STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES TESTIMONY ON H.B. No. 2185, RELATING TO ELECTIONS

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. 2185. This measure moves primary election date to an earlier time and makes various amendments to absentee ballot laws to comply with federal law.

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.