



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

TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCE
ON
February 27, 2009
H.B. 381, H.D. 1

RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII ENDOWMENT FUND

Chair Oshiro and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 381, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports this bill.

The State of Hawaii endowment fund was established so that the income and capital gains from it could be used "for the production of music by an Oahu-based symphony orchestra; provided that the funds appropriated in this section are matched, dollar-for-dollar, by private funds or pledges pursuant to section 40-88, Hawaii Revised Statutes". H.B. 381, H.D. 1, provides that "all pledges or portions of pledges not matched by actual payment of such pledges by February 23, 2013, shall revert to the general fund". This appears reasonable and prudent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Testimony of Kimberly Miyazawa Frank
First Vice-Chair, Honolulu Symphony Society Board of Directors

For a hearing by the
House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Friday, February 27, 2009
3:00 p.m. – Room 308

H.B. 381 H.D. 1: RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII ENDOWMENT FUND

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee, and esteemed members of the House Committee on Finance, as First Vice-Chair of the Honolulu Symphony Society's Board of Directors, I would like to submit this testimony in support of H.B. 381 H.D. 1 extending the lapse date of unmatched funding to the State of Hawaii Endowment Fund from June 30, 2009 to February 28, 2013.

As a Board member, I am very proud to help uphold the Honolulu Symphony's mission to "enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawaii by sustaining a symphony orchestra of the highest artistic quality." The Symphony's 64 full-time and 20 per-service professional musicians enhance the quality of life in Hawaii whether in the concert hall, in the classroom or in the community. These talented artists serve as teachers, mentors, advisors and organizers of music education activities including classroom teaching, master classes, and recitals year-round.

The Symphony is making great strides in reaching out across our entire State and to rural communities on Oahu through programs such as neighbor island touring and the new year-long pilot music education pilot music education program at Nanakuli Elementary school.

The Symphony's presence in the community touches people from many walks of life and in an ever-increasing variety of locations around the Islands. In addition to its own programming, the Symphony's musicians provide the live orchestral services for the Hawaii Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawaii and the Honolulu Symphony Chorus productions, and have recently recorded a soundtrack for a full-length feature film shot here in the islands.

We extremely grateful to the members of our Hawaii State Legislature who, through the approval of Act 97, SLH 2006 appropriated \$4,000,000 from the State to be deposited to the Hawaii State Endowment Fund for the long-term support and benefit of the Honolulu Symphony, and further through the approval of Act 156, SLH 2007, allowed pledges to be qualified as matching funds for the \$4,000,000 appropriation.

We support H.B. 381 H.D. 1, which once again demonstrates a true commitment from our state lawmakers in these difficult economic times to support the Honolulu Symphony and honor the intent of Act97/Act156 by extending the date at which all monies must be matched by payment from June 2009 to February 28, 1013.

Thank you for investing in the future of Hawaii in this way, and thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

With Aloha,

Kimberly Miyazawa Frank
First Vice-Chair
Honolulu Symphony Board of Directors



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February 27, 2009

House Committee on Finance
Chair, Rep. Oshiro
Vice Chair, Rep. Lee
Hawaii State Capitol

3:00 p.m. – Room 308

Testimony in support of H.B. 381 H.D. 1
RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII ENDOWMENT FUND

My name is Steve Dinion; I have been a musician in the Honolulu Symphony since 1992, and I currently serve as Chair of the Honolulu Symphony Musicians. The Musicians strongly support the passage of House Bill 381, which would allow two more years to fully match the generous Endowment appropriation of \$4 million from the State Legislature. Once these Endowment funds are matched in June of 2013, it will be an important step toward a future of economic stability of the Honolulu Symphony, the oldest and largest performing arts organization in the state.

These difficult economic times have demanded patience and sacrifice from the artists in the orchestra, whose commitment to the institution - and the community which it serves - has been shown time and again. The State Legislature's enacting this Bill would show a similar desire to see the Honolulu Symphony exist and thrive for generations to come as we musicians continue to teach, perform, educate, and inspire music lovers young and old.

Mahalo for your consideration.



HONOLULU SYMPHONY

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Testimony of Thomas J. Gulick, Executive Director, Honolulu Symphony Society

For a hearing by the
House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Friday, February 27, 2009
3:00 p.m. – Room 308

H.B. 381 H.D. 1: RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII ENDOWMENT FUND

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee, and esteemed members of the House Committee on Finance, as Executive Director of the Honolulu Symphony Society, I would like to submit this testimony in support of H.B. 381 H.D. 1 which extends the lapse date of unmatched funding to the State of Hawaii Endowment Fund from June 30, 2009 to February 28, 2013.

The Honolulu Symphony is extremely grateful to the members of our Hawaii State Legislature who, through the approval of Act 97, SLH 2006 appropriated \$4,000,000 from the State to be deposited to the Hawaii State Endowment Fund for the long-term support and benefit of the Honolulu Symphony, and further through the approval of Act 156, SLH 2007, allowed pledges to be qualified as matching funds for the \$4,000,000 appropriation.

The approval of Act 97, SLH 2006 and Act 156, SLH 2007 show the belief of this body in the importance of a professional symphony orchestra for the citizens of Hawaii and its desire to support this endeavor directly.

We support H.B. 381 H.D. 1, which once again demonstrates a true commitment from our state lawmakers in these difficult economic times to support the Honolulu Symphony and honor the intent of Act97/Act156 by extending the date at which all monies must be matched by payment from June 2009 to February 28, 1013.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

With Aloha,

Thomas J. Gulick
Executive Director



The Honolulu Symphony is funded in part by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and the City and County of Honolulu. Honolulu Symphony, Founded 1900

www.HonoluluSymphony.com

Musicians' Association of Hawaii

LOCAL No. 677, American Federation of Musicians

BRIEN MATSON
President

WADE BUTIN
Vice President

MARSHA SCHWEITZER
Secretary-Treasurer



February 26, 2009

House Committee on Finance
Chair, Rep Oshiro
Vice Chair, Rep Lee
Hawaii State Capitol

3:00 p.m. Room 308

Testimony in support of H.B. 381 H.D. 1
RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII ENDOWMENT FUND

I strongly support the passage of House Bill 381, which would allow two more years to fully match the Endowment appropriation of \$4 million given to the Honolulu Symphony Foundation by the Hawaii State Legislature.

Once these funds are matched in 2013, the economic stability and therefore future of the Honolulu Symphony will be much more secure.

Even in these difficult economic times, we should not turn our backs on the arts. The Honolulu Symphony is important to the lives of the residents of our state in ways that often go unnoticed. The Symphony Musicians are our children's music teachers, they are our children's mentors, and they provide real art to the community through their concerts, both Classical and Pops, through Opera concerts, and through Ballet productions, to name a few.

The State legislature's enacting this bill will help to ensure that this rich cultural and artistic aspect of our community thrives and flourishes, which will help to ensure that our society and our world thrives and flourishes.

Thank you for hearing my testimony,

Brien Matson
President, Musicians' Association of Hawaii, Local 677