

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2583

February 5, 2008

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII CAPITAL CULTURAL  
DISTRICT

Senate Bill No. 2583 appropriates an unspecified amount of general revenues to renovate the Kamamalu Building and renames the No. 1 Capitol District Building to the Hawaii State Art Museum for exclusive use by the museum. The bill further requires the State agencies in No. 1 Capitol District Building (a.k.a. Hemmeter building) to relocate to the renovated Kamamalu building.

We are opposed to this bill.

The exclusive use of the No. 1 Capitol District Building by the Hawaii State Art Museum may not be the best use of this centrally located office building. Rather than relocating the existing tenants of the No. 1 Capitol District Building to the Kamamalu Building, priority should be given to relocating agencies that are now leasing office space which would reduce the operating expenses of the State.

Further, the No. 1 Capitol District Building was acquired by the State using tax exempt financing. Therefore, commercial use of the building must be limited to protect the tax exemption.

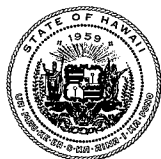
We have a concern as to whether it is prudent to expend the State's financial commitment at a time when we are facing a moderation in revenue growth. The initial renovation of Kamamalu Building is currently underway for removal of asbestos/hazardous materials and the interior demolition of flooring, ceilings, partitions, electrical, plumbing, and air conditioning system. To complete the renovation for occupancy by State departments will costs an additional \$28 million in general obligation bonds.

THE  
STATE  
FOUNDATION  
ON  
CULTURE  
AND  
THE ARTS

TESTIMONY  
OF  
STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
TAXATION

February 5, 2008

S. B. 2583



LINDA LINGLE  
Governor

RUSS K. SAITO  
Comptroller

LORI V. THOMAS  
Chairperson

Commissioners:  
SANDRA ALBANO  
SANDRA AU FONG  
MARY BEGIER  
BINA CHUN  
MARIA JO FARINA  
DAVID E. HELDER  
PETER ROSEGG  
GEORJA SKINNER

RONALD K. YAMAKAWA  
Executive Director

Chair Fukunaga and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on S. B. 2583.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) defers to the testimony of the Department of Accounting and General Services regarding the feasibility of renovating the Kamamalu Building.

The Hawaii State Art Museum (HiSAM) currently occupies 12,000 square feet – three galleries - in the No. 1 Capitol District Building. Amenities include an extensively used Multipurpose Room, a volunteer resource room, a small kitchenette, and leased spaces for the Downtown @ the HiSAM café and museum gift shop.

After five productive years, HiSAM has developed beyond the founding vision for the museum. Growing pains include inadequate room for ongoing workshops, docent training, and expansion of amenities for the Visitor's Center. The storage areas for the café and gift shop are nonexistent, unfortunately not part of the original planning and staffing needed for more programming and facilities management cannot be

No. 1 Capitol District Building  
250 South Hotel Street, 2nd Floor accommodated within the space currently available.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Administration: (808) 586-0300  
Art in Public Places: (808) 586-0304  
Contracts: (808) 586-0302  
FAX: (808) 586-0308  
TT: (808) 586-0740  
E-mail: sfca@sfca.state.hi.us  
Web Page: www.hawaii.gov/sfca

In addition, the museum itself is limited to two galleries, both of which feature rotating exhibitions of modest size and scope in keeping with available space. Ideally, HiSAM would house permanent display(s) of stellar works of art primarily by local artists that would serve to symbolize the State Collection's public image, identity and importance. These permanent display(s) would in turn be complimented by rotating exhibits designed to feature themes, specific artists, cultural works, and displays pertinent to community development.

This was the intent of the Warnecke Plan, also referred to as the "Hawaii State Capitol Civic Center Master Plan," approved by Governor Burns and Mayor Blaisdell. The plan envisioned the Capitol District as a cultural center for residents and visitors, as well as the seat of State government. Extending the breadth of the museum's programming, as well as its physical presence beside the State Capitol, will further enhance the Capitol District as a cultural tourism destination for visitors and a historical and educational center for residents, particularly Hawaii's youth.

We do confirm the need for added space to grow and develop the Hawaii State Art Museum, its programs, staffing, and importance in reflecting the richness of Hawaii's people, cultures, and artistic accomplishments. With regard to the allocation of state agency space assignments, the SFCA defers to the Comptroller and the Public Works Division as having the authority to make those decisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 1, 2008

FROM: Yukio Ozaki

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural  
District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: on February 5, At 1:15 pm, in Conference Room 224

My name is Yukio Ozaki and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.

I have been an active supporter and a benefactor of SFCA since I became a resident here 36 years ago. I greatly appreciate what HISAM has accomplished for the cultural community in Hawaii as well as the visitors to Hawaii. State of Hawaii has accumulated an amazing collection of great art works over the years. It has been my urgent wish to have as many of them as possible to be available for viewing by the general public in HISAM for the enrichment of our lives, education and culture. With the renovation of the Kamamalu Building, HISAM can access the fullest use of its building for the above mentioned purpose. I request your wise and generous decision in favor of this Bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

Yukio Ozaki  
Professor of Art  
Chaminade University of Honolulu  
3140 Waialae Avenue  
Honolulu, HI, 96816

**Senate Bill 2583**

**TO:** Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

**DATE:** February 3, 2008

**FROM:** Patrice Pendarvis

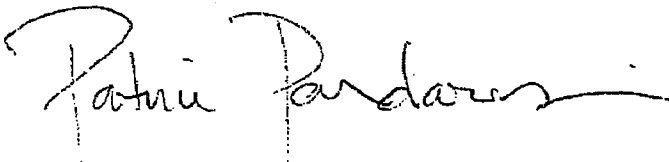
**RE:** Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

**TO BE HEARD:** February, 5 at 1:15 in Conference Room 224

My name is Patrice Pendarvis and I am in  
SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.

I have been a resident of Kaua'i for 34 years. My work is has been selected and is included in the the State Foundation on Culture and Arts Collection. I urge you to pass the Senate Bill 2583 to consider the renovation of the Kamamalu Building so that the No. 1 State Capitol District Building can be used exclusively for the Hawaii State Art Museum. The extensive collection needs to be viewed by the public and not stored. This is a part of our Hawaiian culture. The creativity abounds here in Hawaii. Please let it be seen by our children, grandchildren and our visitors.

Aloha  
Patrice Pendarvis



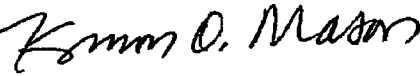
# 3039 Alencastre Place Honolulu, HI 96816-1909

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Phone 808-734-3076  
Fax 808-734-3081

DATE: 4 February 2008

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee, fax number 586-6899

FROM: Karen O. Mason 

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: Tuesday, February 5, 2008 in Conference Room 225

My name is Karen O. Mason and I SUPPORT Senate Bill 2583.

I am a strong supporter of the Arts in the State of Hawaii and am an amateur ceramist. I have long been a member and supporter of the Honolulu Academy of Arts and the Contemporary Museum, as well as the Bishop Museum, and am on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Potters' Guild. I am also an educator by profession and am greatly concerned with arts education in the State of Hawaii.

I believe that the State of Hawaii has exceptionally talented artists, and I have been told that the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts has accumulated a collection that is far too extensive to be displayed in the space currently allotted to the Hawaii State Art Museum. I therefore strongly support the move to dedicate the entirety of the building they currently occupy to the HiSAM. The additional display space this will greatly enrich the arts of experience of Hawaii's residents, including our keiki, and visitors.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

Date: 2 February 2008

From: Satoru Abe

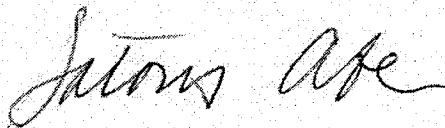
Re: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural  
District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

To Be Heard: Tuesday, February 5, 2008 @ 1:15 PM in  
Conference Room 224

My name is Satoru Abe and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583. I believe the No. 1 State Capitol District Building is an ideal location as a mid-size museum in Honolulu.

The District Building is a unique historical structure that would well represent the theme of art and history of Hawaii's people. Hawaii is a culturally diverse state, with a tremendous variety of talented artists in many media. These artists need acknowledgement, encouragement, recognition, and exposure if they are to continue and maintain their craft. Hawaii's art history needs study and viewing, if appreciation and understanding is to ever evolve. Art needs to be seen, to be felt.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts has an art collection, very vast in size, and a larger museum that showcases more than it can presently exhibit would greatly benefit the community and deepen the history of Hawaii.



Satoru Abe  
Artist





PAT L GRIFFIN  
POST OFFICE BOX 3213  
LIHU'E, HAWAII 96766  
PHONE: (808) 639 1019  
E-MAIL: PATGRIFFIN  
@HAWAIIANTEL.NET

September 4, 2008

The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Economic Development & Taxation Committee  
Hawai'i State Senate  
415 South Beretania St., Rm 216  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB2583 Making an Appropriation for Hawaii Capital Cultural District

Dear Senator Fukunaga,

Please count me among the many supporters of SB2583.

Hawai'i was fortunate at the dawn of our statehood to have visionaries such as Governor John A. Burns, Alfred Preis, Pundy Yokouchi, Senator Nadao Yoshinaga and others working for the broad benefit of the islands' future. Their conception of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts—and the State Legislature's 1967 enactment of the one percent law, which reserved that portion of public building construction costs for purchase of artwork—today ensures a rich and diverse cultural legacy for us, one that will continue to grow for our descendants generations into the future.

Some of the SFCA collection rotates on display in public offices and meeting rooms such as yours at the capitol, and some is now exhibited in a portion of the No.1 Capitol District Bldg. Due to lack of space, however, much of our artistic heritage, which could be enjoyed if the entire building were dedicated to the art of Hawai'i, remains stored away.

In addition, the Kamamalu building, standing in the heart of the cultural district, has remained a boarded up eyesore for years. Surrounded as it is by the grandeur of Iolani Palace and the much loved Mission Revival styled Custom House, Hawaiian Electric, and YWCA buildings, this sad structure deserves to be renovated and placed back into a working state address that exhibitis pride of place.

I urge the Committee on Economic Development & Taxation to pass SB2583 and to continue supporting it as it travels through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

  
Pat L Griffin

HAWAII BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO  
Gentry Pacific Design Center, Suite 215A  
560 N. Nimitz Highway, #50  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
(808) 524-2249 - FAX (808) 524-6893

February 2, 2008

Honorable Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Honorable Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation  
Hawaii State Capital  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN SUPPORT OF SB 2583  
RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII CAPITAL  
CULTURAL DISTRICT  
Hearing: Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Dear Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero and the Senate Committee on Economic  
Development and Taxation:

For the Record my name is Buzz Hong the Executive Director for the Hawaii  
Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Our Council is comprised  
of 16-construction unions and a membership of 26,000 statewide.

The Council supports the passage of SB2583, which appropriates funds to  
renovate the Kamamalu Building and renames the No. 1 Capitol District  
Building the Hawaii State Art Museum to be used exclusively by the museum.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of SB2583.

Sincerely,

William "Buzz" Hong  
Executive Director

WBH/dg

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 4, 2008

FROM: Patricia Riedel  
9 Hokualele Road  
Anahola, HI 96703  
808-635-7625

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District; Appropriation;  
No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: **Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room  
224**

My name is Patricia "Rocky" Riedel and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583. The people of Hawaii deserve to see on display the works their tax money purchased. But most importantly the world needs to be able to revel in the hope and inspiration that artists supply. And as for the artists, they need people to see and appreciate their hard effort and heartfelt work.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 4, 2008

FROM: Robert F. Ripp

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 224.

My name is Robert F. Ripp, 3106 Ka'ohinani Drive, 96817  
and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the  
Committee

EDT Committee

DATE: February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008

FROM: Yutaka Kawahito

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol  
Cultural District; Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol  
District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in  
Conference Room 224.

My name is Yutaka Kawahito and I am in SUPPORT of  
Senate Bill 2583.

I am Hawai'i-resident artist who believes that art for  
the public is as important as education and Hawai'i  
needs more places where the public can go to seek and  
cherish the culture of their own. In recent years, it  
has been remarkable that how much "First Friday"  
movement has flourished culture, education and economy  
of Hawai'i, yet it is undeniable at the same time that  
the movement has gotten little stale in my opinion.  
Also while Academy of Arts has made their "Artist of  
Hawai'i" every other year instead of an annual event,  
artists in Hawai'i, especially young artist like  
myself, need places to show their work to the public.  
I believe Senate Bill 2583 will benefit Hawai'i and  
Kamamalu Building can be another great venue to cater  
exhibitions, shows, educational programs, and community  
events for Hawai'i.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to be heard.

Sincerely,

Yutaka Kawahito

Please submit the following testimony to the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, Heading Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

As a Downtown Resident, Member of the Downtown Neighborhood Board and a member of the Hawai'i Capital Cultural District Coalition I am submitting this personal testimony in favor of SB 2583. Our coalition is working to nurture and promote the magnificent concentration of Hawai'i's cultural, historic and natural resources located in central Honolulu. By bringing together business, government and nonprofit interests the HCCD is able to address issues that cannot be effectively or efficiently addressed by one party or one community alone.

But to do this we need funding. The State's support will enable us develop educational programs about our heritage and culture and improve access to a wide number of cultural institutions to residents and visitors alike which fall within our borders. Our area is rich in culture and offers much to all. The funding proposed in this bill will enable us to enhance the quality of life in central Honolulu and the surrounding areas through our many cultural assets--museums, performing arts spaces, historical landmarks, etc.

Lynne Matusow  
60 N. Beretania, #1804  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
531-4260

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 2, 2008

FROM: David and Carol Kuraoka, PO Box 222, Hanalei 96714

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

**TO BE HEARD: Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 224**

Our names are David and Carol Kuraoka and we are in support of Senate Bill 2583. This bill requests funding to renovate the Kamamalu Building so that the No. 1 State Capitol District Building can be used exclusively for the Hawaii State Art Museum.

We are artists and arts educators, and we work actively with teachers and students who would benefit greatly by being able to view more of the remarkable art collection of the State of Hawaii. By having the entire building as a museum, many more of the valuable acquisitions that have been made by the State Foundation on the Culture and the Arts can be displayed instead of being left in storage.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

Feb. 4, 2008

From: Jennifer Owen, Assistant Professor of Art, Maui Community College

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

I would like to support SB 2583 and urge you to support the renovation of the entire building for the use of the Hawaii State Art Museum, so all the residents of Hawaii can enjoy more of the art collection that the State owns. I am an artist on Maui, and I teach art at Maui Community College. I have travelled to Oahu to visit the Hawaii State Art Museum three times since it opened, and would like to see it expanded so that more of the state's art could be on display. As the faculty advisor of the Maui Community College Art Club, students and faculty are raising money for a field trip to visit the Oahu museums by Maui Community College students who have never visited the Hawaii State Art Museum. It would mean a lot to all of us if when we do visit Oahu to view art, we are afforded the opportunity to view as much art as possible.

Thank you very much,  
Jennifer Owen



February 4, 2008

**SB2583**

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair  
Committee on Economic Development and Taxation  
Committee Hearing: Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (1:15pm)  
Testimony submitted by: Melly English Wilson

Dear Senators,

I write in STRONG SUPPORT of SB2583.

This Bill is good news long term for museums and historic sites and cultural amenities of all types in our state. By maximizing downtown Honolulu's physical, economic and cultural attributes, this Bill recognizes the importance of a first class, well housed, and free Museum for the peoples of our state. It recognizes that cultural amenities serve as magnets to revitalize urban areas. It recognizes Hawaii's artists and the importance of making the Hawaii State Art Museum's full collection available to the public.

This essential legislation will provide a crucial opportunity for the State of Hawaii and the State Foundation of Culture and Arts to be better stewards of the outstanding collections in their care by providing an expanded venue to showcase the full collection of Hawaii's art currently in care of the Hawaii State Art Museum. It will provide expanded free arts education opportunities for our children, our seniors, and our general public. In all, it is good, forward-looking legislation.

With passage of SB2583, we can make sure Hawaii's only free and publically funded museum is well-funded, well-housed, and protected for our children and our grandchildren. I'd especially like to thank the sponsors of this legislation – Senators Taniguchi, English, Hanabusa, Ige, Kokubun, Nishihara, Sakamoto, and Tokuda for their strong support and willingness to introduce this important Bill. Thank you in advance for your support of the arts, arts education and the Hawaii State Art Museum.

Sincerely,

Melly E. Wilson  
[mellyewilson@gmail.com](mailto:mellyewilson@gmail.com)  
808-282-5548

**Hawaii State Art Museum  
Capital Improvement Projects Bill  
Senate Bill 2583**

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 4, 2008

FROM: Ruth A. Johnson

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: Tuesday, February 5, 2008, at 1:15 pm. in Conference Room  
224

My name is Ruth A. Johnson and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.

I am a retired public school elementary teacher and I know how important art is to children. If this building would be dedicated to the arts, art education programs for public school children could be a part of the regular program of the museum. These programs take space. At one time the Honolulu Academy of Arts conducted these programs, but as the demand grew, it became almost impossible for every child to be exposed to the museum even once in their elementary career. Having these programs at the state museum would give children the opportunity to view the work of Hawaii artists as well as experience art lessons at the museum.

I have been editor of the Windward Artists Guild newsletter for the past four years. I know how difficult it is for Hawaii artists to find venues to show their work. If the museum had more space, they could show more of the purchased work that is currently in storage. They also could offer an annual exhibition similar to the Artists of Hawaii exhibition that has been conducted, but is now discontinued, by Honolulu Academy of Arts. This was a very important exhibition for Hawaii artists that has now been discontinued.

I urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

**KENJO, INC.**

524 Kalihi Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
Ph. 841-8282 • Fax: 841-8221  
kenjoinc@aloha.net

To: **Senator Carol Fukunag, Chair  
and Members of the EDT Committee  
Fax: 586-6251**

Fr: **Sidney Lynch  
President  
Hawaii Potters' Guild  
Hawaii Hand Weaver's Hui**

Re: **Senate Bill 2583  
Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation No. 1 Capitol District Kamamalu Building  
TO BE HEARD: February 5 at 1:15 pm. In Conference Room 224**

Dear Sir:

February 4, 2008

My name is Sidney Lynch and I am in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 2583. Thank you.



**In support of Senate Bill 2583  
Hawaii State Art Museum  
Capital Improvement Projects Bill**

**TO:** Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

**DATE:** February 4, 2008

**FROM:** The Rev. Dr. Donald K. Johnson, past president of the Windward Artists Guild

**RE:** Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

**TO BE HEARD:** Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 224

My name is Donald K. Johnson and I am 100% in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.

After this hearing walk across to Capital District #1 and view the artwork by Hawaii's middle and high school youth now on display. It is awesome, creative beautiful, but crammed three and four pictures deep into a back corner of the Hawaii State Art Museum. Many of the pieces will go on to represent Hawaii in National competitions. To get to The 45<sup>th</sup> Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Award 2008 display you must walk through a tiny portion of the thousands of fine works by Hawaii's artists that are packed away out of sight because there is not enough room to adequately display our fine collection. HiSam could much better bless Hawaii's people by having all of Capital #1 building for their use.

What great civilization, ethnic group, or country is not known by its arts? What is Hawaii without hula and slack key? Yet "No child left behind" is squeezing music, drama, and graphic arts from the public school curriculum. When there is less and less public education money for the arts, HiSam needs to step in with teaching space, theater space, more display space and adequate staff to serve the needs of Hawaii's people so that they can learn and be touched and inspired by the arts. Emperors, kings and barons once sponsored and patronized the great artist's whose works we still appreciate, in a democracy such encouragement needs to be egalitarian and nurtured through wise governance. Please support SB 25 83.

The Windward Artists Guild, organized in 1960 regularly sponsored an Easter Arts Festival at Ala Moana Center. That venue has long since closed because of commercial pressures. At one time the new AMFAC building, in order to get a special variance, agreed to dedicate a large beautiful space on the ground floor as a public art venue. Some how that space is again lost to organizations like WAG due to commercial pressure. Now the Art Academy is squeezing down it Artists of Hawaii venue, again making it difficult for the emerging artists of Hawaii to have a place to show their work. The Windward Artists Guild, many of whose artists are represented in Hawaii's art museums, is a non profit volunteer organization and these days at best finds meager places to display its work, though we have few starving artists because most have other jobs to pay their bills. What they lack is a place for the public to be inspired by their creations. HiSam needs a space like that of the Art Academy at Linekona for local organizations to constantly put before our Hawaii citizens the creative arts of our people.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 2583.

Testimony before the Senate Committee on  
Economic Development & Taxation

S.B. 2583 Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building  
Tuesday, February 5, 2008  
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 224

By Peter Rosegg  
Oahu Commissioner  
Hawaii State Foundation on Culture & the Arts

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero and members of the committee

My name is Peter Rosegg and I am a commissioner for Oahu on the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture & the Arts and I am the chair of the committee of the commission which oversees the Arts in Public Places program and the Hawaii State Art Museum.

S.B. 2583 requests funds to renovate the Kamamalu Building so that the No. 1 State Capitol District Building can be used exclusively for the Hawaii State Art Museum.

I am in strong support of this bill and urge you to give it your approval. First, the Kamamalu Building has long stood empty, of no service to the people of Hawaii. It occupies prime real estate downtown, close to the business community, many government agencies and the Capitol.

Second, the Hawaii State Art Museum has shown itself to be a valuable part of the downtown scene and important to the cultural and arts community and of interest to many visitors who come to Hawaii to enjoy its cultural offerings. With more space it could do more, offering a real culture and arts center houses diverse activities that would benefit the Hawaii community and draw visitors to downtown and its many cultural and historic attractions.

The first step in making this happen, clearly, is to renovate Kamamalu so agencies can begin the process of moving out of the No. 1 State Capitol District Building and so the Hawaii State Art Museum can begin its expansion. It will not all happen at once, but your support is essential to beginning the process.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the  
Committee/EDT Committee  
DATE: February 4, 2008  
FROM: Herb Conley  
RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural  
District; Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu  
Building

TO BE HEARD: Tuesday February 5, 2008 in Conference Room 224

I am writing in support of SB 2583. I currently serve as President of the Friends of the Hawaii State Art Museum.

I believe there are four important reasons to enact this bill.

1. The potential economic and cultural benefit to the State of Hawaii. We have the ability to brand Hawaii as an art destination for visitors. They can learn from, enjoy and acquire world class art from artists of Hawaii. Many of our artists are collected by the finest museums in the United States. The Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Whitney Museum in New York, and the Yale University Art Gallery in New Haven, all have artists from Hawaii in their collections. The present size of our museum is not large enough to create a brand for the Hawaii artists community and to create another visitor industry. The state also owns many pieces now in storage that could easily be displayed in an expanded museum. The Hawaii art industry is vibrant and alive. The state has an opportunity to create a venue to take advantage of something that is already here and only needs to be exposed and branded to add another reason for tourists to come to Hawaii and learn about our culture and add to our economic base.

2. There is nominal cost to create this new visitor industry brand compared to creating the infrastructure for potential new industries. The state already owns all the real estate and art needed to create the expanded museum. Our 1% art law enables the state to acquire many more pieces than can be shown through the Art in Public Places program and the museum. In fact showing this art collection was the original basis for the Museum. Now we have the opportunity to show many more works in a building we already own and to move non-museum departments to another building we currently own.

3. The educational value of an expanded museum to the people of Hawaii and our visitors. A larger museum has the ability to tell the history and evolution of Hawaii through the eyes of our artists. They not only portray their views of our incredible natural beauty, but they tell the story of our changing society. An expanded museum would enable us to tell a more complete story to demonstrate our unique culture.

4. The ability to keep our best and brightest artists in the islands. With a branded art industry, our artists would not need to move to the mainland to support themselves in their chosen career. Our artists could pursue their creative talents while staying in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



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Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
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[www.louispohlgallery.com](http://www.louispohlgallery.com)

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 2, 2008

FROM: Sandra Pohl, Louis Pohl Foundation and Gallery

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: **Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.**  
**in Conference Room 224.**

My name is Sandra Pohl and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583. I manage the Louis Pohl Gallery located in the arts district downtown 3 blocks from HISAM. I also am a supporter of the Hawaii State Foundation Culture and the Arts's Art in Public Places program and Hawaii State Art Museum (HISAM).

I fully support funding the appropriation for renovation of the Kamamalu building to establish the The Capitol District Building as the art museum. The HISAM is a destination location for tourist and residents. It showcases our best. Our art collection showcases the high quality and the standard for Hawaii fine art. The fine art displays our collective soul as only contemporary fine art does. it is what we as a people value. It provides good education for our people, our youth to see and to stand proud of the work that is our own.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



RUSS K. SAITO  
Comptroller

BARBARA A. ANNIS  
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING  
AND GENERAL SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 119  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

**LATE TESTIMONY**

TESTIMONY  
OF  
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION  
ON  
February 5, 2008

S.B. 2583

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII CAPITAL CULTURAL  
DISTRICT

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 2583.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) opposes this bill because it is premature. Current estimates for renovating the Kamamalu Building exceed \$30 million. As a result DAGS is undertaking a review of the project. DAGS hopes to look at alternatives to renovating the building and hopes to have a recommended course of action by the 2009 Legislative Session.

It may be uneconomical and impractical to renovate the Kamamalu Building for State use, and transferring it to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts is a decision that cannot be made at this time.

DAGS recommends that this bill be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



# SAMPLE TESTIMONY FORMAT.

[NOTE: Insert the specific information when available] **LATE TESTIMONY**

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: Feb.4,2008

FROM Julie Peterson

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: [DAY, DATE, TIME] in Conference Room [Number]

My name is Julie Peterson and I am in SUPPORT of  
Senate Bill 2583.

## [DISCUSSION]

The Hawaii State art collection is FABULOUS and deserves to be seen in its entirety  
Please pass Senate Bill 2583. As an artist living on Maui, I recently enjoyed the  
collection (what was open at that time). Everyone in this state deserves to view the  
collection.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

**In support of Senate Bill 2583  
Hawaii State Art Museum  
Capital Improvement Projects Bill**

**LATE TESTIMONY**

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: February 4, 2008

FROM: The Rev. Dr. Donald K. Johnson, past president of the Windward Artists Guild

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 224

My name is Donald K. Johnson and I am 100% in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.

After this hearing walk across to Capital District #1 and view the artwork by Hawaii's middle and high school youth now on display. It is awesome, creative beautiful, but crammed three and four pictures deep into a back corner of the Hawaii State Art Museum. Many of the pieces will go on to represent Hawaii in National competitions. To get to The 45<sup>th</sup> Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art Award 2008 display you must walk through a tiny portion of the thousands of fine works by Hawaii's artists that are packed away out of sight because there is not enough room to adequately display our fine collection. HiSam could much better bless Hawaii's people by having all of Capital #1 building for their use.

What great civilization, ethnic group, or country is not known by its arts? What is Hawaii without hula and slack key? Yet "No child left behind" is squeezing music, drama, and graphic arts from the public school curriculum. When there is less and less public education money for the arts, HiSam needs to step in with teaching space, theater space, more display space and adequate staff to serve the needs of Hawaii's people so that they can learn and be touched and inspired by the arts. Emperors, kings and barons once sponsored and patronized the great artist's whose works we still appreciate, in a democracy such encouragement needs to be egalitarian and nurtured through wise governance. Please support SB 25 83.

The Windward Artists Guild, organized in 1960 regularly sponsored an Easter Arts Festival at Ala Moana Center. That venue has long since closed because of commercial pressures. At one time the new AMFAC building, in order to get a special variance, agreed to dedicate a large beautiful space on the ground floor as a public art venue. Some how that space is again lost to organizations like WAG due to commercial pressure. Now the Art Academy is squeezing down it Artists of Hawaii venue, again making it difficult for the emerging artists of Hawaii to have a place to show their work. The Windward Artists Guild, many of whose artists are represented in Hawaii's art museums, is a non profit volunteer organization and these days at best finds meager places to display its work, though we have few starving artists because most have other jobs to pay their bills. What they lack is a place for the public to be inspired by their creations. HiSam needs a space like that of the Art Academy at Linekona for local organizations to constantly put before our Hawaii citizens the creative arts of our people.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 2583.

# LATE TESTIMONY

TO: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, and Members of the Committee  
EDT Committee

DATE: Feb. 4, 2008

FROM: Jimie Ramos

RE: Senate Bill 2583, Relating to the Hawaii Capitol Cultural District;  
Appropriation; No. 1 Capitol District; Kamamalu Building

TO BE HEARD: [DAY, DATE, TIME] in Conference Room [Number]

My name is Jimie Ramos and I am in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2583.  
[DISCUSSION]

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

# LATE TESTIMONY

## Senate Bill 2583

Susan Miyao, President, IASH

Dear Ms. Miyao,

We are living in a very meaningful time here in Hawaii. Through the Native Arts Movement we are able to convey very significant messages and bring a unified mind and heart to the greater all.

When you study the history of cultures there is always a period of time after a shift of power when, only through the arts, the vision and pulse is shared.

I support Senate Bill 2583 and look forward to contributing artwork from our Maui hui of native artists.

Please keep us up to date on the life of this bill.

Thank you,

Sarai Lokahia Stricklin

Hawaii Loa Records

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