

THE
STATE
FOUNDATION
ON
CULTURE
AND
THE ARTS

TESTIMONY OF
STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

March 26, 2008

S. B. 2569



Chair Oshiro and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S. B. 2569.

LINDA LINGLE
Governor

RUSS K. SAITO
Comptroller

LORI V. THOMAS
Chairperson

Commissioners:
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RONALD K. YAMAKAWA
Executive Director

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), and the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) have formed a strong and committed partnership in working together to determine the feasibility of founding a museum of Hawaiian music and dance. As chair of the committee, I am pleased to report that meetings have been cooperative and productive. Attached is a copy of a status report, which details the committee's accomplishments and discussions to date, including elements of the required business plan required in Act 230, SLH 2007.

Due to funding issues, we were not able to convene a committee meeting until OHA, the HTA and SFCA could budget funds with which to hire Pacific Research and Planning Associates, Inc. (PRPA) as consultant and facilitator. The first committee meeting was held in

December 2007. We have since engaged in a visioning process for the facility, its purpose and location and have performed a site visit to a prospective parcel of land on the Kakaako waterfront. Discussions have been articulate and reflective of the diverse expertise and perspectives of committee members.

In order to continue our meetings in a sensitive and careful manner, the extension of time that this measure offers until the convening of the 2009 Legislature needs to be supported.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.