

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2012

RE: H.B. No. 2258
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which
was referred H.B. No. 2258, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL
LICENSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require
professional and vocational licensing authorities to consider
military education, training, or service toward the qualifications
for a license and to adopt rules accordingly.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Oahu Veterans Center; and
Military Officers Association of America, Hawaii Chapter. Your
Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from
the Hawaii State Center for Nursing. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and
Consumer Affairs and United States Department of Defense State
Liaison Office.

Your Committee finds that service members who leave the
military often experience delays finding post-service employment.
Transitioning service members leave the military with documented
training and experience that can prepare them for civilian
employment; however, this documentation is not always used by
state entities when determining qualifications for an occupational
license.



Your Committee further finds that the employment of military veterans has been cited as a top priority by the President of the United States and the United States Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The First Lady of the United States has addressed this issue as well, as part of the Joining Forces Initiative, which was established to raise awareness and encourage all sectors of society to recognize the service and sacrifice of military veterans. Your Committee concludes that Hawaii should be a part of this nationwide effort.

Your Committee understands that every licensing authority in the State has its own statutes and rules, with specific requirements for licensure. Your Committee notes that this measure is not intended to require state licensing authorities to accept any military education, training, or service regardless of whether the education, training, or service has any relevance to the specific licensing area. Rather, this measure is intended to support military veterans by recognizing that the military education, training, or service that veterans receive while employed in the United States Armed Forces or Reserves is substantially equal to some of the requirements mandated by the State for obtaining certain licenses.

Your Committee notes that the companion to this measure, S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 1, which was previously passed by the Senate, contains similar language that requires professional and vocational licensing authorities to consider military education, training, or service toward the qualification requirements to receive a license. S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 1, additionally requires the Licensing Administrator of the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to communicate the intent and parameters of the measure to each licensing authority and report plans for implementation to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013.

Your Committee additionally finds that the language in S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 1, is preferable because it was developed collaboratively by the United States Department of Defense and the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and contains a reporting requirement that will allow the implementation of the requirements of the measure to be appropriately monitored.

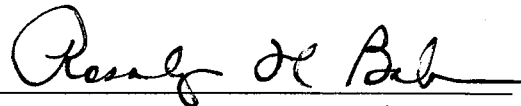
Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Replacing its contents with the contents of S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 1;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2012;
- (3) Inserting a sunset date of June 30, 2022; and
- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2258, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2258, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce and
Consumer Protection,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 2258 HD2	Committee Referral: CPN	Date: 3/27/12		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)				✓
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SOLOMON, Malama				✓
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	4			3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> Original File with Committee Report Yellow Clerk's Office Pink Drafting Agency Goldenrod Committee File Copy </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes