

MAR 25 2008

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

March 27, 2008

SCR 225



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Governor

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Comptroller

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RONALD K. YAMAKAWA
Executive Director

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on SCR 225.

If funding priorities would allow, HiSAM would continue to develop beyond the founding vision for the museum. Additional requirements include space for ongoing workshops, docent training, and completion of the Visitor's Center. Storage areas for the café and gift shop would also be secured and staffing needed for more programming and facilities management would be added.

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

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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. This objective is prioritized in our agency's current strategic plan and will continue to be prominent in our next strategic plan that takes effect in July 2008.

We agree with the intent of SCR 225 in that an assessment of and plan for the growth of the museum is in order. Due to the State's economic condition, however, there is concern as to whether the work of the task force can be conducted without an appropriation and the SFCA does not have available funds in its budget to finance an entity established for this purpose. Therefore, the SFCA suggests that a revised resolution be considered that simply recommends allocating space to the museum and the SFCA as other agencies vacate the No. 1 Capitol District Building.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

THE SENATE
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE,
2008

STATE OF HAWAII

S.C.R. NO.

225

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RELATING TO A PLAN FOR THE GROWTH AND EXPANSION
OF THE HAWAII STATE ART MUSEUM IN THE HAWAII
CAPITAL CULTURAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) was established in 1965 as the official state arts agency of Hawai'i to receive federal funds appropriated by the U. S. Congress through the National Endowment for the Arts, to support culture and the arts; and

WHEREAS, the SFCA's Art in Public Places Program, founded in 1967 with the passage of the Percent for Art Law, the first such law in the nation, is an exemplary model and serves thousands of government employees, the general public and visitors throughout the state by enhancing the built environment with site-specific commissioned works of art and relocatable works of art of its *museum without walls* program; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Art Museum was established in 2004 in Chapter 9, HRS to create, display and maintain the Hawai'i state art collection as envisioned in the Warnecke Plan, or the Hawai'i State Capitol Civic Center Master Plan that was approved by Governor Burns and Mayor Blaisdell in

1968 to develop the Capitol District as a cultural center as well as the seat of State government; and

WHEREAS, the museum's amenities include a visitor's center to further cultural tourism in the Hawai'i Capital Cultural District and the museum itself is growing increasingly important as a cultural destination for visitors; and

WHEREAS, the museum's programs educate Hawaii's youth and promote the Hawai'i Capital Cultural District as being vital to Hawaii's historical and cultural legacy; and

WHEREAS, staffing and programming for the museum in 2008 have reached capacity in the current space available in the No. 1 Capitol District Building; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2008, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body hereby acknowledges that the work of the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts in supporting arts and culture has been vital to the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i; and that the Hawai'i State Art Museum furthers the work of the foundation through its programs, services, and vibrant exhibitions of the Hawai'i State Art Collection. And, in recognition of the need to ensure the future growth and development of the Hawai'i State Art Museum and the proliferation of arts and culture for the people of Hawai'i; be it resolved that as agencies move from the No. 1 Capitol District Building, the vacated space shall be assigned to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the Hawai'i State Art Museum for the future growth and development of these entities. And, that the building will be renamed "The Hawai'i State Art Museum" at such time when the foundation and museum occupy the majority of square footage in the building.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Department of Accounting and General Services, and the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

OFFERED
