

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3701**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 25 2016

RE: H.C.R. No. 23

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred
H.C.R. No. 23 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO AMEND FEDERAL
LAW TO ALLOW FUNDS FOR THE BURIAL OF QUALIFIED FILIPINO-
AMERICAN VETERANS IN NATIONAL AND STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES
TO COVER THE COSTS OF TRANSPORTING THE REMAINS OF FILIPINO-
AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II TO THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR
FUNERAL AND BURIAL SERVICES IN THE PHILIPPINES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the United
States Congress to amend federal law to allow funds for the burial
of qualified Filipino-American veterans in national and state
veterans cemeteries to cover the costs of transporting the remains
of Filipino-American veterans of World War II to the Philippines
and for funeral and burial services in the Philippines.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this
measure from the State Office of Veterans' Services and one
individual.

Your Committee finds that nearly one hundred thousand
soldiers of the Philippine Commonwealth Army fought in some of the
bloodiest battles alongside the United States and its allies
during World War II to defend and reclaim the Philippine Islands.
As a condition of these soldiers' service, the United States
promised the soldiers military pay and benefits. However, upon
the ending of the war, the United States Congress enacted
legislation taking away these veteran's benefits and recognition.



Your Committee further finds that some Filipino-American veterans may wish to have their remains transported to the Philippines for burial, but the costs for the transportation of human remains can be significant. Considering the service provided to our country, your Committee supports amendments to federal law that allow for the covering of costs for transporting veteran remains to the Philippines along with funeral and burial services in the Philippines.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 23, and recommends its adoption.

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

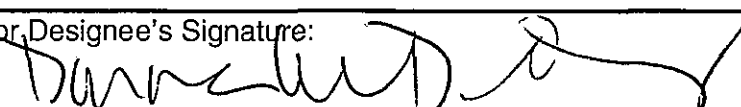


JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HCR 23	Committee Referral: PSM, WAM	Date: 2/21/16		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne				/
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	/			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	/			
HARIMOTO, Breene				/
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	/			
RIVIERE, Gil	/			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				/
WAKAI, Glenn				/
SLOM, Sam				/
TOTAL	6			5
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes