



**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.

SCR-209

Submitted on: 3/28/2024 6:25:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 4/1/2024 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR209 for displaying Hawaii's flag at military bases. In fact, I think the state flag should fly above the U.S. flag in Hawaii! We are the Kingdom of Hawaii, a sovereignty nation with the documents to prove it. Hawaii was listed as the 51st state after D.C. in 2000 in mental health, but there's only 50 stars in the American flag. This only proves that Hawaii, as separate islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, could not be taken over by the U.S. government, the newest nation in the world. 40,000 Native Hawaiians signed the Ku'e Petition, which was hidden by the U.S. government for decades.

Hawaii was needed for other military strategies of the U.S., such as fighting the Spanish-American War in the Philippine Islands, which they created in the Caribbean. preventing the takeover of communism by China. The Chinese were the first recorded with maps made by Marco Polo in 1405 and 1435. The evidence being a rock wall built above San Francisco, CA built in the 1400s, when only China was building the Great Wall of China. The pandemic revealed a lot of untruths of all institutions, created by colonization, just because they could speak and write the English language. Indigenous languages were translated into English and many other discoveries were revealed since 2000 about the world.

In our own state of Hawaii, when the pandemic was called by Trump in March 2020, all state offices were closed, including the Department of Health. All state workers that were protected by unions were allowed to stay at home, except those that were essential workers. These essential workers cleared up decades of accounting and other duties, essential to the survival of any entity. Governor David Ige, like many of his administrative directors or advisors tried to fix the system, but found many state workers were not doing their duty to serve the people of Hawaii. When the Governor asked for a 30% pay cut the unions backed up their employees.

It was the county governments, that eventually tookover the services to help their communities, since they were closer to the people and their needs, but the state held the pursestrings. There were only a few state agencies that continued to function during this crisis, one of them being the Governor's Interagency Council on Housing/Homelessness lead by Scott Morishige. For four months, while remaing in Maui, said to be the hotspot of the pandemic cases, I participated in his virtual weekly meetings, assisted by Justin Lamasa. Elderly affairs were turned over to the county. Every state department was placed on answering machines. If you were able to leave a message, strange numbers were calling back, with people unqualified to assist you. If you got someone to speak to, such as in state legislators officers, these young office people didn't bother to relay the message to their boss and after 4 calls said, "I thought you were going to handle it

yourself!". Or you have a legislator saying that he was not a lawyer, so call someone else, after hours of talking to his office staff. Only a few, like my former Representative Scott Nishimoto had the heart to talk to me, listen to my concerns and the issues faced by the poorer population mass.

This is where the graduates of the Hawaii Certified Peer Specialists, over 200 that I had trained and supported from 2005-9 on all islands, could have been of real assistance through the Recovery Model. The Medical Model lead by professionals was falling apart! The hospitals were said to be the hotspots of the spread of the corona virus, probably with many unsanitary practices, such as not washing their hands regularly or their equipment, social distancing, or coughing/sneezing appropriately. Staffing shortages occurred everywhere due to the fear of catching the virus themselves. The pandemic revealed a lot of problems that we would face in our future in all institutions.

I know many HCPS, including myself would have loved to volunteer our services in all that we had learned almost 20 years ago. Our lived experiences in Hawaii with our struggles in the various systems of health, housing, substance use, finances, and cultural competency could have been valuable! Many of these concerns of our poorest population that many law makers couldn't even comprehend or how to resolve, unless people like me share our stories and advocate for better decisions!

Mahalo to Senator Fevella for his support of SCR209 and any other bills that my testimony could assist with, such as Peer Support Specialist SB3094!

SCR-209

Submitted on: 3/29/2024 12:25:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 4/1/2024 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

YES to:- 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.