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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HCR 147

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

BY

JOHN P. ALAMODIN
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

March 31, 2026

Aloha Chair Sayama, Vice-Chair Lee, and members of the committee:

I am John P. Alamodin, Director, Office of Veterans Services, State of Hawaii,
Department of Defense

The Office of Veterans Services (OVS) provides written testimony for COMMENT ON
HCR 147.

**REQUESTING THE COMPTROLLER TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO
DISCUSS AND DRAFT PLANS FOR A GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR MEMORIAL ON
THE GROUNDS OF THE HAWAII STATE CAPITOL**

The Office of Veterans Services supports collaborative efforts to honor Hawaii's service members who served in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, Iraq, and the broader theaters of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). To honor and recognize their sacrifice, service, and legacy within the physical landscape of Hawaii and its unique identity.

There is currently a Working Group which was formed in 2025 and is comprised of the Hawaii State Department of Defense Office of Veterans Services and Engineering Office, Design Committee Members, Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, and FAI Architects. The GWOT Memorial is envisioned to be located at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe as the primary location and incorporate conceptual features and elements to be replicable and adaptable across Hawaii's State Veterans

Cemeteries, including Kaneohe Oahu, East Hawaii, West Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, Lanai, and Molokai. The vision for this concept is to create a unified message through the unique landscapes and identity of each island, ensuring that the core values, symbolic depth, and consistent experiential qualities resonate across all of Hawaii.

Additional information can be provided by the Office of Veterans Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to COMMENT.

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KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

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DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
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WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR

MARCH 31, 2026, 10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 309 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.C.R. 147 / H.R. 139

REQUESTING THE COMPTROLLER TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS AND DRAFT PLANS FOR A GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR MEMORIAL ON THE GROUNDS OF THE HAWAII STATE CAPITOL.

Chair Sayama, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.C.R. 147 / H.R. 139.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers **comments** on this resolution requesting that the department establish a working group to draft plans for a Global War on Terror (GWOT) Memorial on the grounds of the Hawaii State Capitol.

The department notes the resolution does not identify an independent source of funding to support the establishment and operations of the working group, and for the drafting of the final report. Without such funding the department's efforts to conduct the study will necessarily divert limited resources from the accomplishment of DAGS'

statutory responsibilities. Therefore, the department respectfully requests the measure identify an independent source of funds to support conduct of the study.

We note that the GWOT Memorial working group would be similar to the work done by the department for H.C.R. 97, S.L.H. 2024, regarding the Hawaii First Responders Memorial. The final working group report is available on the DAGS website at [Hawaii First Responders Memorial Working Group Report](#). For the GWOT Memorial working group to be successful, we recommend that a project champion be identified early on in the process. Finally, we note that DAGS' State Capital Monuments Master Plan, dated March 2017, although not officially adopted, provides guidance for the placement of memorials in the State Capital District (copy available upon request). The master plan envisions the development of a Capital Memorial Mall within the current Hotel Street Mall makai of the State Capitol between Richards Street and Punchbowl Street to keep memorials respectful in both tone and size.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.