

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

746

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2019

RE: H.B. No. 671
H.D. 2

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 671, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERANS SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow surviving, unmarried same-sex partners of deceased veterans to be interred at any state veterans cemetery if the surviving spouse provides evidence that the couple would have been married but for a state law prohibiting same-sex marriage.

The Veterans Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and several individuals testified in support of this measure. The State Office of Veterans Services opposed this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring that surviving partners provide a written formal request for waiver and evidence, rather than written evidence, to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (SECVA);

HB671 HD2 HSCR JUD HMS 2019-2281



- (2) Allowing case evidence deemed appropriate by the SECVA to be considered as evidence for internment eligibility;
- (3) Authorizing the SECVA to adjudicate and to respond to requestors, including approval of internment, after review of waiver requests; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 671, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 671, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



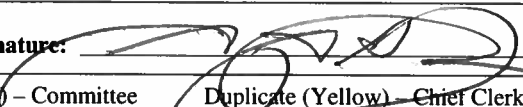
CHRIS LEE, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The THIRTIETH Legislature

HSCR 746

Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary

Bill/Resolution No.: H0671 HD1	Committee Referral: PUM, JUD, FIN	Date: 2/14/19		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JUD Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LEE, Chris (C)	/			
2. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (VC)	/			
3. BROWER, Tom	/			
4. CREAGAN, Richard P.	/			
5. LOWEN, Nicole E.	/			
6. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	/			
7. MORIKAWA, Dee	/			
8. SAY, Calvin K.Y.	/			
9. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	/			
10. YAMANE, Ryan I.	/			
11. THIELEN, Cynthia	/			
TOTAL (11)	10			1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				