



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Cultural and the Arts
January 30, 2013 at 8:30 am

by
Lui K. Hokoana
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Hawai'i System

Chair Takai; Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying on behalf of the University of Hawai'i and its 10 campuses.

HB 158 broadens the scope of the tuition assistance program. It allows all University of Hawai'i students who are Hawai'i National Guard members to apply for tuition assistance from the Hawai'i National Guard tuition assistance program. In addition, the bill appropriates money to fund the tuition program.

The University appreciates the outstanding service that the Hawai'i National Guard has provided to our state & country. The University is supportive of supporting our service members to improve themselves and their community.

Thank you for your support of the University and the opportunity to comment on this bill.



January 29, 2013

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 158
RELATING TO TUITION ASSISTANCE.**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS MILITARY AND INTERNATIONAL
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30TH AT 8:30 AM, IN CONFERENCE
ROOM 312**

Aloha Chair Takai: The Oahu Veterans Council is honored to serve at the pleasure of our veterans and their families. On January 26th, our delegates reviewed and voted unanimously to support House Bill 158.

We are extremely grateful for your efforts to Broadens the scope of the tuition assistance to Hawaii national guard members attending the University of Hawaii and appropriates funds for that purpose

The Veterans Administration will equitably apportion a subject veterans disability compensation, for the purposes of providing support for the subject veterans dependent children and/or custodian, when a claim is filed in their behalf.

Providing this legislative protection in state law is so important to our veterans and national guard personnel who serve so selflessly and ask for no more recognition than we would expect for ourselves.

The Oahu Veterans Council respectfully urges your committee to consider passing House Bill 158 with the suggested comment included. Mahalo, for allowing us to testify, regarding this extremely important issue.

Dennis Egge

Dennis Egge; Chairman, Legislative Committee



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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 158, RELATING TO TUITION ASSISTANCE
PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
& CULTURE AND THE ARTS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D.M. WONG
ADJUTANT GENERAL, STATE OF HAWAII

January 30, 2013

Good morning Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito and Committee members:

I'm Major General Darryll D.M. Wong, Adjutant General, State of Hawaii. I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 158.

This measure identifies eligibility and appropriates funds to defray the cost for National Guard members to attend the University of Hawaii.

The opportunity provided by the tuition assistance aids those Guard members who are not eligible for programs like the post 9-11 Montgomery G I Bill and tuition assistance offered to Active Component military members.

In addition, tuition assistance provides the opportunity to further educate and open doors to realize goals like credentialing, commissioning to Officer ranks, and flight training to our Hawaii National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, facilitating the opportunity to broaden their academic horizons and become more effective and contributory members of our society.

Further, as an added economic benefit, since funds are only eligible for use at University of Hawaii schools, the funds stay in Hawaii and further benefit our great state.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's National Guard members in support of HB 158.