STAND. COM. REP. NO.

Honolulu, Hawaii **February 12**, 2015 RE: H.B. No. 1005

H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Eighth State Legislature Regular Session of 2015 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.B. No. 1005 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE VETERANS TREATMENT COURT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make an appropriation to support the Veterans Treatment Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary, Department of Defense, Advisory Board to the Office of Veterans' Services, and one concerned individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the Veterans Treatment Court is a successful program that has helped many veterans in Hawaii who have faced difficulties reintegrating with society following military service. Specifically, the program pairs veterans with a mentor who can help the veteran recover from difficult issues such as substance abuse or post-traumatic stress disorder. The



STAND. COM. REP. NO. 168 Page 2

Veterans Treatment Court program was originally funded by a threeyear federal grant, which will expire on September 30, 2015. Your Committee finds that adequate permanent funding is crucial to the continuation of the program and will enable it to assist more veterans and reduce recidivism and crime.

Your Committee further finds that the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu serves a critical role in the operation of the Veterans Treatment Court. Accordingly, your Committee believes that an appropriation of \$65,000 would help the Department continue to contribute to the success of the Veterans Treatment Court.

Your Committee has amended this measure to include an appropriation of an unspecified amount for fiscal year 2015-2016 as a grant-in-aid to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu to hire necessary staff to support the Veterans Treatment Court.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1005, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1005, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

HB1005 HD1 HSCR LRB 15-1164.doc

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts,

KEN ITO, Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSCR 168

Record of Votes of the Committee on Veterans, Military, International Affairs & Culture and the Arts

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1005	VMI, JUD, FIN 2/9/15			
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit) 				
VMI Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. ITO, Ken (C)				
2. TOKIOKA, James Kunane (VC)				
3. BROWER, Tom				
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4. CACHOLA, Romy M.				
5. CHOY, Isaac W.				
6. KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K.	· /			
7. KONG, Sam Satoru				
8. OHNO, Takashi				
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	V			
10. TSUJI, Clift				
11. WOODSON, Justin H.				
12. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohi	lani			
13. WARD, Gene		-		
TOTAL (13)	10			3
The recommendation is: Adopted I Not Adopted did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				

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