

Legislative files: Other legislation: "Laws that Treat Hawaii Differently": Military and defense: Veterans Administration

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers

Legislative files, Other legislation, "Laws that Treat Hawaii Differently", Federal responses to survey, Military and defense, Box LF394, Folder 5

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FEDERAL AGENCY: THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

CORRESPONDING STATE AGENCIES: None

STATUTES, RULES, POLICIES:

- Hawaii and Alaska are the only two states that do not have at least one VA hospital.

COMPUTER PRINTOUT INFORMATION: None

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

INTRODUCTION

Hawaii's state agency responses did not address themselves to laws, regulations, or statutes that come under the direction of the Veterans Administration. Neither the Hawaii or continental United States computer printouts pointed out laws related to the Veterans Administration.

Individuals residing in Hawaii are eligible for VA benefits equally with residents of the other States. The eligibility criteria are the same for everyone, regardless of place of residence.

PROVISIONS OF DIFFERENTIATION

PROVISION I:

Alaska and Hawaii are the only two States that do not have at least one VA hospital. Outpatient treatment is provided at the VA outpatient clinic in Honolulu and inpatient hospital and post-hospital care is provided at Tripler Army Hospital under an agreement with the Department of Defense. Inpatient and outpatient treatment is also available at private hospitals.

- 38 U.S.C. 601 (4) (C) (v), P.L. 90-612, includes in the definition of "VA facilities" those private facilities for which the Administrator contracts in order to provide hospital care for veterans in a State, territory, Commonwealth, or possession of the United States not part of the 48 contiguous States, "except that the annually determined average hospital patient load per thousand veteran population hospitalized at Veterans' Administration expense in Government and private facilities in such noncontiguous State may not exceed the average patient loan per thousand veteran population hospitalized by the Veterans' Administration within the 48 contiguous States..."

SUMMARY:

The Veterans Administration explained that the limitation

on the annual average hospital patient load has not caused them to turn down any eligible applicants in Hawaii. They mention that they are able to provide eligible applicants in Hawaii with fee-based care and treatment in any available private hospital.

However, the University of Hawaii's School of Medicine would find it helpful to have a V.A. hospital for training purposes.

May 9, 1978

Mr. Max Cleland
Administrator
Veterans Administration
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Mr. Cleland:

I would appreciate receiving a detailed report from your agency as to the existence of any particular federal laws, agency policies, or rules and regulations which treat the State of Hawaii or its residents in a manner different to that of the other forty-nine states.

Although I realize the potential magnitude of my request, your assistance in providing me with as comprehensive a report as possible would be most appreciated.

The purpose behind my request is to see whether or not legislative modifications would be appropriate.

Aloha,

DANIEL K. INOUE
United States Senator

DKI:jmpl



OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20420

May 15, 1978

1213 11:17 AM '78

The Honorable
Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

This will acknowledge your letter of May 9, 1978,
concerning VA's policy and regulations for treatment of
Hawaii's veterans.

Your inquiry is receiving attention by my staff and
a response will be furnished as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

MAX CLELAND
Administrator

May 31, 1978

Mr. Max Cleland
Administrator
Veterans Administration
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Mr. Cleland:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent communication in response to my request for a review of whether any of your agency's policies or regulations treat Hawaii in a manner different from our mainland states.

I look forward to receiving your more detailed forthcoming report.

Aloha,

DANIEL K. INOUE
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VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20420

JUNE 2 - 1978



JUN 13 1978 9 40

The Honorable
Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

This responds to your letter of May 9 requesting a detailed report on any Federal laws, agency policies or rules and regulations which treat the State of Hawaii or its residents in a manner different to that of the other forty-nine States.

Individuals residing in Hawaii are eligible for VA benefits equally with residents of the other States. The eligibility criteria are the same for everyone, regardless of place of residence.

Alaska and Hawaii are the only two States that do not have at least one VA hospital. Out-patient treatment is provided at the VA outpatient clinic in Honolulu and inpatient hospital and post-hospital care is provided at Tripler Army Hospital under an agreement with the Department of Defense. Inpatient and outpatient treatment is also available at private hospitals.

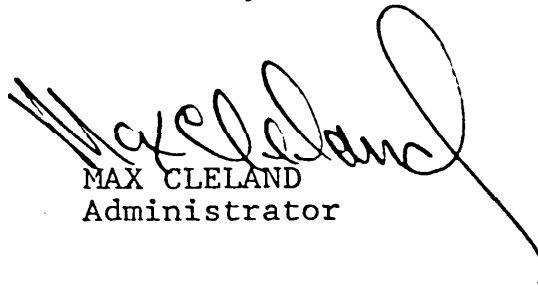
38 USC 601(4)(C)(v) includes in the definition of "VA facilities" those private facilities for which the Administrator contracts in order to provide hospital care for veterans in a State, territory, Commonwealth, or possession of the United States not contiguous to the forty-eight contiguous States, "except that the annually determined average hospital patient load per thousand veteran population hospitalized at Veterans' Administration expense in Government and private facilities in such noncontiguous State may not exceed the average patient load per thousand veteran population hospitalized by the Veterans' Administration within the forty-eight contiguous States. . ."

The Honorable
Daniel K. Inouye

We are thus able to provide eligible applicants in Hawaii with fee-based care and treatment in any available private hospital. The limitation on the annual average hospital patient load has not caused us to turn down any eligible applicants.

We are not aware of any other Federal laws, agency policies or rules and regulations which treat the State or residents of Hawaii differently than the other States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Max Cleland", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and extends to the right with a long, sweeping tail.

MAX CLELAND
Administrator

June 30, 1978

Mr. Max Cleland
Administrator
Veterans Administration
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Cleland:

I wish to thank you very much for your prompt response to my request for a detailed review of whether any of your agency's policies or regulations treat Hawaii in a manner different from our Mainland states.

Your consideration and cooperation in this matter is most appreciated. I am deeply grateful for your assistance in providing me with the comprehensive and detailed report, for I realize the extensive time and energy it took to perform this task.

If I can be of any assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Aloha,

DANIEL K. INOUE
United States Senator

DKI:jmpl

Veterans Administration

found in Binder 2

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PDL:jmpl-----
FED GOVT
GENERAL

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VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20420

May 15, 1978

1978 MAY 17 PM 9:01

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DKI:jmpl



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20420

JUNE 2 - 1978



100-11-0-11-940

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Washington, D. C. 20510

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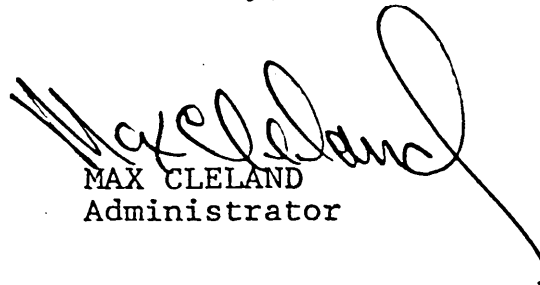
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*Fed Govt
General*

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