The 2010 Military Appreciation Package was created to support the efforts of our men and women in uniform throughout Hawaii and to make the lives of our service members and their families a bit more bearable during these difficult times.

The pieces of legislation that comprise the Military Appreciation Package address some of the many challenges facing our military personnel and their families, including significant recruitment and retention issues, especially for the National Guard and Reserves.

One of the most unfortunate consequences of war is the loss of our men and women in uniform. The establishment of the Hawaii Medal of Honor in 2005 has allowed the Legislature to recognize military personnel with Hawaii ties killed in action. The Legislature held, for the fifth time, a joint session this past March to honor and award Hawaii’s fallen soldiers and their families with the Hawaii Medal of Honor. A total of 268 service members have been honored since March 29, 2003.

The following pages list the bills and resolutions that have passed the Legislature during the 2010 legislative session.

The Military Appreciation Package is coordinated by the office of Rep. K. Mark Takai. Questions and comments regarding the package should be directed to Lisa Vargas at 586-8455 or at reptakai@capitol.hawaii.gov.

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**HAWAII MEDAL OF HONOR**

**HCR3** Awarding the Hawaii Medal of Honor to United States military service members, with Hawaii connections, killed in action while serving in dangerous, volatile, and unstable areas of the world, including Iraq and Afghanistan.

**VOTING**

**HB2397** Relating to Primary Elections

[5/20/10 Act 126]

Complies with the Federal MOVE (Military and Overseas Voting Empowerment) Act by moving the date of the primary election to the second Saturday of August. Requires nomination papers to be filed not later than 4:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday in June. Effective January 1, 2011.

**VETERANS**

**HB2351** Relating to Veterans

[5/5/10 Act 78]

Requires an applicant for a veteran's license plate to include a copy of the applicant’s most recent discharge paper or separation document that indicates an honorable discharge or general (under honorable conditions) discharge from active duty.

**SB2139** Relating to Veterans

[4/16/10 Act 27]

Requires the Director of the Office of Veterans' Services to act on behalf of deceased veterans found to be indigent at the time of death and without surviving immediate family members to ensure the burial or cremation and inurnment of the veteran's remains in a state veteran's cemetery.
HR30  Urging Congress and the President of the United States to support passage of S. 1337, the Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act of 2009, or similar legislation, to expedite the reunification for certain Filipino veterans of World War II.

HR82  Urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to expedite payments of war benefits to Filipino veteran who fought in World War II but were subsequently denied their entitled benefits.

HR105  Requesting the Office of Veterans’ Services, assisted by the Department of Accounting and General Services and Department of Defense, to develop a plan to create memorials to the Veterans of the Persian Gulf War and women Veterans of World War II on the grounds of the State Capitol near the Korean and Vietnam War Memorial.

HR200  Requesting the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court to convene a committee to identify at which point veterans and active duty military personnel and returning Reservists and National Guard members enter the justice system, and how best to address their needs, including developing a Veterans Court.

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES
HR123  Urging the National Guard Hawaii Youth Challenge Program to consider alternative sites for its program activities on the island of Hawaii.

HR259  Commends the efforts and bravery of the soldiers of the Hawaii Army National Guard and The Hawaii Army Reserves and the Airmen and Airwomen of the Hawaii Air National Guard on their recent deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

SR105  Urging members of Hawaii’s Congressional Delegation to support H.R. 208, the National Guardsmen and Reservists Parity for Patriots Act and S. 644, the National Guard and Reserve Retired Pay Equity Act of 2009.

PEARL HARBOR HISTORIC SITES
HR52  Commemorating the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II and acknowledging the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites Partners for their contributions in preserving the nation’s military legacy.

SR77  Designating the Pacific Aviation Museum-Pearl Harbor as the State Museum of Aerospace History.

MISCELLANEOUS
HB1900  Relating to Military Personnel
[5/10/10 Act 88]  Recognizes the designations of prisoners of war and missing in action as valid descriptions of casualty status and category classification for military personnel.

HB2061  Relating to Children
[6/25/10 Act 177]  Statutorily establishes a process by which the family court can resolve matters regarding custody and visitation for service members of the United States armed forces, armed forces reserves, and National Guard whose military duties require temporary absences. Effective August 1, 2010.

HB2383  Relating to Flags
[4/20/10 Act 40]  Recognizes and requires the prisoner of war/missing in action flag to be flown with the US and Hawaiian flags on specified days and allows the flag to be flown on other days.

SB2137  Relating to Health Clubs
[4/22/10 Act 45]  Allows military personnel serving on federal active duty or active duty in federal service and deployed or otherwise serving outside of the State to cancel or suspend health club contracts.
HR29/HCR70 Recognizing and commending those who provide support to the families of deployed members of the Armed Forces.

HR110/HCR175 Urging the United States Congress to designate the Honors and Remember flag as a national symbol of our nation’s concern and commitment to honoring and remembering the lives of all members of the US Armed Forces who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

SR36 Expressing support for repeal of the Don’t Ask Don’t Tell policy of the United States Armed Services.

HB2200 Relating to the State Budget
To adjust and request appropriations for fiscal biennium 2009-2011 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

Disaster Warning and Communication Devices, Statewide. Provides $2,406,000 in FY2009-2010 and $1,561,000 in FY2010-2011 for plans. Land acquisition, design, construction and equipment for the upgrade of State Civil Defense warning and communications equipment.

Lump Sum CIP. Veterans Cemetery Improvements, Statewide. Provides $265,000 in FY2009-2010 and $1,913,000 in FY2010-2011 for design and construction for miscellaneous upgrade and improvements to veterans cemeteries statewide.

Columbaria Niches, Statewide. Provides $194,000 in FY2009-2010 and $961,000 in FY2010-2011 for design and construction for additional columbaria niches statewide.

American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Infrastructure Improvements, Statewide. Provides $1,800,000 in FY2009-2010 and $1,650,000 in FY2010-2011 for design and construction for modifications for persons with disabilities and to identify and correct existing deficiencies for the Department of Defense (DOD) facilities.

Birkhimer Tunnel and Support Facilities, Health and Safety Requirements, Oahu. Provides $500,000 in FY2009-2010 and $500,000 in FY2010-2011 for plans, land acquisition, design, construction and equipment for improvements to the State Emergency Operating Center, Birkhimer Tunnel and support facilities to include American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, sprinkler system and other improvements.

Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy. Provides $3,200,000 in FY2010-2011 shall be expended for the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy’s mission. Provides $400,000 in FY2010-2011 shall be expended to establish the second Youth Challenge Academy, provides that no funds shall be made available unless the federal government provides $1,200,000 for the purpose for which this sum is appropriated.

Mail Distribution Center, Building 175 Remodel, Kalaeloa, Oahu. Provides $1,100,000 on FY2009-2010 and $75,000 in FY2010-2011 for construction and equipment to remodel Building 175 Kalaeloa into a mail distribution center for the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG).

Building 19 Restorations, Kalaeloa, Oahu. Provides $5,400,000 in FY2009-2010 and $500,000 in FY2010-2011 for design, construction and equipment to restore, repair or renovate Building 19 Kalaeloa, former mess hall at the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station (BPNAS). Project will develop Readiness Center space to include vault, administrative, storage, locker room, classroom, assembly hall, physical training, restrooms and kitchen space for Headquarters Detachment of the Hawaii Army National Guard.