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Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 0 6 2013

RE: S.B. No. 541

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim President of the Senate Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2013 State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 541 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERANS DISABILITY BENEFITS," begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to exempt federal veterans' disability benefits from seizure to enforce a court judgment, except for certain child and spousal support cases.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Veterans Services, State of Hawaii; Oahu Veterans Council; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds disabled veterans often live on their disability income, which generally falls short of necessary expenses. Veterans' permanent disabilities often do not allow them to pursue gainful or supplemental employment. Providing an exemption for permanently disabled veterans' benefits from seizure by creditors will improve the quality of life for veterans.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 541 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

WILL ESPERO, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Seventh Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral: Date:			ite:	
88 541	PSM	JOL,		1-31-	2013
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ESPERO, Will (C)		~			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)					
GALUTERIA, Brickwood					
GREEN, Josh					
SLOM, Sam					
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TOTAL		4	_		1
Recommendation:					
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Rossly H Bala					
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^{*}Only one measure per Record of Votes