
HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING THE O'AHU VETERANS COUNCIL, ARMED SERVICES YMCA HAWAI'I,
U.S. VETS HAWAI'I, AND ALA HAWAI'I GIRLS STATE FOR THEIR
DEDICATED SERVICE TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN HAWAI'I.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is home to over 100,000
2 veterans whose service and sacrifice have spanned periods of
3 peace and combat that include World War II, the Korean Conflict,
4 the Vietnam Era, and the Gulf War Era, and will continue into
5 present day conflicts, in order to safeguard the freedoms
6 enjoyed by the people of our State and nation; and
7

8 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's veterans are a vital part of the State's
9 social and economic fabric, yet many veterans face ongoing
10 challenges related to housing affordability, employment
11 opportunities, and access to services, including higher-than-
12 average unemployment rates and significant housing cost burdens;
13 and
14

15 WHEREAS, national assessments of the quality of life of
16 veterans have highlighted these challenges, with Honolulu
17 ranking eighty-sixth out of one hundred major U.S. cities in a
18 recent evaluation of veterans' well-being, including low
19 rankings in employment and economic opportunity, underscoring
20 the importance of continued investment in support systems for
21 veterans; and
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23 WHEREAS, veterans and their families continue to benefit
24 from the dedication of community-based organizations that
25 provide critical services, foster meaningful connections, and
26 promote long-term well-being and a better quality of life; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the O'AHU VETERANS COUNCIL serves as a unifying
29 force for veterans across the island of O'ahu, providing a
30 dedicated forum for collaboration among veterans service



1 organizations and operating the O'ahu Veterans Center as a
2 gathering place for special events and activities, community
3 engagement, and access to trusted resources; and
4

5 WHEREAS, since 1917, the ARMED SERVICES YMCA HAWAI'I has
6 improved the lives of military service members, veterans, and
7 their families through a wide variety of programs that promote
8 family resiliency, youth development, and access to essential
9 food and other resources, serving more than 111,000 service
10 members, veterans, and their families across O'ahu in 2025 alone;
11 and
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13 WHEREAS, U.S. VETS HAWAI'I is dedicated to ending
14 homelessness for veterans across the State by providing critical
15 services, housing assistance, and workforce development
16 opportunities that empower veterans to achieve stability, self-
17 sufficiency, and a renewed sense of purpose; and
18

19 WHEREAS, for many decades, ALA HAWAI'I GIRLS STATE has been
20 preparing generations of young women for civic leadership
21 through hands-on education in government, civic responsibility,
22 advocacy, public service, and volunteer opportunities in support
23 of veterans and their families; more recently, in 2016, the
24 program experienced a revitalization of its local leadership
25 core and rededicated itself to the group's mission, leading to
26 better results and greater impact for those being served; and
27

28 WHEREAS, as our nation approaches the two hundred fiftieth
29 anniversary of its founding, it is an opportune time to
30 recognize the enduring contributions of those who have served
31 and the organizations that continue to support them and their
32 families; now, therefore,
33

34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
35 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session
36 of 2026, that this body hereby honors the O'AHU VETERANS COUNCIL,
37 ARMED SERVICES YMCA HAWAI'I, U.S. VETS HAWAI'I, and ALA HAWAI'I
38 GIRLS STATE for their dedicated service to veterans and their
39 families in Hawai'i and extends to them its warmest aloha and
40 best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.



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OFFERED BY: Allen G. Bellotti

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