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## H. B. 2741, HD1

### RELATING TO MILITARY IN THE ARTS

Chair Luke and members of the Committee, I am Jonathan Johnson, Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), and I am grateful for the opportunity to testify on H.B 2741, HD1. The SFCA SUPPORTS this bill.

The arts have proven to be an effective tool in support of veterans, active duty military and their dependents.<sup>1</sup> Engaging in the arts bolsters the resilience and accelerates the ability of military personnel to heal and carry out their commitment to serve our nation. The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Department of Defense recognize this and have a Military Healing Arts Partnership that supports music, writing, and visual arts therapy at military care facilities Walter Reed Hospital and the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital in Virginia. The 2015 Federal Budget Bill included language encouraging states to support military and the arts programming on the state level which this legislation does. With the significant number of veterans, service members and their dependents in Hawaii, such programming would be appropriate. Federal grant funding to states, requiring a one to one match, is available for arts in the military initiatives.

Through this initiative, organizations sponsoring programs in the arts, culture and the humanities, could open their programmatic focus to include all branches of the military. Funding would be available by applying for support through the SFCA Biennium Grants Program in the areas of Arts Education, Heritage and Preservation, Community Arts, Visual and Performing Arts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

<sup>1</sup> National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military Arts, "Arts, Health and Well-Being Across the Military Continuum," Americans for the Arts

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2741 HD1  
A BILL RELATING TO THE MILITARY IN THE ARTS

PRESENTATION TO  
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY  
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
ADJUTANT GENERAL  
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
February 24, 2016

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am Major General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in support of the intent of House Bill 2741 HD1.

Returning veterans and their families face many challenges as their transition back to civilian or home station life. The programs described in this measure can only assist in their transition.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of the intent of House Bill 2741 HD1.

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2741 HD1 RELATING TO MILITARY IN THE ARTS

PRESENTATION TO THE  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN, JR.  
DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

February 24, 2016

Good morning Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the Hawaii State Office of Veterans Services. I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2741 HD1 as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

This bill requests that an appropriation of funds be used to fund the state foundation on culture and the arts in the military program. Expanding this program will offer additional resources to returning veterans and their families as they transition back to civilian life.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2741,  
RELATING MILITARY IN THE ARTS

BY

Thomas K. Lee Jr

February 23, 2016

Aloha Madame Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Finance Committee. Please accept my sincere apologies Madame Chair Luke for the initial submission addressing WAM Madame Chair Tokuda and am submitting this revision to provide a most sincere apology.

I appreciate this opportunity to as a citizen of Hawai'i and a veteran of our Nations Armed Services provide testimony in support of House Bill 2741.

I have been fortunate to witness first hand as well and spoken with fellow veterans who have benefited very positively from self-expression through art assisting their ability to cope with military related PTSD. Although my understanding is limited to the benefits of art work such as drawings, painting and photography do believe performing arts could for some provide similar benefits as well.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2741,  
RELATING MILITARY IN THE ARTS

BY

Thomas K. Lee Jr  
February 23, 2016

**LATE**

Aloha Madame Chair Luke, Vice-Chairman Nishimoto, and members of the Finance Committee. I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1807.

This bill provides support for our Hawai'i National Guard Members and Reservists who are serving as both State Employees as well as National Guard Members or Reservists increased capability to fulfill their annual commitments with the uniformed service entity they are committed to, in service to our State's and Nation's emergency response capability and defense.

Mahalo again for this opportunity to provide support for HB 1807.

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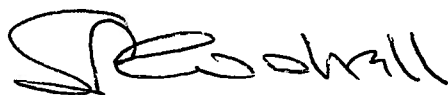
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Hawaii Opera Theatre supports HB2741 relating to Military in the Arts.

In 2013 Hawaii Opera Theatre undertook a successful program of concerts on military bases funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The concerts proved that whereas the families of military personnel enjoy the arts, they find it very difficult to leave the bases and travel to Honolulu on a regular basis. In addition, there is little opportunity for the children of military personnel to experience arts education programs while on the military bases. HB2741 will provide for artists and arts organizations to take programs onto the bases for the benefit of military personnel and their families, giving them access to programs which would be available much more readily in civilian life.

The power of the arts to assist in healing has long been proved through programs of visual and performance art, especially music therapy. HB2741 will provide the opportunity for such programs to be available to military personnel and their families.

With its track record of working with military families on the bases, Hawaii Opera Theatre welcomes the opportunities that HB2741 provides and looks forward to being able to form strong partnerships with the military bases in Hawaii.



**Simon Crookall**  
**Executive Director**