



**SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF SB 3016, SD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN FLAG**

Senate Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol; 415 South Beretania Street

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Military Affairs Council ("MAC") supports the intent of SB 3016, SD1 which allows all United States military reservations and military training facilities in the State to display the Hawaiian flag.

The MAC was established in 1985 when the Chamber was appointed by the State to serve as the liaison to the military. The MAC advocates on behalf of Hawaii's military, and is comprised of business leaders, academic institutions, State and County officials, members of the CODEL, community leaders, labor unions and organizations and retired U.S. flag and general officers. The MAC works to support Hawaii's location as a strategic U.S. headquarters in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region which is crucial for U.S. national and homeland security.

The MAC appreciates the intention behind the measure to recognize the powerful symbol – Hawaii's state flag which signifies our unique history, culture, and values. By federal policy, there are varying protocols and regulations related to the display of state flags on official flagpoles or in outdoor displays at installation facilities. They differ across branches of the armed forces.

The MAC is currently engaging in comprehensive coordination across all Hawaii installations and service facilities to gather and assess existing protocols and regulations. In instances where a service lacks specific regulations, crafting new requirements would be necessary. Such new requirements would require thorough review and potentially, approval by the Secretary of Defense.



We appreciate the Senate Committees in the prior hearing in amending the measure from “required” to “may.” Hawaii’s military installations are giving serious consideration and looking forward to accommodating the spirit and intent of this bill.

We will be pleased to keep the Committees informed of our efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support.