

Testimony to Assembly Committee on Government Affairs

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Chair Considine, Vice Chair Nguyen and members of the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs, for the record I am Fred Wagar, Veterans of Foreign Wars Southern Nevada State Legislative Chair and Disabled American Veterans Benefits Protection Team Lead here to testify in support of Senate Bill 117.

We would like to thank Senator Cruz-Crawford for sponsoring this bill.

Nevada SB117 addresses the challenges faced by veterans seeking to upgrade their military discharge status. Many veterans, despite serving honorably or under difficult circumstances, find themselves with less-than-honorable discharge classifications that limit their access to crucial benefits and services.

The bill can provide awareness of resources for Nevada's veterans with less than honorable discharges, including:

- Educational Outreach: Informing veterans about their rights, the potential benefits of a discharge upgrade, and the steps involved in the process.
- Advocacy Support: Ensuring veterans have representation when presenting their cases to review boards.

By implementing these measures, the bill underscores Nevada's commitment to its veteran population, recognizing their service while addressing past inequities.

Nevada SB117 gives hope for veterans seeking to rectify their discharge status. By providing advocacy, and outreach efforts, the bill ensures that Nevada's veterans have the support they need to access the benefits and recognition they deserve.

VFW and DAV fully support SB117. Thank you for your time.