
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEMORIALS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The freedom and security that United States
2 citizens enjoy today are the direct results of the sacrifices
3 and continued vigilance of the United States armed forces over
4 the course of our nation's history. The sacrifices of the
5 members of the United States armed forces have preserved the
6 liberties that have made this nation unique in the world
7 community.

8 While members of the United States armed forces have
9 engaged in numerous conflicts worldwide for over two centuries,
10 more recent combat missions have included:

11 (1) The Persian Gulf War, from August 2, 1990, to February
12 28, 1991, which culminated in the liberation of Kuwait
13 from Iraq;

14 (2) The air-and-land conflict known as Operation Desert
15 Storm, which began on January 17, 1991, and lasted
16 through April 11, 1991;



(3) Operation Iraqi Freedom, which was a military campaign that was led by United States troops and conducted from March 20, 2003, through August 31, 2010, and later renamed "Operation New Dawn";

(4) Operation Enduring Freedom, more commonly known as the "War in Afghanistan", which is an ongoing effort; and

(5) Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve (CJTF-OIR), which is an ongoing military operation led by the United States that aims to "degrade and destroy" the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

Members of the United States armed forces have also served a pivotal role in the Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense, and Operation Noble Eagle, and continue to protect our borders by land, sea, and air.

Recognition of the sacrifices of the United States armed services members, many of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice, can be found throughout the State. Two of the most prominent memorials are the USS Arizona Memorial and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. However, a number of additional memorials exist commemorating the sacrifices of the



1 men and women in uniform from Hawaii who have served this
2 country, including the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials on the
3 grounds of the state capitol, which were dedicated in 1994.
4 Thus, it is both fitting and necessary for the State to give
5 tangible and visible recognition for the sacrifices and
6 contributions of veterans from Hawaii who served in the Persian
7 Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom,
8 Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operation
9 Inherent Resolve, the Global War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense,
10 and Operation Noble Eagle and who have protected our borders by
11 land, sea, and air.

12 Recognizing the need for such a memorial, the legislature
13 passed Senate Bill No. 551, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, enacted as
14 Act 139, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, which required the office
15 of veterans' services, with the assistance of the department of
16 accounting and general services, the department of defense, and
17 the state historic preservation division, to develop a plan to
18 establish a memorial honoring the veterans of the Persian Gulf
19 War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation
20 Enduring Freedom, Operation New Dawn, the Global War on



1 Terrorism, Homeland Defense, and Operation Noble Eagle and those
2 who have protected our borders by land, sea, and air.

3 In response to Act 139, the office of veterans' services
4 created the Hawaii gulf war memorial task force to develop a
5 plan to establish a Hawaii Gulf War Memorial. The task force
6 held multiple monthly meetings, conducted surveys, and held a
7 public hearing on the matter. In its report to the legislature,
8 the task force stated that, based upon its findings and
9 research, the ideal spot for the memorial would be on the
10 grounds of the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe on the
11 island of Oahu. The task force also recommended that replicas
12 of the memorial be located at state veterans cemeteries
13 statewide. Finally, the task force recognized that the name
14 "Gulf War Memorial" may be too restrictive, as the intent of
15 this project is to honor not only those who have served in the
16 Persian Gulf conflicts but also those who have served in the
17 various theaters of the Global War on Terrorism.

18 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
19 funds for the planning and design of a memorial honoring the
20 veterans of the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf, Iraq,
21 Afghanistan, and the various theaters of the Global War on



1 Terrorism to be situated at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery
2 in Kaneohe, with replicas to be located in each of the state
3 veterans cemeteries on the neighbor islands.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
7 planning and design of a memorial honoring the sacrifices of the
8 service members of the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf,
9 Iraq, Afghanistan, and the various theaters of the Global War on
10 Terrorism to be located on the grounds of the Hawaii State
11 Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu, with
12 replicas of the memorial to be located at state veterans
13 cemeteries statewide.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
15 veterans' services, in consultation with the department of
16 accounting and general services, for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.
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H.B. NO. 2036

Report Title:

Persian Gulf War; Global War on Terrorism; Veterans' Memorial; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the planning and design of a memorial to honor service members of the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the various theaters of the Global War on Terrorism, to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu, and replicas of the memorial to be located at state veterans cemeteries statewide.

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