

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki
Comptroller

Maria E. Zielinski
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS
ON
March 27, 2013

H.C.R. 115 / H.R. 86

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS, TO PLAN AND ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL ON THE STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR, OPERATION DESERT STORM, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, OPERATION NEW DAWN, AND OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

Chair Takai and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on

H.C.R. 115 / H.R. 86.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of

H.C.R. 115 / H.R. 86.

DAGS defers to the Office of Veterans Services, Department of Defense and other interested parties on the substantive provisions of these measures and will continue its efforts to work collaboratively with these state agencies and other entities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURREN RESOLUTION 115/HOUSE RESOLUTION 86
REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES, WITH THE ASSISTANC E
OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS, TO PLAN AND ESTABLASH A MEMORIAL ON THE
STATE CAPITOL GROUND, HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE PERSIAN GULF
WAR, OPERATION DESTERT STORM, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, OPERATION
NEW DAWN, AND OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
& CULTURE AND THE ARTS

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN
DIRECTOR OF THE STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

March 27, 2013

Good morning Chair Takai, Vice-Chair Ito, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 115/HR 86, as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Biennium 2013-2015.

This bill requests the Office of Veterans' Services with the assistance of the State Departments of Accounting and General Services and Defense to create on the State Capitol grounds near the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials, an additional memorial(s) recognizing veterans of the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation new Dawn. The bill also requires a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2014.

The OVS would like to recommend adding the Global War on Terrorism Homeland Defense and Operation Noble Eagle as well as for those service members who have protected our borders on the land, sea and air. Given the scope of the planning required to adequately represent the Wars mentioned, the OVS would like to recommend that a Memorial Commission be established to address Veteran and community concerns and specific criterion for these memorials. Upon concept development and public review, a legislative report will be finalized. Funds to employ a contractor who would gather information concerning structures and symbols that represent each part of the memorials will be addressed in the next legislative session.

Given our present economic situation, this project could help create construction and other jobs that may aid in the recovery process.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
KAHUIHEWA BUILDING
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, KAPOLEI HI 96706

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE
ARTS**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2013
8:30 a.m.**

State Capitol, Conference Room 312

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 115/HOUSE RESOLUTION 86
REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES, WITH THE ASSISTANCE
OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS, TO PLAN AND ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL ON THE
STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE PERSIAN GULF
WAR, OPERATION DESERT STORM, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, OPERATION
NEW DAWN, AND OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM**

House Concurrent Resolution 115/House Resolution 89 requests the Office of Veterans Services, with the assistance of other departments, to plan and establish a memorial on the State Capitol Grounds honoring the veterans of the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports these resolutions.**

The Department would note however, as the State Capitol is on the National Register of Historic Places and therefore subject to historic preservation review prior to any changes to the building or grounds, the Department requests that its State Historic Preservation Division be included as part of the planning of a memorial. The Department also request that the language of the resolutions be expanded to include grounds in the State Capitol Historic District.



Headquarters: Department of State of Hawaii
438 Hobron Lane, Suite 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

March 26, 2013

**Testimony in Support of HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 115 and
HOUSE RESOLUTION 86
Before the
House Committee on Veterans, Military & International Affairs
& Culture and the Arts
Hearing On Wednesday, March 27, 2013, 8:30 A.M.
In Conference Room 212**

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Committee Members,

The Department of Hawaii, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW), represents more than 3,800 members in 20 Posts located throughout the State of Hawaii. VFW is a federally chartered national association of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who have served the United States of America in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign soil or in hostile waters.

H.C.R 115/H.R. 86 Requesting the Office of Veterans Services, with the assistance of other departments, to plan and establish a memorial on the State Capitol grounds honoring the veterans of the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

In testifying on S.B. 551, S.D. 2., before your committee on March 13, 2013, VFW Hawaii noted: "Construction of a memorial in the historic district of Honolulu to honor the service of veterans of the recent periods indicated in the bill is not only appropriate, but also well deserved. By including those service members who have protected our borders by land, sea, and air, as honorees, this measure acknowledges these 'unsung military heroes'." VFW Hawaii supports the same objective expressed in these resolutions before you today.

VFW Hawaii members appreciate your efforts to honor certain veterans in a manner similar to veterans of the Korean and Vietnam Wars already honored with a memorial in the historic district of Honolulu.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of H.C.R. 115 and H.R. 86.

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto
VFW Hawaii State Legislative Liaison