

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STEPHEN F. LOGAN
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

PHILLIP L. MALLORY
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 88
RELATING TO THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD

BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
AND COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

BY

MAJOR GENERAL STEPHEN F. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FEBRUARY 21, 2025

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Keohokalole, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, Vice-Chair Fukunaga, and committee members:

I am Major General Stephen Logan, Adjutant General and Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, State of Hawaii, Department of Defense.

The Department of Defense provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB88.

We sincerely appreciate the introduction of this measure by Senator Elefante and are in full concurrence of the bill's language, which ensures that all of our Hawaii National Guard (HING) servicemembers and their families will have complete medical coverage that is equivalent and aligned with federal active duty service when they are ordered to State Active Duty (SAD) for extended periods of time exceeding 30 days in support of the State.

We would like to share that recent increases in natural disasters throughout the State have resulted in an increased number of HING servicemembers being ordered to SAD for extended periods. As a result, many servicemembers have been required to take indefinite leaves of absence from their civilian employment, which can create challenges

regarding their healthcare coverage. While some civilian employers may choose to continue paying their employees' company-provided healthcare premiums during an absence when on SAD, this is not universally the case. Consequently, HING servicemembers risk losing their healthcare benefits after 30 days of being on SAD orders. This situation forces them to continuously evaluate their ability to serve without healthcare coverage or to seek termination of their SAD orders to maintain their company-provided healthcare for themselves and their families.

This bill will help ensure complete healthcare coverage for all HING servicemembers and their families and support an uninterrupted HING response force capability to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

MG Stephen F. Logan, Stephen.f.logan@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1001

**HAWAI'I NATIONAL GUARD
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT STAFF
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4495**

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 88
RELATING TO THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
AND THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

BY

BRIGADIER GENERAL WALTER R. ROSS, JR.
DIRECTOR
JOINT STAFF, HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD

FEBRUARY 20, 2025

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Keohokalole, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, Vice-Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

I am Brigadier General Walter Ross, Director of the Joint Staff, Hawaii National Guard, State of Hawaii, Department of Defense.

I am presenting this testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB88.

I strongly support SB88. Passing this bill is vital to guarantee that Hawaii National Guard (HING) servicemembers receive the necessary medical coverage when they are called to serve on State Active Duty over thirty days in support of the state during disasters or times of domestic crisis. Our HING servicemembers make significant sacrifices to protect and selflessly serve our communities, and they deserve this essential safeguard for their health and well-being.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

BG Walter R. Ross, Jr., waltre.r.ross2.mil@army.mil; 808-844-6087

SB-88

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 5:17:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB88. Please pass this bill.

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

LATE

SB-88

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 2:10:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Legislative Member,

I humbly support SB88.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa