HB 2351

Measure Title: RELATING TO VETERANS.

Report Title:

Requires an applicant for a veteran's license plate to include a copy of the applicant's most recent discharge paper or separation document that indicates an honorable discharge or general (under honorable conditions) discharge from active duty.

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES TESTIMONY ON H.B. No. 2351, RELATING TO VETERANS

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS AND COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

MARCH 18, 2010

Good afternoon Chair Will Espero, Vice-Chair Robert Bunda, and Chair J. Kalani English and Vice-Chair Mike Gabbard and members of the Senate Committees on public Safety and Military Affairs and Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs.

I am Mark Moses, Director of the Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to strongly support H.B. 2351. This measure requires veterans who submit application for veteran's license plates to provide their most recent discharge document indicating an honorable discharge from the military.

Veteran license plates identify individuals who have served this country. The veteran community and the general public believe that individuals who fail to meet certain standards of behavior and who received a less than honorable discharge should not be recognized as a veteran. The law as currently written allows those with less than an honorable discharge to receive a veteran's license plate. This measure corrects that oversight.

The OVS supports this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Years 2010-2011.

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

I will respond to questions from the committee.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Department of Hawaii
Office of the State Junior Vice Commander
Honolulu, Hawaii
Phone: (808)456-5578 (home)

(808) 256-5988 (ce3ll)

Email: sonnyfernan@msn.com

TESTIMONY TO THE

Senate Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee

RELATING TO VETERANS

HB2351

Thursday, 18 March 2010

1:15 P.M.

Conference Room 229

BY

Stanley Y. Fernandez
State Junior Vice Commander
Veterans of Foreign Wars
State of Hawaii

TO Chairman Senator Espero, Vice Chair Senator Bunda, and members of the Committee

IN SUPPORT OF HB235I – Relating to Veterans. Applicants wishing to purchase a"Veterans" auto license plate should be required to include presenting a copy Of the applicant's most recent military discharge or separation documents. Veteran license plates should be reserved for those veterans that served

"honorably" and not for those veterans that did not. with Thank you for allowing me to express my views on this matter.

STANLEY Y. FERNANDEZ
State Junior Vice Commander
Department of Hawaii
Veterans of Foreign Wars.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

MUFI HANNEMANN



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI DIRECTOR

DENNIS A KAMIMURA LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

March 15, 2010

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair and Committee Members
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs
The Senate
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 207
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero, Chair English and Committee Members:

Subject: H.B. No. 2351, Relating to Veterans

The City and County of Honolulu is in favor of H.B. No. 2351 which requires proof of honorable service as a condition for issuance of any military specialty license plates.

This bill clearly specifies honorable service as oppose to the current law that implies honorable service as a prerequisite for issuance.

The City and County of Honolulu recommends your favorable action on H.B. No. 2351.

Sincerely,

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA Licensing Administrator