

SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF SCR 209 / SR 185 REQUESTING ALL BRANCHES OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY TO DISPLAY THE HAWAIIAN FLAG ON ALL UNITED STATES MILITARY RESERVATIONS AND MILITARY TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE STATE

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

> Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair The Honorable Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair

Monday, April 1, 2024 at 3:15 p.m. Conference Room 225 & Videoconference Hawaii State Capitol; 415 South Beretania Street

Chairs Wakai and Shimabukuro, Vice Chairs Elefante and Fevella, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Military Affairs Council ("MAC") supports the intent of SCR 209 & SR 185.

The MAC was established in 1985 when the Chamber was appointed by the State to serve as the liaison to the military. The MAC advocates on behalf of Hawaii's military, and is comprised of business leaders, academic institutions, State and County officials, members of the CODEL, community leaders, labor unions and organizations and retired U.S. flag and general officers. The MAC works to support Hawaii's location as a strategic U.S. headquarters in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region which is crucial for U.S. national and homeland security.

The MAC appreciates the intention behind the resolutions to recognize the powerful symbol – Hawaii's state flag which signifies our unique history, culture, and values. By federal policy, there are varying protocols and regulations related to the display of state flags on official flagpoles or in outdoor displays at installation facilities. They differ across branches of the armed forces.



As reported to the committees earlier this year, The MAC is currently engaging in comprehensive coordination across all Hawaii installations and service facilities to gather and assess existing protocols and regulations. In instances where a service lacks specific regulations, crafting new requirements would be necessary. Such new requirements would require thorough review and potentially, approval by the Secretary of Defense.

We will be pleased to keep the introducer of these resolutions and the Committees informed of our efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support.