

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1107

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 27, 2015

RE: S.B. No. 1159
S.D. 2
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 S.B. No.
1159, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERANS DISABILITY BENEFITS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to partially protect a
veteran's service-connected disability benefits by exempting the
benefits from claims of creditors, attachment, levy, seizure, or
award to another person except to the extent allowable under
federal law and disability compensation apportionment policy for
child and spousal support payments.

The Advisory Board of the Office of Veterans' Services and a
concerned individual supported this measure. The Office of
Veterans' Services supported the intent of this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

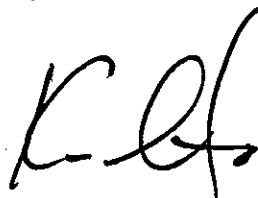
- (1) Specifying that the protected and exempted service-
connected disability benefits are those that are
determined by the United States Department of Veterans
Affairs disability compensation benefits rate;



- (2) Deleting a provision encouraging courts to follow federal disability compensation apportionment policy before imposing scheduled child and spousal support payments, as these policies are already codified in controlling federal statutes and regulations;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2015; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for style, clarity, and consistency.

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 S.B. No. 1159, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1159, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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



KEN ITO, Chair



45CR 1107

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 1159, SD2	Committee Referral: VMI, JHD	Date: 3/23/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> 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	✓			
4. CACHOLA, Romy M.	✓			
5. CHOY, Isaac W.				✓
6. DeCOITE, Lynn	✓			
7. KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K.	✓			
8. KONG, Sam Satoru	✓			
9. OHNO, Takashi	✓			
10. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
11. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
12. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
13. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani	✓			
14. WARD, Gene				✓
TOTAL (14)	12			2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				