

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2445, RELATING TO DIVORCE
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 15, 2018
10:00 a.m.

Good morning, Chair LoPresti, Vice Chair Fukumoto, 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 the concepts in House Bill 2445.

This measure disallows a court, when dividing property upon the dissolution of a marriage, from considering military disability benefits or from indemnifying or awarding the veteran's spouse for waivers or reductions in military pay related to disability benefits.

The OVS supports the concepts and intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families.

The Uniformed Service Member's Voice in Government
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES
Hawaii Chapter (HI-1)

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FEBRUARY 9ST 2018

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2445 WITH COMMENTS
RELATING TO DIVORCE

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

FEBRUARY 15TH 2018 HEARING, AT 10AM, IN CONFERENCE ROOM 429

Aloha Chair LoPresti and Vice Chair Fukumoto: Mahalo for providing this opportunity to share our sentiments, in support of House Bill 2445. The National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is well known on Capitol Hill, as "The Service Member's Voice in Government;" while this voice is silent, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) continues their legacy, at the will and pleasure of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed services community, as an American Retirees Association affiliate.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) sincerely appreciates your committee's willingness to consider exempting a disabled Veteran's Federal Title 38 United States Code chapter 11 related disability benefits from indirect, involuntary redistribution, through indemnification, in a military divorce action. In addition to the above action, we respectfully ask you to consider encouraging our family/domestic relations courts to designate apportionment award determination responsibility, to the cognizant United States Department of Veterans Affairs' claims review process.

Your committee's action, in support of HB2445 will be greatly appreciated by our divorcing, disabled veterans and military personnel. It endorses the recent U.S. Supreme Court's "Howell v Howell" decision, and most certainly strengthens Hawaii's support for United States Code:

- Title 38 Chapter 11,
- Title 42 Section 659(h)(1)(A)(ii)(V),
- Title 10, Section 1408(a)(4)(B)

Thank you for being here for us,

D Egge

Dennis Egge; NAUS Hawaii Chapter President



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COL, Ret. Arthur N. Tulak
6048 Marina Drive
Ewa Beach Hawaii, 96706

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February 13, 2018

Aloha Chair LoPresti and Vice Chair Fukumoto,

I would like to submit personal testimony in support of HB 2445 to the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and The Arts, for the hearing to be held 15 FEB 2018.

This Bill will protect divorcing disabled veteran compensation from involuntary redistribution, through indemnification, in a military divorce action.

This action is right and proper to protect disabled Veteran's (38 USC chapter 11) compensation for disabilities resulting from military service.

Thank you for your support to Hawaii's Veterans

Respectfully,

Arthur N. Tulak
COL, U.S. Army, Ret.
Member, HI NAUS #1