

# **GM 629**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to  
the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services,  
Gubernatorial Nominee: WILBERT PEREIRA,  
for a term to expire 6-30-2019



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Testimony IN SUPPORT - GM 629  
Confirmation of **WILBERT PEREIRA**  
Advisory Board on Veterans Services

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
Thursday, April 16, 2015  
1:15 PM  
Conference Room 229

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the re-appointment of Gubernatorial Nominee, Wilbert Pereira, as a member of the State Advisory Board of Veterans Services, Kauai Representative.

I have known Mr. Pereira for most of my life as our next door neighbor and admired his diligent work with the many organizations that he serves on for the benefit of veterans on Kauai. As a Vietnam veteran and former Hawaii Army National Guardsman, he has contributed many hours as a member of the very successful Kauai Veterans Council and its lead committees such as management of the Veterans Center, Cemetery and special projects for the Vietnam Era Veterans Association.

Mr. Pereira is always willing to go out of his way to assist his fellow veterans and their families to secure the necessary rights, benefits and services that they are entitled to. I believe he will serve well and be a responsive and dedicated member of the Advisory Board on Veteran's Services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek S.K. Kawakami".

Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, 14<sup>th</sup> District  
East and North Kauai

District 14, East and North Kauai  
Chair, Economic Development and Business  
State Capitol Building, Room 314, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone (808) 586-8435 • Email: repkawakami@capitol.hawaii.gov

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 629  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO  
THE ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS' SERVICES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, WILBERT PEREIRA  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2019

PRESENTATION TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY  
BRIGADIER GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
ADJUTANT GENERAL  
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
April 16, 2015

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I am Brigadier General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA). I am providing written testimony in **support** of Governor's Message 629, which considers and confirms Wilbert Pereira to the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

Wilbert Pereira is a Vietnam era veteran who currently serves as the Kauai representative on the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services. He is an acknowledged leader among the Kauai veterans. He serves on several veterans related councils and committees on the island. He has done an exceptional job bringing veteran's concerns to the board.

The Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs should definitely confirm Wilbert Pereira for another term on the Advisory Board on Veterans' Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **support** of Governor Message 629.

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**From:** Aida Cruz <kauaveteranscenter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 09, 2015 2:49 PM  
**To:** PSMTestamony@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Cc:** Marlene Uesugi  
**Subject:** Wilbert Pereira  
**Attachments:** Wilbert Pereira April 2015.pdf

Please see attached letter of support.

Aida P. Cruz-Event Coordinator  
Thank you for choosing the  
Kauai Veterans Center  
(808) 246-1135  
[www.kauaveteranscenter.com](http://www.kauaveteranscenter.com)

April 9, 2015

To whom it may concern:

My name is Aida P. Cruz and I am the office manager and event coordinator at the Kauai Veterans Center. My late husband Frank A Cruz was the Kauai Rep for the VA advisory board as well as being the chairperson during his term. I am well aware of the commitment and sacrifice this position requires and I am confident that Wilbert Pereira has and will continue to fulfil the requirements as best he can. It is without reservation that I support his reassignment for the VA Advisory Board to advocate for the Veterans of Kauai and for the State of Hawaii.

I have work very closely with Wilbert Pereira as a member of the Kauai Veterans Management Committee since 2007. He is open minded and is very diplomatic. As the building engineer & energy conservation chair, Wilbert has overseen projects for the centers sustainability to include installation of solar panels for our photovoltaic project and replacing all the light bulbs for a more efficient energy conservation. As a result these projects have saved the veterans center an average of \$35,000.00 in energy cost a year. Wilbert will continue to pursue any avenues to benefit everyone. I have known him to be a fair and is trustworthy.

Our Veterans Council is made up of Executive officers and the Commander of the 12 National and State chartered Veteran Organizations. Wilbert is the president of the Vietnam Era Veteran Organization. He is also a trustee for the Kauai Veterans Museum and a member of other veteran as well as community nonprofit groups.

I am honored that Wilbert values my opinion and considers me as a friend and colleague. Wilbert is a great candidate to the VA Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,



Aida P Cruz

April 11, 2015

Senator Will Espero, Chairman  
Public Safety, Government Operations  
and Military Affairs Council  
Senatorial District 19  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
senespero@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Espero:

RE: The Nomination of Mr. Wilbert Pereira to the State Advisory Board on Veterans' Services

I was appointed and confirmed as a member of the State Advisory Board on Veterans' Services in 2013 and have had the privilege to know and work with Wilbert Pereira, Kauai Board Member.

Mr. Pereira is a retiree from Kauai Electric Company with 27 years of service. He served on the Kauai Veterans Center management committee, cemetery committee and has held office with the Kauai Vietnam Era Veterans Association. Mr. Pereira has been a true advocate for veterans and I found him to be committed to assisting veterans with a very caring, positive and "can do" attitude. He is knowledgeable about veterans' needs and concerns, community resources, and Information and Assistance Services linking veterans to agencies that can best meet their needs.

On the State Advisory Board, Mr. Pereira is a Team Player and, with his previous years of experience on the board, contributes greatly in addressing the concerns of Hawaii's veterans, advocating for their needs, assisting the Director and the Office of Veterans Services in whatever issues and challenges that have been presented to the board. He is a valuable and true asset to the board.

My experience the past two years with Mr. Pereira, working, observing and interacting with him, has been positive; thereby, encouraging me to support his nomination. I believe the State of Hawaii, especially the veterans, will benefit greatly in the appointment of Wilbert Pereira to another term on the State Advisory Board on Veterans Services.

Sincerely,

Harold Bugado  
State Advisory Board on Veterans' Services  
Representing East Hawaii  
1116 W. Kawaihani Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

cc: Wilbert Pereira - [wpereira@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:wpereira@hawaii.rr.com)  
Ron Han - [Ronald.han@va.gov](mailto:Ronald.han@va.gov)

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 3:18 PM  
**To:** PSMTestimony  
**Cc:** telliott@ovs.hawaii.gov  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM629 on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM

**GM629**

Submitted on: 4/8/2015

Testimony for PSM on Apr 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tony Elliott	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have worked with Mr. Pereira for the past 11 years on a multitude of veterans related issues and strongly support his reappointment as Kauai's OVS Advisory Board member.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

TESTIMONY OF WILBERT W PEREIRA

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS.

GM 629

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADVISORY  
BOARD ON VETERANS SERVICES, NOMINEE WILBERT W PEREIRA FOR THE  
TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2019

CHAIR ESPERO AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY.  
I WAS BORN AND RAISED ON KAUAI. I JOINED THE HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL  
GUARD IN AUGUST OF 1963. I WAS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN MAY OF 1968  
DURING THE VIETNAM WAR AND RETURNED HOME IN AUGUST 1969. I WORKED  
FOR KAUAI ELECTRIC CO. AND RETIRED AFTER 27 YEARS WITH THE  
COMPANY. MY JOB EXPERIENCE WAS, A LINEMAN, CONTRACT ESTIMATOR  
WITH THE ENGINEERING DEPT. AND A STOCK WAREHOUSE ATTENDANT -  
ACCOUNTING DEPT.

AFTER I RETIRED I BECAME VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN DIFFERENT VETERAN  
ORGANIZATIONS. I TRULY CONSIDER IT TO BE AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO  
BE CONSIDERED FOR THE KAUAI REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE STATE  
ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS SERVICES.

I DO BELIEVE I AM QUALIFIED BECAUSE I HAVE SERVED ON THE BOARD FOR  
THE PAST 4 YEARS. ALSO I AM VERY MUCH AWARE OF THE COMMITMENT AND  
SACRIFICE THIS POSITION REQUIRES. THERE ARE MANY CHALLENGES  
WITHIN THE VA. I KNOW WE CAN NOT RESOLVE ALL OF THEM, BUT YOU HAVE  
MY COMMITMENT THAT I WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE VETERANS BEST INTEREST  
IN MIND AND IN MY HEART.

I DO NOT FORESEE ANY POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THAT COULD  
ARISE DURING MY SERVICE ON THE ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERAN  
SERVICES BECAUSE IT HAS NEVER HAPPENED IN THE PAST 4 YEARS.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE IN THE COMMITTEE FOR THE HARD WORK  
THEY DO FOR THE STATE OF HAWAII AND FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO SERVE ON THE BOARD AGAIN, AND THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING MY  
NOMINATION.

MY VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES.

KAUAI VETERANS COUNCIL.

KAUAI VETERANS CENTER MGT. COMMITTEE.

KAUAI VETERANS CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBER.

KAUAI VIETNAM ERA VETERANS ASSOCIATION COMMANDER.