
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CULTURE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Honolulu
2 Symphony, founded in 1900, is one of the twelve oldest symphony
3 orchestras in the United States and the oldest American symphony
4 orchestra west of the Rocky Mountains. The Honolulu Symphony
5 has established a rich and illustrious legacy as one of Hawaii's
6 great cultural, educational, and entertainment resources, and is
7 a cornerstone of the performing arts in the State of Hawaii.

8 The legislature further finds that as Hawaii's only
9 professional full-time orchestra, the Honolulu Symphony plays an
10 essential role in the cultural vitality of our State with its
11 youth music education program and community engagement mission
12 for the enrichment of thousands of students, residents, and
13 visitors each year.

14 The legislature further finds that the Honolulu Symphony
15 brings music into the lives of over twenty thousand youth and
16 their families through education and community outreach
17 programs, which promote the love of music and music-making in



1 our island communities. With a national and local focus on
2 education, the legislature finds it essential that support be
3 provided to the Honolulu Symphony to enhance its ability to
4 continue offering affordable youth music education concerts,
5 free in-school ensemble performances, free residencies and
6 resource teachers, free music education curriculum, free student
7 composition reading for college-level student composers, free
8 master classes for vocal students, and free community engagement
9 concerts for the general public.

10 The legislature, through the provisions of Act 97, Session
11 Laws of Hawaii 2006, and Act 156, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007,
12 provided public support for the Honolulu Symphony by
13 appropriating \$4,000,000 to the State of Hawaii endowment fund,
14 from which the income and capital gains earned from that public
15 investment are to be used by the symphony, provided that the
16 funds are matched by private funds or pledges. However, it has
17 come to the legislature's attention that as of January 16, 2008,
18 these funds have not been released to the state foundation for
19 culture and the arts, the administrative agency for the fund.
20 Thus, the symphony has yet to benefit from potential revenues
21 earned by the fund. In turn, this has contributed to the



1 symphony's inability to meet both its fiscal obligations and its
2 payroll in a timely manner.

3 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate to the
4 Honolulu Symphony the funds as may be necessary to meet the
5 symphony's attendant fiscal obligations, pending the resolution
6 of any problems that preclude the state foundation for culture
7 and the arts from fulfilling its obligations as expressed by the
8 provisions of Act 97, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, and Act 156,
9 Session Laws of Hawaii 2007. It is further the intent of the
10 legislature that these funds shall be used to assist the
11 symphony in meeting its payroll obligations to the symphony's
12 musicians and to provide fiscal support to the symphony for its
13 administration and programs, including marketing,
14 communications, and youth education.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$810,000 or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to meet
18 the shortfall in funding for the operations of the Honolulu
19 Symphony and its programs.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
21 accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

22 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Culture; Arts; Honolulu Symphony

Description:

Appropriates funds for fiscal year 2008-2009 to meet the shortfall in funding for the operations of the Honolulu Symphony and its programs. (SD1)

