

Written Testimony on H-7768

Good afternoon Chairman Azzinaro and members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

My name is John P Gallo and I am here to testify on against House bill H-7768.

It is my belief that veterans selected to live at the Rhode Island Veterans Home because they enjoy the comradery of being with their comrades. They were under the impression that the veterans' home administrator, and much of the staff was one of them, a "Combat Veteran".

Last year the requirement to be a "War" veteran was removed for the RI Veterans Home Administrators job description because the Rhode Island Office of Veteran Services said they did not get enough applications from "War" veterans.

This bill now removes the requirement to be an "honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces". This is being proposed because of a lack of sufficient applicants, with this requirement?

The RI Veterans Home administrator should be an "honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces". A person that will have empathy and be a "Comrade" to the veterans living at the veterans' home.

I believe that this bill is not beneficial to the veterans living at the veterans' home and that it should not be passed by this committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

John P. Gallo Sr., CMSGT, Retired