Dear Senator or Representative,

Aloha!

I’m writing this letter/email requesting your full support for the design, planning and construction of the 2nd State Veterans Home slated for Kapolei, Oahu. When the original application request was sent to the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2014, inflation and construction costs were factored in. But in 2019, this same request was placed in the State Budget and then taken out prior to final legislative approval. In 2020, the request for $26M is once again in the State Supplemental Budget going through the same legislative cycle. This special project is on the Governor’s 2020 CIP Priority List and is the #1 CIP priority for the State DOD. Much of the monies needed are due to a higher inflation of construction costs and the expansion of the sited area having gone from 2.5 acres at the original site at Leahi to 7.0 acres at the Kapolei site. If this State Supplemental Budget request is not supported, $44.7M in federal dollars will be returned to the VA, and the State will need to recompete for future VA CIP funding. The State would then have to assess whether the full funding for this project will be accomplished solely by State funding. Knowing that it took over seven years to get to this point, without supplement funding, it could take as long or longer to acquire future VA grant money. Such a situation will delay critical healthcare services to service-connected veterans who fought to defend our freedoms and liberties. The people of Hawaii should not ignore the needs of our seriously disabled veterans. We must act together now to approve the Supplemental Budget including funding the Veterans Home on Oahu as discussed above.

Thank you for your most favorable consideration and support!

Name of Veteran and contact info