

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 6 2015

RE: S.B. No. 559
S.D. 2

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 559, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE MILITARY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to better serve the State's military service personnel and veterans and more effectively manage the State's relationship with the armed forces.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Renames the Office of Veterans' Services as the Office of Military Affairs and Veterans' Services;
- (2) Expands the duties of the office to include:
 - (A) Interacting and working with the armed services in the State to address any issues of concern;
 - (B) Collecting and maintaining information pertaining to the military's economic impact in the State;
 - (C) Serving as a liaison between the State's executive branch and the State's armed services; and
 - (D) Researching federal funding opportunities that relate to the military and veterans; and



- (3) Makes an appropriation to fund the expanded duties of the office.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Defense, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and one individual. Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's population of United States military service members and veterans is very sizeable and may continue to grow. The military's positive impact on the State's economy is critical and is second only to tourism. Military spending totals approximately \$8,800,000,000 each year and generates approximately 102,000 local jobs.

Your Committee further finds that there should be a meaningful public discussion about whether to expand the duties of the Office of Veterans' Services to include military affairs or to instead delegate military affairs responsibilities to another state agency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 559, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 559, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB559 SD1	FSM, WAM	3/3/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene				✓
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	10	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">MUD-VA</div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes