field Officer & Public Lands Attorney

#### **GAYLORD DILLINGHAM MEMORIAL CHAPTER (#115)**



Military Order of the World Wars c/o 95-076 Kaulua Street Mililani, Hawaii 96789

28 March 2018

Senator Donovan DelaCruz, Chairman Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Senate Ways and Means Committee

Dear Senators,

The Gaylord Dillingham Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars, fully supports HB 2698 HD3, SD1. This bill helps 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 civilians during the Great War.

Our Order's preamble leads our organization to assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of memorials of the World Wars. In light of our partnership with the World War One Centennial Task Force, with volunteers and the effort to conduct meaningful commemoration, we realize that without funding, operations and accomplishment of assigned mission will be jeopardized.

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, on Veterans Day 2018 at Hawaii's only WWI Memorial. Please ensure that this important legislation is scheduled for a hearing this year in your committee.

Respectfully,

Jeff Tom

LTC, USA (Ret)

Chapter, President



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LtGen Duane Thiessen, USMC (Ret.) BrigGen Chuck Yeager, USAF (Ret.) March 30, 2018

RE: support for HB 2698, HD3, SD1: Funding for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the Armistice ending World War I.

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice Chairman Keith-Agaran, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, please accept this letter of support for House Bill No. 2698, HD3, SD1, which would appropriate funding for the State of Hawaii to appropriately honor the one-hundredth anniversary of the Armistice of November 11, 1918. Historic reminders are vital to our country's collective understanding of world positioning. These lessons from our past become the foundation upon which we teach our children to take full advantage of their future.

The Hawaii WWI Centennial Committee has brought many stakeholders together to consider a plan that not only recalls the volunteerism and commitment of the people of Hawaii, but also of the Territorial legislatures act to construct a living memorial to the veterans of this war, their neighbors and friends who stepped forward to preserve world peace. Their vision was a living memorial that for years to come would bring the community together, a gathering place for families and athletes sharing in the values of our community. Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WWI at the location of our historic ocean-side reminder of strength, character, commitment to the greater good would again bring people from around the world as well as from our community to this living memorial honoring Hawaii's culture.

I am honored to be a member of the WWI Commemoration Committee, supporting what I believe is key to building a strong and vibrant future; using the lessons and symbols of our past to inspire, teach, and prepare tomorrows leaders. The goals for peace, the commitment to global friendship, the true vision to solve conflict without war and to negate what often appears to be fateful outcomes, can only be achieved if we as a community actively remember and treasure our past.

Thank you.

Elissa Lines

**Executive Director** 

<u>HB-2698-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/30/2018 8:08:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Lukefahtr	Testifying for Pacific Region AUSA	Support	No

## Comments:

As the President of the Pacific Region of AUSA, I fully support this bill.



March 30, 2018

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

Dear Senators,

American Veterans Hawaii submits this testimony in support of HB 2698 HD3, to commemorate the Centennial of WWI to honor the service of Hawaiian citizens both military and civilian. We urge you to provide the resources to create an opportunity to spark the spirit of community participation, respect, gratitude and honor for the courage of those who paid the price for the freedoms we enjoy today.

I have fond memories of swimming in this pool as a young boy, but don't recall being taught what this monument represented at the time. Decades later, I wondered why it fell into disrepair and then closed. I realized that it wasn't safety or economic problems, but an indication of what is missing in the hearts and minds of the people of our communities.

We have this brief window of opportunity open for us to build our patriotism and unity. American Veterans Hawaii is the "Keeper of the Marble Name Wall" on the USS Arizona Memorial, and sponsor of the Ewa Battlefield Memorial. We are committed to preserving the recognition and importance of time honored memorials and to teach its rich histories especially to young people and to unite the citizens and families of our communities.

Aloha,

Ronald Y.K. Lam Commander

**American Veterans Hawaii** 

Post 2 Ewa Battlefield

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

## CAMP JOSEPH KANAKA CSN

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS CAMP #2288
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Senator Donovan DelaCruz, Chairman Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Senate Ways and Means Committee

I am writing in support of HB# 2698 WWI Memorial Celebration. As an American I know that it is not necessary to substantiate a celebration of our veterans. As a citizen of a State, I know that there are very many requests for State funding, and the difficulty that must be encountered in prioritizing these expenditures. As a Hawaii resident, I see daily the overbuilding of my memories, and the youth of today losing touch with the tangible relics and locations of past significance to themselves, to our ancestors, and for our descendants. Busy schedules leave little time to educate our youth outside the system; social media information overload favors trends designated by faceless people with catchy brands.

All of us, however, remember that we were not always here. We are aware that our Islands, and the way of life we enjoy was and is protected by our armed forces. Ourselves, our memorials and our remembrances are the solid threads of truth, of reality, that reaches through time to stand before us as testament to those souls who served and many who left all at the altar of liberty. They left us memories of their sacrifices and values and the hope that we will remember and perpetuate them.

For these reasons, I offer this testimony in the form of the names of those from Hawaii whom we wish to remember in this celebration of all who served. I ask that you search this list for names of your relatives, friends, or even just people of the same last name not related. Wonder if they gave all, if they saved someone, if they mashed their finger with a hammer volunteering to make mess kits. Wonder, if the name were yours, would you be forgotten. Would the best friend who went with you, whom you surfed or fished with, whom exploded in a vapor of blood while charging the lines in a land far, far away, would be remembered in your Island home. Would it be known that like you, he loved someone and they loved him. Like you, we all enjoy the liberties and freedoms we have today because of him. Wonder, if the women who served did so believing the anniversary of their service would be swept under the rug, lost in significance to changing a bathroom sign.

We are coming up on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ending of the War to end all Wars. The request to fund this celebration comes once in our lifetimes. As you peruse the list below, I don't think you will need to wonder if any name on it would vote approval for this funds request. I ask that you support them and approve it in their name, as they are no longer here to offer their testimony. Let's remember them, for they are us. Let's set the example so that our descendants will likewise honor them, and hopefully remember the example we set.

Mahalo

Steve Brock Commander

Camp #2288 Joseph Kanaka CSN Sons of Confederate Veterans



## Military Order of the World Wars

Department of Hawaii
Office of the Commander
March 31, 2018



Senator Donovan DelaCruz, Chairman Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Senate Ways and Means Committee

Dear Senators,

The Military Order of World Wars, Department of Hawaii, is pleased to see HB 2698 come before this committee for hearing. The Hawaii MOW fully supports 2698 HD3, SD1, 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."

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 David Ige, 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 seven 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 over 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, on Veterans Day 2018 at Hawaii's only WWI Memorial.

Very Respectfully,

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

when Viulat

Commander

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 9:31:26 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bond	Testifying for Kanehili Cultural Hui	Support	No

Comments:

Comments:

Good morning, Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair and members of the <u>COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS</u>:

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

Submitted on: 3/28/2018 9:34:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanley Y. Fernandez Sr.	Testifying for Dept. of Hawaii, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US	Support	Yes

#### Comments:

On behalf of over 6,000 members of the Hawaii members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we urge your support of HB 2698 HD3, SD1. The Nation is commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the ending of WWI on November 11, 2018, also known as the "Great War." Over 10,000 of Hawaii's military and community citizens participated in this Great War. It is only fitting that "HawaII' along with the rest of the Nation commemorate and honor those that gave their ultimate for the cause of "freedom" We, the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States urge your support to honor our patriotic citizens of Hawaii who sacrificed and for those that gave their ultimate for the cause of freedom. We honor the many Hawaiian families who shared their loved ones to keep our nation free. Urge your full support for HB2698 HD3, SD1. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Submitted on: 3/29/2018 11:21:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lawrence M.G. Enomoto	Testifying for Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America	Support	No

#### Comments:

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair and Members of the Ways and Means Committee

Thank you for giving me the opportunity, as a Life Member of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, to express my strong support for this bill which appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the men and women who served in the war.

In 1935, Monsignor Edward J. Higgins, a <u>World War I</u> veteran and US Army Chaplain, saw the need for an organization to serve veterans and uphold the <u>Catholic</u> faith. Monsignor Higgins gathered parishioners who had served in World War I together at Immaculate Conception Church in <u>Astoria Queens</u>, New York. This event is recognized as the first meeting of the Catholic War Veterans. On May 19, 1935 the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America was incorporated under the laws of the <u>State of New York</u>. In July 1940 The Catholic War Veterans was officially recognized as a Veterans Organization by the Veterans Administration in Washington. By 1947, membership in the organization surpassed 500,000 nationwide. President <u>Ronald Reagan</u> signed legislation on August 17, 1984 granting the Catholic War Veterans a Congressional Charter, being the 59th group to receive a Federal Charter, and the first explicitly religious organization to receive the honor.

Among those World War I veterans honored by this bill are the charter members of the Catholic War Veterans and their founder Monsignor Higgins, all of whom served courageously on the battlefields of World War I. I urge you to adopt this bill and appropriate the moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of all who served in World War I including those of the Catholic and other faiths.

Mahalo for your support,

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto

Majpr USAF (Ret) & Life Member, CWVUSA

<u>HB-2698-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/31/2018 4:43:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 2:05:28 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

#### Comments:

TO the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; the Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

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 **HB2698 HD3 SD1** relating to Veterans; World War I Centennial Commemoration; and an appropriation.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **HB2698 HD3 SD1** and strongly supports its passage.

**HB2698 HD3 SD1** 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, effective 3/19/2035.

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)).

Given that **HB2698 HD3 SD1** appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the men and women who served in the war, effective 3/19/2035, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to strongly support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities

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



Anita Manning 94-610 Palai Street, Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797-4535 USA tel: (808) 676-4974 fax: (808) 677-3721

email: manninga001@hawaii.rr.com

March 28, 2018

Ways & Means Committee Hawaii State Capitol

Dear Legislator,

I am writing to you to request and urge your support of **HB 2698**, **HD3**, **SD1**. This supports the efforts of the World War I Task Force, charged by the Governor as the state's coordinating body for memorial events and education related to the nation and Hawaii's contributions to the world conflict called then The Great War. Many individuals and groups are volunteering and contributing funds to assist these projects. BUT realistically some support from the state is needed both for financial reasons and to show the private donors that the people as a whole support what we are asking individuals to support.

As the driving force behind Hawaii's 2017-2019 campaign to inform and educate the public on Hawaii's contributions to the Great War, the Hawaii World War I Task Force is creating and coordinating important public instructional presentations, public events and more. The programs planned by the Task Force will awaken in other groups the history of participation and service of their part of the community. So many of the events of that era directly affect the world we live in today and can teach us about the results of our actions.

Aloha,

Anita Manning

Anita Manning Volunteer World War I Task Force Historian

<u>HB-2698-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/29/2018 6:51:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jose R Nater	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

<u>HB-2698-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/29/2018 8:23:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

I definitely support.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Lt Col, USAF(Ret)

Submitted on: 3/29/2018 9:45:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
E. Ileina Funakoshi	Individual	Oppose	No	

#### Comments:

While i was employed with C&C of Honolulu Parks & Recreation Dept, Mr. Ralph Goto of our Water Safety Division, submitted testimony against restoring the natatorium. His main concern was safety due to the shifting sands which resulted in the depth of the pool not maintaining a constant depth.

Because of his expertise in this area, i've always supported his viewpoint from the early 1990's.

Thank you for opportunity to submit my comments.

e. ileina funakoshi

Submitted on: 3/29/2018 10:08:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

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

#### Comments:

I strongly support the appropriation of monies (at the barest minimum \$375,000) for the Centennial Celebration to be awarded and be held at the internationally recognized Waikiki War Memorial, 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 and daughters gave their lives for our country. There is precedent for State support of significant military anniversaries (i.e. 2016 Pearl Harbor 75th; 2017 Vietnam 50th). The combination of City (Punchbowl), State (Kaneohe) and VFW/American legion (Natatorium) into one momentous celebration of Hawaii's veterans and civil service from all wars. The WWI Centennial National Commission believes, that Hawaii's concept and planning to be one of the best in the nation. This event will have national and international appeal - potential to generate domestic and international revenue if properly handled and advertised. Imagine this - no one has been inside our War Memorial Natatorium for 40 years, two generations of people who have lost touch which our 'living memorial' and the WWI heroes it honors. Hawaii's WWI war history is filled with stories of service, sacrifice and patriotism. In my humble opinion, there is no other site which should or could compare to our proud jewel of the Pacific - it must be proudly supported and funded. Mahalo nui loa Ms. Jeri Bernadette Manulani Louis Williams

Submitted on: 3/30/2018 1:08:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Alvin Wong	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Gentleman,

Please continue your support of all veterans by restoring the Waikiki Natatorium so our grandchildren can someday swim safely without fear of the box jellyfish.

Aloha,

Alvin Wong



Aloha e,

I am writing this letter in support of HB 2698 HD3 SD1. As a historian and educator on Maui, I find the work of Hawaii's World War I Centennial Task Force essential to the preservation of our island's unique contribution to this critical moment in world history. It is important for the state to help perpetuate this legacy and honor the work and lives of the thousands of Hawaii residents who aided the war effort. Not only does the funding create important learning opportunities for Hawaii's students, but it also helps bolster our reputation for championing military history and tourism. The Natatorium is a particularly significant memorial and merits the state's attention and care.

Thank you,

Alex Holowicki, PhD

History Insturctor University of Hawaii, Maui College 808-6984-3332 holowick@hawaii.edu

<u>HB-2698-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/30/2018 10:03:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Deborah M. Ching	Individual	Support	No	ı

Comments:

Please support this important event:

Submitted on: 3/31/2018 12:41:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Gordon	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

I believe this is a GREAT Bill for our VETS and Fully Support IT!

There should be funds approporated for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the men and women who served in the War.

Great people and heroes. Great work done for our Country and its people!

Submitted on: 3/30/2018 1:50:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
katherine belanger	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

I am writing to show my support for HB 2698, a bill that will provide much needed funding for our state's World War I Commemoration. We have a responsibility to honor the thousands of Hawaii residents who played a key role in one of the defining moments of the twentieth century. Their stories are a valuable piece of our legacy and it is important to give them the ackowledgement they deserve.

Thank you