## TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 559, RELATING TO THE MILITARY

## PRESENTATION TO THE

## COMMITEE ONPUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

## BY.

## CARSWELL J. ROSS, JR. Chief Master Sergeant, USAF. Ret.; Counselor Emeritus, Office of Veterans' Services

February 5, 2015

Good afternoon Chair Will Espero and Vice Chair Rosalyn Baker. As an individual who retired from the military and the Office of Veterans' Services (OVS) I appreciate this opportunity to **support the intent**, of this measure. As you are aware all military retirees are veterans however all veterans are not military retirees. Although the functions of the OVS can serve both of these groups, resources to address the needs of this expanded service population will outstrip the ability of the presently configured OVS to serve all those requesting services. Planning should be done to determine which functions in relation to Military Affairs the OVS will address. For example we are dealing with the proposed reduction of nearly 20,000 Army members and untold number of jobs that will be lost should a decision be made to reduce the number of Army members in Hawaii. What staffing would address this type of issue, funding to support Hawaii's response is required, and would the newly named Office of Military Affairs and Veterans' Services interact with Military decision makers in Washington?

As stated I support the intent of this Bill, however, the role and responsibilities of this new office should be delineated clearly. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the intent of SB 559.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:17 AM PSMTestimony	
Sent:	Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:17 AM	
То:	PSMTestimony	Y
Cc:	wusstig@gmail.com	61
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM*	

#### SB559

Submitted on: 2/5/2015 Testimony for PSM on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kenny Wusstig	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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 Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM

 Attachments:
 TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 559.docx

### **SB559**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015 Testimony for PSM on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Caz Ross	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE TESTIMONY From: Dale Wilson <docdale6@gmail.com> Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:16 PM Sent: **PSMTestimony** To: Cc: Penny M. Fox; Camron Fox; Wayne Manning; Ken Fujimoto; Orlander Keller; Ed Cruickshank; Henry Lee; William Castro; Ron Baptista; Bob Williams; Bob Cox; Bob Sugel; Joe Kaleikini; Ron MacPherson; Bob Walker; James Pihana; James Kaleohano; Barry Periatt; Bert Imada; Danny Kosora; Del Pranke; Dennis Hill; Emile Wery; Frank Olivera; Jim Browne; Jose Meris; Michael Kim; Rex Weigel; Rick Kama; Rick Ryken; Robert Gibbons; William Sell; Daniel Torres; Dan Malakie; Daryl Smith; Tommy Tanaka; Chuck Sanders; Carolle Brulee-Wilson; Keoni Delacruz; Jimmy Enocencio Subject: Hearing PSM 02-05-2015

Aloha, Senators!

As commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Hawaii, I am writing on behalf of all combat-wounded veterans in the state as well as my fellow disabled veterans and other veterans of America's conflicts.

The bills you are hearing today are important to all of us. Especially critical is SB1159, which exempts veterans' disability payments from attachment, levy or seizure by creditors or other third party, as provided by federal law.

We Vietnam veterans also support SB669, which would appropriate monies to help fund fiftieth anniversary of the Vietnam War programs, ceremonies and activities from now through November 11, 2025.

Also of interest to all veterans is SB686, which would appropriate funds to support the creation of a war memorial honoring veterans who participated in America's most recent conflicts, beginning with the Persian Gulf War up to the present and/or who protected our nations borders by land, sea and air during that period.

Finally, we strongly support SB559 and its amendments to the Hawaii Revised Statutes pertaining to the military and veterans.

It is my hope that you will honor Hawaii's service personnel and veterans by passing these bills on our behalf.

Mahalo in advance for your kokua in this matter.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

dale

Dale E. Wilson Major, U.S. Army (Ret.)

# LATE TESTIMONY

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:42 PM	
То:	PSMTestimony	
Cc:	mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM	

### SB559

Submitted on: 2/5/2015 Testimony for PSM on Feb 5, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch	Veterans Advisory Board	Support	No

Comments: The Advisory Board to the Office of Veterans' Services supports the intent of this bill.

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