
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VETERANS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many of the State's
2 citizens are veterans of the armed forces and have skills that
3 may be employed in projects that help protect and restore
4 Hawaii's streams and watersheds, and help protect natural
5 resources from invasive species. These types of work have
6 demonstrated benefits for many veterans who are coping with
7 posttraumatic stress disorder or have other mental health or
8 substance use disorders related to their service in the armed
9 forces.

10 The legislature further finds that participation in
11 environmental protection and restoration efforts provides an
12 opportunity for veterans to obtain on-the-job training, which in
13 turn can lead to certification in specific skill sets and living
14 wage employment in environmental protection and restoration.

15 The purpose of this Act is to pursue the establishment of a
16 veterans conservation corps program to assist veterans in



1 obtaining training, certification, and employment in the areas
2 of environmental protection, restoration, and management.

3 SECTION 2. (a) The office of veterans' services within
4 the department of defense shall conduct a study on the
5 feasibility of establishing and administering a veterans
6 conservation corps program within its office to assist veterans
7 in obtaining training, certification, and employment in the
8 areas of environmental protection, restoration, and management.

9 The study shall:

10 (1) Analyze necessary steps to establish and administer
11 the program;

12 (2) Evaluate possible enrollment procedures;

13 (3) Develop a list of specific volunteer projects,
14 trainings, and certifications in the areas of
15 environmental protection, restoration, and management;
16 and

17 (4) Project the costs to establish and administer the
18 program.

19 (b) The office of veterans' services shall submit a report
20 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed



H.B. NO. 227

1 legislation, to the legislature no later than thirty days prior
2 to the convening of the regular session of 2018.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4

INTRODUCED BY: _____

Cindy Evans
L. H.

JAN 19 2017



H.B. NO. 227

Report Title:

Veterans Conservation Corps; Department of Defense; Office of Veterans' Services

Description:

Requires the Office of Veterans' Services in the Department of Defense to study the establishment and administration of a veterans conservation corps program to assist veterans in obtaining training, certification, and employment in the areas of environmental protection, restoration, and management. Report to the 2018 Legislature.

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