DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI Council Member District 3



 PHONE:
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HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

January 22, 2014

The Honorable Cindy Evans, Chair and Members of the Committee on Water and Land

Dear Representative Evans and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this bill.

Our disabled veterans have served our country with honor, and they have sacrificed their bodies to defend the rights and freedoms we take for granted in America.

Nothing we can do will express all the gratitude we have for everything they have done for us, but the establishment of a lifetime hunting license for a nominal fee is one way you can recognize what they have done and make their lives easier.

House Bill 1907 sets the fee for a hunting license at \$3 for all qualified disabled veterans who are residents of the state. This is a good bill and I ask for your support.

Sincerely,

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi Hawai'i County Council Member

Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



# **Hawaii Rifle Association**

State Affiliate of the National Rifle Association Founded in 1857

January 23, 2014

Testimony on <u>HB 1907</u> Before WAL, Friday, January 24, 2014 IN STRONG SUPPORT

Hon. Chair and Members,

HRA supports our Disabled Veterans and Wounded and this bill. Thank you for introducing it.

Dr. Maxwell Cooper, HRA Legislative Liaison macooper.1941@gmail.com 225-6944 NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

> POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. Chairperson

Before the House Committee on WATER & LAND

Friday, January 24, 2014 9:30 AM Hawaiʻi State Capitol, Room 325

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 1907 RELATING TO HUNTING LICENSES

House Bill 1907 proposes to establish a lifetime hunting license for qualified disabled veterans and veterans who have received a purple heart. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) generally supports this measure, with the following concerns and conditions.

The Department is uncertain what mental or physical disabilities would be included as "qualified" would suggest that the qualified disability does not otherwise preclude the veteran from owning a firearm. The type of official military documentation required as proof of 60% or more disability, or proof of award of a purple heart, would also need to be specified. The Department requests that the qualified veterans still be required to pass the State of Hawaii's Hunter Education class prior to obtaining a lifetime hunting license.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> ESTHER KIA'AINA FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEY ANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, January 23, 2014 12:20 PM
То:	waltestimony
Cc:	heaviescc@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1907 on Jan 24, 2014 09:30AM

# HB1907

Submitted on: 1/23/2014 Testimony for WAL on Jan 24, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Brendon Heal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION 555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 (916) 446-2455 voice • (916) 448-7469 fax www.nraila.org

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION DANIEL REID, HAWAII STATE LIAISON

January 23, 2014

The Honorable Cindy Evans Chair, House Water and Land Committee Sent Via Email

Re: House Bill 1907 - SUPPORT

Dear Representative Evans:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, I support House Bill 1907.

Our Nation's veterans are cherished members of our community. This bill is a great way to say thank you for those who have made great sacrifices to protect the freedoms we enjoy.

Thank you for your attention and I ask that you support this bill.

Cordially

Daniel S. Reid State Liaison

Cc: Members, House Water and Land Committee

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, January 23, 2014 3:06 PM
То:	waltestimony
Cc:	hawaiihuntingassociation@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1907 on Jan 24, 2014 09:30AM

### HB1907

Submitted on: 1/23/2014 Testimony for WAL on Jan 24, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Lodge	hawaii hunting association	Support	No

Comments: The Hawaii Hunting Association supports H.B. 1907. America's disabled veterans have honored us with their service and duty. This is an opportunity to respect their service to us. Providing a onetime fee of three dollars for our disabled veteran to purchase a lifetime hunting license is if nothing else, a responsibility. Much Aloha, Tom Lodge

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BIL 1907, RELATING TO HUNTING LICENSES

### PRESENTATION TO THE

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

ΒY

# MR. RONALD P. HAN DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

#### January 24, 2014

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Lowen and Committee members:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of the concepts in House Bill 1907 along with some recommendations.

Thank you for introducing this measure to allow disabled Veterans who were honorably discharged and State residents, and those who received wounds in combat earning the Award of the Purple Heart Medal, to pay only \$3 for a hunting license.

**Here are some recommendations**: That the bill be further modified for all those who are qualified disabled Veterans with a service connected disability defined by the Veterans Administration of 0% or higher. Veterans with a disability rating of 0 % (i.e. hearing loss) are still officially rated, but receive no compensation at this level.

Giving back to those who have served valiantly in uniform in support and in sacrifice to our country is truly a great privilege. The freedoms we enjoy today have been paved by their dedicated and honored service.

We defer to the agency with direct responsibility for implementation.

The OVS supports the concepts and intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget for Fiscal 2014-2015.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families in support of HB 1907.

County of Hawai'i Game Management Advisory Commission

# Testimony of the Game Management Advisory Commission <u>Supporting H.B. 1907</u> Committee on Water & Land Relating to Hunting License/Veterans Friday, January 24, 2014, 9:30am

The Hawaii Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) was instituted in 2012 to advise County, State, and Federal agencies on matters relating to the preservation of subsistence hunting and fishing, as well as the protection of traditional and cultural gathering rights.

The Game Management Advisory Commission will proudly *support H.B. 1907*. America's disabled Veterans have honored us with their service and selfless duty. Now let us honor them. Granting a onetime three dollar fee for a lifetime hunting license to our States disabled Veterans can do just that.

Thank you for your consideration.

With deep respect,

Tony Sylvester, Chairman Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission County of Hawai'i Game Management Advisory Commission

# Testimony of the Game Management Advisory Commission <u>Supporting H.B. 1907</u> Committee on Water & Land Relating to Hunting License/Veterans Friday, January 24, 2014, 9:30am

The Hawaii Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) was instituted in 2012 to advise County, State, and Federal agencies on matters relating to the preservation of subsistence hunting and fishing, as well as the protection of traditional and cultural gathering rights.

The Game Management Advisory Commission will proudly *support H.B. 1907*. America's disabled Veterans have honored us with their service and selfless duty. Now let us honor them. Granting a onetime three dollar fee for a lifetime hunting license to our States disabled Veterans can do just that.

Thank you for your consideration.

With deep respect,

Tony Sylvester, Chairman Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission **J Yoshimoto** Chair & Presiding Officer Council District 2



Telephone:(808)961-8272Facsimile:(808)961-8912Email:jyoshimoto@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

Office of the County Clerk County of Hawai'i 25 Aupuni Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720

### TESTIMONY OF J YOSHIMOTO, CHAIR HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING HB 1907, RELATING TO HUNTING LICENSES

House Committee Water and Land Friday, January 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.. Conference Room 325

Chair Evans, Vice-Chair Lowen and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony IN SUPPORT of House Bill 1907.

HB 1907 seeks to amend the current hunting license fee schedule to allow qualified disabled veterans to pay a reduced fee for a lifetime license.

I support HB 1907. The qualifications are stringent and limited: loss of use of a lower extremity OR disability rating of 60% or more and receiving disability compensation OR recipient of a Purple Heart from the US Department of Defense.

This small group of veterans who have sacrificed for our great nation are deserving of this special consideration.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony IN SUPPORT on HB 1907.

**J Yoshimoto** Chair & Presiding Officer Council District 2



Telephone:(808)961-8272Facsimile:(808)961-8912Email:jyoshimoto@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

Office of the County Clerk County of Hawai'i 25 Aupuni Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720

### TESTIMONY OF J YOSHIMOTO, CHAIR HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING HB 1907, RELATING TO HUNTING LICENSES

House Committee Water and Land Friday, January 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.. Conference Room 325

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This small group of veterans who have sacrificed for our great nation are deserving of this special consideration.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony IN SUPPORT on HB 1907.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Philip Heileson <philipheileson@yahoo.com> Thursday, January 23, 2014 11:11 PM waltestimony; Tony Sylvester H.B. 1907

Testimony of the Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance Supporting H.B. 1907 relating to Hunting Licenses House Committee on Water & Land Friday, January 24, 2014, 9:30AM, Room 325

My name in Philip Heileson and I wanted to submit testimony in support of bill 1907. Our veterans have put everything on the line for us as citizens and the disabled gave more than most. We in Hawaii have benefitted greatly from their sacrifice and we need to support this bill in a small gesture of gratitude for their service. I support a one time fee of \$3 for a lifetime license for our disabled vets.

Aloha,

Philip Heileson

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Friday, January 24, 2014 8:30 AM		
То:	waltestimony		
Cc:	makani.christensen@gmail.com	makani.christensen@gmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1907 on Jan 24, 2014 09:	BOAM	

# HB1907

Submitted on: 1/24/2014 Testimony for WAL on Jan 24, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
makani	Individual	Support	Yes

**YNB** 

Comments: As a veteran I strongly support this measure. it's a step in the right direction.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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