
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VETERANS CEMETERIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish the
2 veterans cemeteries board, composed of representatives from
3 federal, state, and county departments and agencies, to provide
4 veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education,
5 technical assistance, and other support to ensure compliance
6 with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of
7 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 363, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
10 and to read as follows:

11 "§363- Veterans cemeteries board. (a) There shall be
12 established the veterans cemeteries board within the office in
13 the department of defense for administrative purposes only. The
14 veterans cemeteries board shall:

15 (1) Identify compliance issues faced by veterans
16 cemeteries in the State, resources needed, and
17 challenges encountered by departments or agencies that



1 manage veterans cemeteries and work collaboratively to
2 resolve issues;

3 (2) Devise solutions to address the issues identified in
4 paragraph (1) and implement the solutions through a
5 cross-representation of the state and county
6 departments and agencies on the board;

7 (3) Seek resource solutions, including funding,
8 legislative initiatives, and inter-governmental
9 program support; and

10 (4) Interact with and invite interested community agencies
11 and organizations, stakeholders, and concerned
12 veterans and citizens to participate in discussions
13 and board meetings.

14 (b) The veterans cemeteries board shall consist of the
15 following members:

16 (1) The director, or the director's designee, who shall
17 serve as the chairperson of the board;

18 (2) A representative of the National Memorial Cemetery of
19 the Pacific, by invitation of the director;

20 (3) The director of the department or agency within the
21 county of Maui responsible for operating and



1 maintaining the county's veterans cemeteries, or the
2 director's designee;

3 (4) The director of the department or agency within the
4 county of Hawaii responsible for operating and
5 maintaining the county's veterans cemeteries, or the
6 director's designee;

7 (5) The director of the department or agency within the
8 county of Kauai responsible for operating and
9 maintaining the county's veterans cemeteries, or the
10 director's designee; and

11 (6) The cemetery operations manager of the Hawaii state
12 veterans cemetery, or the manager's designee.

13 The members of the veterans cemeteries board shall serve
14 without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary
15 expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the performance
16 of their duties. A majority of the members of the veterans
17 cemeteries board shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of
18 business of the board. A majority vote of the members present
19 at a meeting at which a quorum is established shall be necessary
20 to validate any action of the veterans cemeteries board.



1 (c) The veterans cemeteries board shall develop and make
2 recommendations to meet compliance standards set by the National
3 Cemetery Administration of the United States Department of
4 Veterans Affairs. In developing its recommendations, the
5 veterans cemeteries board shall create, develop, and adopt a
6 statewide framework, which shall include:

7 (1) A clear understanding of compliance standards for
8 cemetery grounds and maintenance set by the National
9 Cemetery Administration;

10 (2) Strategies and recommendations for grounds and
11 maintenance best practices to address the varying
12 challenges and conditions of each cemetery location;
13 and

14 (3) A standardized system of data collection and
15 information sharing to support the intergovernmental
16 efforts of the board.

17 (d) The office shall provide necessary staff and other
18 support required by the veterans cemeteries board for the
19 performance of its duties."

20 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DOD; OVS; Veterans Cemeteries Board; Veterans Cemeteries

Description:

Establishes the Veterans Cemeteries Board within the Office of Veterans Services of the Department of Defense to provide veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education, technical assistance, and other support to ensure compliance with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

