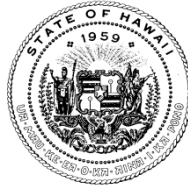


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

**LATE**

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 7, 2020  
1:15 P.P.  
State Capitol, Room 225

**H.B. 2783  
RELATING TO REGISTRATION FEES**

Senate Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, Intergovernmental, & Military  
Affairs

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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.



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

459 PATTERSON ROAD, E-WING, ROOM 1-A103  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819-1522  
Telephone Number 433-0420

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2783  
RELATING TO REGISTRATION FEES

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

February 7, 2020

Good afternoon, Chair Inouye, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Harimoto, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of both Committees:

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.

This measure would reduce the annual registration fee by 50% for disabled veterans who are 50% 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 devoted 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.

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

**SB-2783**

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 11:41:26 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Honorable Legislative Representatives,

I am in support of this bill. As an 80% service connected disabled veteran under unemployability status, this measure would definitely assist me and my wife with our fixed income. As difficult as it is to live in Hawaii, I already take advantage of the county's exemption with our property tax for Honolulu county, but the state does not provide many incentives to help us stay here. My wife and I have had many discussions as to whether we should move to another state because the cost of living is so expensive here. Anything that could assist us, would be beneficial. Please insure to remove the requirement to have to be retired from the military as well. Since many of the disabled veterans here are not retired from the military but have honorable discharges like myself. That requirement restricts me and my family from benefitting the assistance the state is trying to make available to veterans.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa

**SB-2783**

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 12:22:56 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

It should be FREE!!