

SB 2478

EDT



Local 665
HAWAII'S TECHNICIANS
for
FILM, TELEVISION, STAGE AND PROJECTION
Since 1937

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES, MOVING PICTURE TECHNICIANS, ARTISTS AND ALLIED CRAFTS
OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO, CLC

Date: February 2, 2010
Time: 1:30PM
Place: Conference Room 016

To:
Testimony for EDT 2/3/2010 1:30:00 PM SB2478
Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Donovan K. Ahuna
Organization: IATSE Local 665
Address: 875 Waimanu St. #610 Honolulu, HI. 96816
Phone: 808-596-0227
E-mail: BA@iatse665.org
Submitted on: 2/2/2010

Re: Testimony in Support SB2478

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee;

Aloha, I represent the Membership of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local 665 in the State of Hawaii, better known as the IA or IATSE. We are the professional technicians for these type of Broadway and Live/Theatrical Productions in Rigging, Lighting, Sound, Spot Operators just to name a few.

665 are in strong support of this bill as it will create more jobs for the people of Hawaii including my members of the IA.

Attach is support letters from Companies that has brought live/theatrical productions to Hawaii and how this SB2478 will help all at interest.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these statements.

Donovan K. Ahuna
Business Representative
IATSE Local 665
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(808)591-8213fax
(808)292-8709cell
BA@iatse665.org
www.iatse665.org



Donovan,

Thank you for the e-mail on SB 2478. I am responding to you to express my highest level of support for this bill as both a producer and presenter of live entertainment across the US and Canada.

Our company has presented touring shows in Honolulu for many years ranging from one night events with Bill Cosby and Jim Brickman to week long and multi week engagements for shows including CATS, Stomp and Cirque Dreams. Despite our relatively good results with these shows we find ourselves constrained in our efforts to grow our Honolulu business, including a long-term desire set up a formal Broadway in Honolulu series, by the high costs of transportation, local housing, local staffing and general expenses.

Even with the supportive efforts of the local stagehands union and facility managers touring engagements in Honolulu can cost anywhere from 15% to 50% more than on the mainland. In addition to this direct cost the transportation time involved often curtails our ability to have a normal week of performances prior to or following the Honolulu play.

With the kind of assistance SB 2478 is suggesting I am absolutely confident that we would increase the number of shows we present in Honolulu and we would seriously revisit the idea of building a Broadway in Honolulu series.

Shows we are currently working to try and bring to the Honolulu market that would receive a definite boost in their likelihood of occurring include a return of the musical CATS, a first run of Disney's Beauty and the Beast, a first run of the newest show by Blue Man Group, a first run of Riverdance, a return of the magician David Copperfield and a long run of the smash hit musical – Wicked. This is not publicly available information at this point but they are shows we are working to budget for Honolulu appearances and the assistance SB 2478 anticipates would greatly enhance my ability to bring these shows and all the positive impacts they bring to the community in terms of employment, theater utilization, local restaurant and hotel business and local marketing dollars.

Please let me know if there is anything else we can do to support this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Steve Boulay
COO - Tix Productions
President - NewSpace Entertainment
610 East South Temple, Suite 20
Salt Lake City, UT 84102
direct 801-703-2045 cell 801-870-0931
www.newspaceentertainment.com

Testimony for EDT 2/3/2010 1:30:00 PM SB2478

Conference room: 016

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Jack Lucas

Organization: WestCoast Entertainment

Address: 201 W Northriver Drive, Suite 100 Spokane, WA 99201

Phone: 509-459-6106

E-mail: jack.lucas@ticketswest.com

Submitted on: 2/2/2010

Comments:

On behalf of WestCoast Entertainment, I whole heartedly support this bill. As the company of record that presented the State of Hawaii with the production of Disney's the Lion King, Sept 15 - Dec 9, 2007, this bill, if passed, will be a definite incentive for me to be able to provide more quality theatrical entertainment to the State of Hawaii. IATSC Local 665, based in Honolulu, provided major assistance in the presentation of Lion King, because of their superior quality of qualified labor. Also, the City of Honolulu, with a terrific performing arts center, in the Blaisdell Hall, and a great staff, made the project sensational. I look forward to bringing other major Broadway musicals to the State of Hawaii. The assistance this bill will provide will be an incentive for me to move forward and help assist to make the State of Hawaii a must stop for all major entertainment productions. Respectfully submitted, Jack G. Lucas President WestCoast Entertainment and TicketsWest Vice President Red Lion Hotels Corporation 201 W Northriver Drive Spokane, WA. 99201 509 459 6106

Jack G. Lucas

President

TicketsWest and

WestCoast Entertainment

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Henry Akina
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Mobile 1 (808) 216 6550
February 4, 2010

In support of Bill Nr. SB2478

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of Hawaii Opera Theatre, I whole heartedly support this bill. As the company of record that presented the State of Hawaii with the production of Don Carlo and many other operas, this bill, if passed, will be a definite incentive for our company to be able to provide more quality operatic entertainment to the State of Hawaii.

IATSE Local 665, based in Honolulu, has provided major assistance in the presentation of our productions, because of their superior quality of qualified labor. Also, the City of Honolulu, with a terrific performing arts center, in the Blaisdell Hall, and a great staff, made projects sensational. I look forward to continuing to produce quality productions of opera in Hawaii.

The assistance this bill will provide will be an incentive for our company to move forward and help assist to make the State of Hawaii a major city for all major entertainment productions.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Akina

**Our 2010 Season celebrating the 50th anniversary of
Hawaii Opera Theatre:**

The Marriage of Figaro- Mozart

Die Walkuere-Wagner

La Boheme-Puccini

at the Neal s. Blaisdell Concert Hall beginning January 29, 2010.

A Tom Moffatt Production

The Penthouse 1232 Waimanu Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone (808) 593-8333 Fax (808) 591-8444

February 2, 2010

Members of the Hawaii State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: State Bill 2478

Dear Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I write to you today to urge you to vote in favor of State Bill 2478, which would provide a tax credit for the investment, transportation expenditures, and certain payroll costs associated with live musical or theatrical productions or theatrical facility infrastructure projects. This bill would positively affect Hawaii residents working in the theater and music industry such as the several hundred members of the IATSE local 665 labor union by providing them more opportunity for work as well as theatrical facilities such as the Hawaii Theatre and Maui Arts & Cultural Center which are non-profit organizations both attempting to renovate their venues.

The live music and performing arts industry has experienced phenomenal growth around the world in the past decade. Box office records are broken every year. Pollstar, a leading industry publication, estimates that box office sales in 2009 hit an estimated \$4.6 billion dollars in the United States alone, a record high. The growth in the industry has spurred two effects:

- 1) An increase in the costs of producing these events
- 2) An increase in competition by cities to attract these events which in turn has spurred modernization of facilities around the world

This bill is positive for the State because it will:

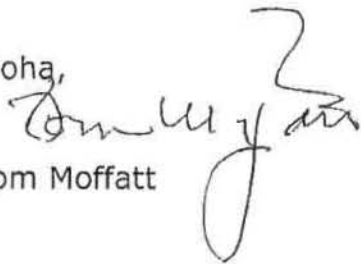
- 1) Attract more events which will in turn provide more work for Hawaii residents working in the industry
- 2) Assist and encourage the facilities of Hawaii to update and modernize their venues
- 3) Increase business for other industry sectors such as tourism and construction
- 4) Ultimately increase tax revenue with the increase in overall business to the State

This bill helps Hawaii to become more competitive on the national and world stage in one of the hottest growing industries today. It also helps Hawaii businesses and residents to continue to thrive and operate in this very competitive and uncertain climate. As an individual who has represented Hawaii in the entertainment industry and supported Hawaii's live musical and theatrical arts for over fifty years, I strongly endorse this bill and encourage you to vote in favor of State Bill 2478.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Aloha,

Tom Moffatt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Moffatt", with a large, stylized flourish extending upwards and to the right.

fukunaga3 - Doris

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2010 4:48 PM
To: EDTTestimony
Cc: bdshafer@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2478 on 2/3/2010 1:30:00 PM
Attachments: SB2478 Live Musical and Theatrical.doc

Testimony for EDT 2/3/2010 1:30:00 PM SB2478

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Benjamin Shafer
Organization: Individual
Address: 52.210 Kamehameha Hwy Hauula
Phone: 808.222.3138
E-mail: bdshafer@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2010

Comments:

Aloha Kakou Chairwomen Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chairwomen Rosalyn Baker and members of the State Senate Economic Development and Technology Committee;

First I would like to express my gratitude for Senator Brickwood Guluteria for introducing SB 2478, and all those who signed on to SB Bill 2478. They include Senators Bunda, Chun-Oakland, English, Espero, Fukunaga, Hee, Ige, Ihara, Kidani, Kokubun, Sakamoto and Slom. It is well designed and crafted bill.

I am member of IATSE, Local 665 in Honolulu, and the Union behind entertainment. I fully support this measure. Although I do not speak on behalf of our 400 + members and over 200 + referrals, I believe this will help our members support their families today and into the future.

SB 2478 introduces Hawaii as a venue that welcomes live musical and theatrical productions. Senate Bill 2478 will open up the door that has never been opened.

A major productions cost is that of transportation. Senate Bill 2478 will level the playing field. Why should we fly to Broadway or Las Vegas when the shows can come to Hawaii, employ our local talent on and off stage?

This bill allows our keiki o' ka aina who I think are the most talented artistically, culturally, musically and technically to train right here at home. These are good paying jobs in good environments' with opportunities for growth. Most keiki's would never make that trip to the U.S Continent. Senate Bill 2478 should help level that playing field.

Hawaii being the center of the Pacific Rim should be the Broadway of the Pacific Rim. Those wanting to visit Hawaii will have even more reasons to visit these beautiful islands

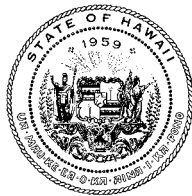
Let SB2478 become a reality this session. Let us not wait for a better time. This is the best time to build our economy with positive changes looking forward to the future in this dynamic industry.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

A hui ho e malama pono,

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR



KURT KAWAFUCHI
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

STANLEY SHIRAKI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
P.O. BOX 259
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY
TESTIMONY REGARDING SB 2478
RELATING TO TAXATION**

*****WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY*****

TESTIFIER: KURT KAWAFUCHI, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE)
DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 201
TIME: 1:30PM
ROOM: 016

This measure provides a tax credit for live theatrical and music performances in Hawaii.

The Department of Taxation (Department) **opposes** this measure because it is **outside the budget priorities this legislative session.**

The Department cannot support the tax provision in this measure because it is not factored into the budget. The Department must be cognizant of the biennium budget and financial plan. This measure has not been factored into either. Given the forecasted decrease in revenue projections, this measure would add to the budget shortfall.

The Department simply cannot support this tax credit given the other more important competing priorities for general fund revenues.

This measure will result in a revenue loss of \$60 million per year due to its cap.

fukunaga3 - Doris

From: Brenda Baker
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 8:47 AM
To: EDTTestimony
Subject: FW: Testimony: SB2478 - musical or theatrical production

ATTN: EDT Committee Clerk

Attached is the testimony from Mr. Shep Gordon in support of SB2478 for today's hearing. Please acknowledge receipt by return e-mail.

ALOHA,

I have spent the last 40 years in the entertainment business and have been a resident of maui for the last 32 years. Some of my activities in the entertainment world include promoting the ROLLING STONES, MICHEAL JACKSON, and the EAGLES at ALOHA STADIUM...as well as presenting HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA and AEROSMITH in maui. These events brought maybe tourists to hawaii fro the mainland and particularly asia. They also provided the opportunity for the youth of hawaii to see these acts without travelling to the mainland. As you all know these events are far and few between because of the expenses associated with productions so far from other land masses. In the case of movies, tax incentives have helped to preserve and grow the industry and with it many jobs and great consumer awareness of the beauty of hawaii. This legislation is necessary to keep Hawaii competitive with other states...thank you for considering this...shep gordon