



LATE TESTIMONY

Committee: Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, January 26, 2010, 8:30 a.m.
Place: Room 312
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 1899, Relating to Military and Overseas Civilian Absentee Voters

Dear Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") writes in support of H.B. 1899, which seeks to implement voting provisions for uniformed services and overseas absentee voters, as recommended by the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

The ACLU of Hawaii applauds this Committee for hearing this bill and recognizing the importance of ensuring that all Hawaii's citizens are able to vote. Ensuring that military members are able to vote will strengthen our democracy by ensuring that every citizen has a voice in the electoral process.

Increasing absentee voting will go far towards ensuring the integrity of Hawaii's electoral system and increasing voter access and turnout. Absentee voting is an efficient and economical electoral system that has seen great success in a number of states.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 40 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. Temple
Staff Attorney
ACLU of Hawaii

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LATE TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES
TESTIMONY ON H.B. No. 1899, RELATING TO MILITARY AND OVERSEAS
CIVILIAN ABSENTEE VOTERS

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS, & MILITARY
AFFAIRS

JANUARY 26, 2010

Good morning Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice-Chair Isaac W. Choy, and members of the House Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs.

I am Mark Moses, Director of the Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to support the intent of H.B. 1899. This measure implements voting provisions for uniformed services and overseas absentee voters, as recommended by the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

The right to voice your opinion through the vote is a basic American tenant. Although we support the intent of this bill, we defer to the agency that has direct responsibility for implementation of the program.

The OVS supports the intent of this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Years 2009-2010.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of Hawaii's veteran community.

I will respond to questions from the committee.

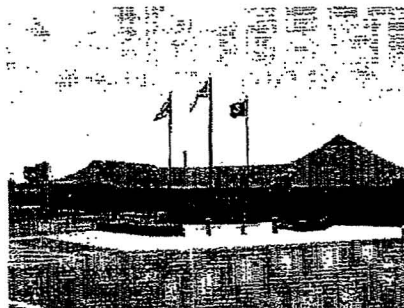
ALOHA FROM OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL AND CENTER

From: Oahu Veterans Council/Center
1298 Kukila Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

Date: January 24, 2010

Time: 9:30 AM (PM)

Number of Pages Including Cover:



To Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey,
Chair Committee on Economic
Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs
Representative Cindy Evans, Member

Phone Number:

Fax Number: (808) 586-6161
(808) 586-8514

From: Fred Ballard
Oahu Veterans Council President

Phone Number: (808) 422-4000
Fax Number: (808) 422-4001
<http://www.oahuveteranscenter.com>

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1899 - Relating to Military & Overseas Civilian Absentee Voters.


HEARING TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010, 8:30 AM, CONFERENCE ROOM 312

Oahu Veterans Council Member Calvin Griffin will be present at hearing to provide additional testimony.

It should be noted that the FAX number listed on the Notice of Hearing for submitting testimony less than 5 pages (586-68479) for Oahu is incorrect.

If all pages have not been received, please call (808) 422-4000 or 423-6265

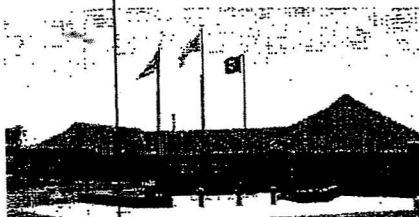
Mahalo


Fred Ballard, President
Oahu Veterans Council
423-6265
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OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL**OAHU VETERANS COUNCIL**

President - Fred Ballard
 Vice - Cecil Meadows
 P. - Jim Santos
 Secretary - John Harms
 Treasurer - Eugenia Woodward
 Chaplain - Frank Lamson



"a gathering place for veterans"
OAHU VETERANS CENTER

OAHU VETERANS CENTER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 Sandy Ballard

January 24, 2010

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

5th Regimental Combat Team
 15th Infantry Division Assn.
 Air Force Assn. - Chapter 138
 Air Force Sergeants Association
 American Legion Aux. Dept. of HI
 American Legion - Dept. of HI
 American Legion Post 32
 American Veterans Empowerment &
 Support Community Operations
 BPOE VAVS Hawaii Dist.
 China-Burma-India Veterans Assn.
 Chosin Few - Aloha Chapter
 Combat Infantrymen's Assn.
 Combat Veterans Motorcycle Club
 Disabled American Veterans -
 Chapter 3
 Fleet Reserve Association Branch
 And Unit 46
 Hawaii Multiple Schools Unit - Jr. ROTC
 Korean War Veterans Assn -
 Chapter 1
 Military Officers Assn. of America -
 Aloha Chapter
 Military Officers Assn. of America -
 Hawaii State Chapter
 Military Order of the Purple Heart
 Military Order of World Wars
 National Assn. for Atomic Veterans
 National Assn. of Uniformed Services
 National Sojourners - Hawaiian # 9
 National Sojourners - Honolulu # 11
 National Sojourners - Kamehameha #439
 Pearl Harbor Survivors Association
 Radiated Veterans
 Samoan Providers
 Society of Military Widows -
 Aloha Chapter
 Sons & Daughters of
 Pearl Harbor Survivors
 Special Forces Assn. - Chapter VIII
 State Office of Veterans Services
 Veterans of Foreign Wars
 Dept. of Hawaii
 Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 970
 Vietnam Veterans of America
 Chapter 858
 Waves National - Unit 131
 Women Veterans of America #26

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HOUSE BILL 1899
RELATING TO MILITARY AND OVERSEAS CIVILIAN ABSENTEE VOTERS

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS &
 MILITARY AFFAIRS**

HEARING TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010, 8:30 AM, ROOM 312

Aloha Chair Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Representative Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee. My name is Fred Ballard, President Oahu Veterans Council. The Oahu Veterans Council is comprised of over 35 Oahu veteran organizations that in turn represent over 80,000 veterans and their families. The Council voted unanimously at its meeting last Saturday, January 23rd to communicate our complete support of House Bill 1899.

One of the principal rights American's enjoy is the right to vote. Because service members and their families are stationed away from home, they should not be denied the right to vote. The Council fully supports the implementation of voting provisions for those serving our country in uniform, their families and other overseas absentee voters.

The Oahu Veterans Council strongly supports the passage of House Bill 1899.

Mahalo for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of this very important bill.

Fred Ballard
 Fred Ballard
 President
 Oahu Veterans Council



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