



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
**OFFICE OF THE VETERANS'
SERVICES**

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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2783, SD1
RELATING TO REGISTRATION FEES

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, VETERANS, & MILITARY AFFAIRS
BY
MR. RONALD P. HAN
DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

March 11, 2020

Good morning, Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Gates, and members of this 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 Senate Bill 2783, SD1.

This measure would reduce the annual registration fee by fifty percent for disabled veterans who are fifty per cent or more disabled. Veterans who qualify, if this measure is adopted, must be a resident of Hawaii, a 50% or more disabled veteran as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and received an "other than dishonorable discharge".

Service connected 50% or more disabled Veterans received life-long injuries as a result of fulfilling their duty and service in uniform as a member of our United States Armed Forces. This is a small token of our appreciation for their heralded duty. The State Office of Veterans Services has asked the VA to provide the number of 50% disabled rated or more that reflect Hawaii as their home or residence.

We defer to the agency with direct responsibility for implementation.

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.

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SB-2783-SD-1

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Testimony for PVM on 3/11/2020 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

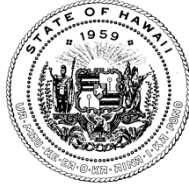
I strongly support SB2783, SD1 that allows for reduced registration fees for disabled veterans. While some may think of objections to this measure, none of them seem to realize that these disabled veterans who make up about 2% of Americans put their lives on the line every day while in the military and did their job in all types of hazards. Most of their disabilities are a direct cause of Country first. Allowing them a reduced registration fee is a small token of appreciation and repayment for what they did for their fellow citizens who did not serve.

Please pass SB2783. Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments.

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

Veterans Caucus Member, Democratic Party of Hawaii

DAVID Y. IGE
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TESTIMONY BY:

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March 11, 2020
10:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 430



S.B. 2783, S.D. 1
RELATING TO REGISTRATION FEES

Senate 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 50 percent disability rating and has been other than dishonorably discharged from the full payment of the annual motor vehicle registration fees. Instead, this bill proposes a fifty-percent reduction of the annual motor vehicle registration fee, which could decrease vehicle registration revenues by approximately \$94,275. 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.