STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 3019

RELATING TO VETERANS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS FEBRUARY 7, 2008

BY

OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

Chair Evans and members of the Committee, I am Mark Moses, Director of the Office of Veterans Services. We support the over-all concept of House Bill 3019 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Executive Supplemental Budget Request. The bill includes initiatives compatible with our program goals and objectives but we are concerned about the cost implications generated by this proposal.

We are intrigued by the legislators' interest to establish a veterans' bonus for qualifying veterans however, propose that we collaborate to refine the language that will appropriately identify eligible veterans and active duty members. For instance, if a bonus of \$500 were provided to each of the approximately 3700 OIE/OIF military who served in these operations, the total would be \$1.8M.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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From:

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Sent:

Wednesday, February 06, 2008 4:54 PM

To:

PSMtestimony

Subject:

Testimony for House Bill 3019

I support HB 3019. I have attached my testimony for the Bill. I am currently in Iraq serving in OIF.

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