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H. B. 2741

RELATING TO MILITARY IN THE ARTS

Chair Ito 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. The SFCA SUPPORTS this bill.

The arts have proven to be an effective tool in support of veterans, active duty military and their dependents.¹ 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.

¹ 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
A BILL RELATING TO THE MILITARY IN THE ARTS

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
& CULTURE AND THE ARTS

BY
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
February 8, 2016

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and Members of the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts:

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.

Returning veterans and their families face many challenges as their transition back to civilian or home station life. The programs outlined 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.

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2741, RELATING MILITARY IN THE ARTS

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE
AND THE ARTS

BY

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

February 8, 2016

Good morning Chair Ito, Vice-Chair Tokioka, and members of the Committee:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services. I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2741 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.

LATE



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Veterans, Military, &
International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts
Monday, February 8, 2015 at 9:00 A.M.
Conference Room 312, State Capitol**

RE: HOUSE BILL 2741 RELATING TO MILITARY IN THE ARTS

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kamakana Kaimulua, and I am the Vice President of Military Affairs at The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (The Chamber). I am here to state that The Chamber **supports** HB 2741, which appropriates funds to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to establish an arts in the military program.

In recognizing how critical the U.S. military presence is to Hawaii's economy, the Chamber officially established a military affairs department in 1985. For 31 years the Chamber, through its Military Affairs Council (MAC), has served as the State's liaison in matters relating to the military and has been steadfast in working to protect and preserve the military's presence in Hawaii, promote public awareness and understanding of issues challenging the military locally and nationally, and serve as the advocate for military and their families.

Through its efforts, the MAC supports many initiatives that encourage partnerships between community organizations and the military. This legislation has the potential to create a unique partnership opportunity that few have even considered.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.