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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2230
RELATING TO DISABLED VETERANS

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, VETERANS, & MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

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

January 31, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Good morning, Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Gates, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of the concepts in House Bill 2230.

This measure amends the Hawaii Revised Statutes to waive the annual vehicle weight tax for qualified disabled veterans. Currently, disabled veterans who are 100% rated by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), who are residents of Hawaii and who received an other than dishonorable discharge from the United States uniformed armed forces, receive an exemption from their annual registration fees (\$45). However, they are still required to pay the annual weight tax. This measure would extend the exemption for these eligible disabled veterans to the annual weight tax. As of December 2019, according to VA State Summaries, there are 4,431 veterans rated at 100% in Hawaii.

The OVS supports the 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.

Ron Han: ronald.han@va.gov Phone: (808) 433-0422

HB-2230

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 2:58:41 PM

Testimony for PVM on 1/31/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Mateo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

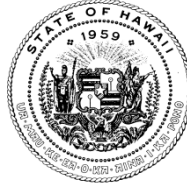
Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee:

As a US Army Veteran, I strongly support the HB 2230 in favor of the Exemptions from registration fees and annual weight tax. This will benefit hundreds and thousands of veterans living in Hawaii.

Sincerely yours,

Howard Mateo

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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January 31, 2020
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 430

HB 2230
RELATING TO DISABLED VETERANS

House Committee on Public Safety, Veterans, & Military Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill.

The DOT generally does not support exemptions as reductions in revenue are detrimental to the State Highway Fund. This bill seeks to exempt Hawaii resident disabled veterans that have a service-connected one hundred per cent disability rating and has been other than dishonorably discharged from payment of the annual vehicle weight tax. The DOT recognizes that these exemptions will assist our disabled veterans, and thus, we support this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.