
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEMORIALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The freedom and security that United States
2 citizens enjoy today are direct results of the sacrifices and
3 continued vigilance of the United States armed forces over the
4 course of our nation's history. The sacrifices of the members
5 of the United States armed forces have preserved the liberties
6 that have made this nation unique in the world community.

7 While members of the United States armed forces have
8 engaged in numerous conflicts worldwide for over two centuries,
9 more recent combat missions have included:

- 10 (1) The Persian Gulf War, from August 2, 1990, to
11 February 28, 1991, which culminated in the liberation
12 of Kuwait from Iraq;
- 13 (2) The air-and-land conflict known as Operation Desert
14 Storm, which began on January 17, 1991, and lasted
15 through February 28, 1991;
- 16 (3) Operation Iraqi Freedom, which was a military campaign
17 that was led by United States troops and conducted



1 from March 19, 2003, through August 31, 2010, and
2 later re-named "Operation New Dawn";
3 (4) Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Freedom's
4 Sentinel, more commonly known as the "War in
5 Afghanistan", which is an ongoing effort; and
6 (5) Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve
7 (CJTF-OIR), which is an ongoing military operation led
8 by the United States that aims to "degrade and
9 destroy" the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
10 (ISIL).

11 Members of the United States armed forces have also served
12 a pivotal role in the Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense,
13 and Operation Noble Eagle, and continue to protect our borders
14 by land, sea, and air.

15 Recognition of the sacrifices of the United States armed
16 forces members, many of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice, can be
17 found throughout the State. Two of the most prominent memorials
18 are the USS Arizona Memorial and the National Memorial Cemetery
19 of the Pacific at Punchbowl. However, a number of additional
20 memorials exist commemorating the sacrifices of the men and
21 women in uniform from Hawaii who have served this country,



1 including the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials on the grounds of
2 the state capitol, which were dedicated in 1994. Thus, it is
3 both fitting and necessary for the State to give tangible and
4 visible recognition for the sacrifices and contributions of
5 veterans from Hawaii who served in the Persian Gulf War,
6 Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New
7 Dawn, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Freedom's Sentinel,
8 Operation Inherent Resolve, the Global War on Terrorism,
9 Homeland Defense, and Operation Noble Eagle, and who have
10 protected our borders by land, sea, and air.

11 Recognizing the need for such a memorial, Act 139, Session
12 Laws of Hawaii 2013 (Act 139), required the office of veterans'
13 services, with the assistance of the department of accounting
14 and general services, department of defense, and state historic
15 preservation division, to develop a plan to establish a memorial
16 honoring the veterans of the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert
17 Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom,
18 Operation New Dawn, Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense,
19 and Operation Noble Eagle, and those who have protected our
20 borders by land, sea, and air.



1 In response to Act 139, the office of veterans' services
2 created the Hawaii gulf war memorial task force to develop a
3 plan to establish a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial. The task force
4 held multiple monthly meetings, conducted surveys, and held a
5 public hearing on the matter. In its report to the legislature,
6 the task force stated that, based upon its findings and
7 research, the ideal spot for the memorial would be on the
8 grounds of the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe on the
9 island of Oahu. The task force also recommended that replicas
10 of the memorial be located at state veterans' cemeteries
11 statewide. Finally, the task force recognized that the name
12 "Gulf War Memorial" may be too restrictive, as the intent of
13 this project is to honor not only those who have served in the
14 Persian Gulf conflicts but also those who have served in the
15 various theaters of the Global War on Terrorism.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
17 moneys to plan and design a memorial honoring the veterans of
18 the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan, and
19 the various theaters of the Global War on Terrorism, to be
20 located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe and



1 with replicas to be located in each of the state veterans'
2 cemeteries on the neighbor islands.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
6 the planning and design of a memorial honoring the sacrifices of
7 the service members of the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf,
8 Iraq, Afghanistan, and the various theaters of the Global War on
9 Terrorism, to be located on the grounds of the Hawaii State
10 Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu and with
11 replicas of the memorial to be located at state veterans'
12 cemeteries statewide.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
14 veterans' services, in consultation with the department of
15 accounting and general services, for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.
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INTRODUCED BY:



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H.B. NO. 2478

Report Title:

Global War on Terrorism; Veterans' Memorial; Appropriation

Description:

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.

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