BILL062(24)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 550

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Dec 11, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 6

Oppose: 1

I wish to comment: 1

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Bridget Komine	bridgetkomine@gmail.com	96789
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Dec 6, 2024 @ 09:35 AM

Testimony:

I fully support this bill as a way for the State of Hawaii to recognize and thank our veteran residents for their service to the State and to the Nation. Additionally, reduced fees provide relief to our kupuna that have served when they need it most.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Johnnie-Mae Perry	waianaenb569@gmail.com	96792
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Dec 9, 2024 @ 07:13 PM

Testimony:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry support Bill 62 TO INCLUDE the veteran's "widow and/or widower" upon the death of the veteran.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Tessa Gomes	owapres@gmail.com	96825
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Oahu Wedding Association	I wish to comment	Dec 10, 2024 @ 09:24 AM

Testimony:

On behalf of the Oahu Wedding Association, we would like to thank the Planning and the Economy Committee for their efforts in updating the City's Land Use Ordinance. We appreciate that we had an opportunity to voice our concerns with regards to Commercial Use of Agriculture Lands, and that the Committee members listened to and put thoughtful considerations into integrating Commercial Use to support Agri-tourism.

Our organization supports the lawful use of and growth of Agri-tourism that can uplift and support our local economy.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Nancy Valdez	nancyavaldez@yahoo.com	96818
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Dec 10, 2024 @ 11:08 AM

Testimony:

Aloha! I fully support this Bill for Veterans. But I would like to see this happen with other retired Citizens over 65 years old. I feel that one day we will be at that age where we are at a fixed income and don't have much for retirement savings. We all know that registration will go up and not down in the next few years unless were lucky. Thank you.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Rhiannon Callahan	pilialohak19@gmail.com	96795
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Dec 10, 2024 @ 02:53 PM

Testimony:

I am in full support of amending the motor vehicle registrations fees to $20 per year with the addition of the $ license plate and 0.50 cent tags. The fees as they stand now are ridiculous and often have put myself and others I know in a hard place when this time comes around added to regular monthly bills. I would love to see the fee decrease.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jame Schaedel	jame.schaedel@gmail.com	96815
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Hawaii	Oppose	Dec 10, 2024 @ 09:39 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Reiki Young	reikikmy@gmail.com	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Dec 11, 2024 @ 09:05 AM

Testimony:

I am in full support of this Bill. Thank you for proposing it.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Amanda McFarland	mandamaeson@gmail.com	96819
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Dec 11, 2024 @ 09:05 AM

Testimony:

No comment at this time.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.
Hawaii

December 10, 2024

Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council:

Subject: Opposition Against Bill 62 (24) – Relating to Motor Vehicle Registration

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Hawai‘i (VFW) is appreciative of Councilmember Tupola and Councilmember Tulba for introducing Bill 62 (24) to provide a city motor vehicle registration exemption for veterans aged 65 years or older.

Our nation’s veterans made many sacrifices when they served in our armed forces, not expecting much in return. The exemption proposed by Councilmembers Tupola and Tulba would provide a new city exemption for our more seasoned veterans, especially those on fixed incomes.

However, the VFW is concerned that “veteran” is not defined in Bill 62 (24) or in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH). Thus, the VFW interprets that the current version of the bill would be applicable to individuals who were dishonorably discharged from military service. This is not acceptable to the VFW, which is why we offer this testimony in **strong opposition** against Bill 62 (24).

Should this bill be scheduled for a hearing, the VFW strongly suggests that the introducers or the Committee on Budget prepare a Committee Draft 1 (CD1) which amends Bill 62 (24) to:

a. Create a new section in Chapter 15A, Article 4, ROH, to define “veteran” as someone that “has been other than dishonorably discharged from the United States uniformed armed forces;” or

b. Refer to §249-31.5(2), Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS), as a definitive reference.

The VFW extends a huge mahalo to the Honolulu City Council, and to the introducers of the bill for your consideration of our testimony and our suggested CD1 amendment. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

JAME K. SCHAEDEL
Member, National Legislative Committee

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAII

438 Hobron Lane Suite 407 Office 808.946.7250
Honolulu, HI 96815

vfwhawaii@yahoo.com