



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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GOVERNOR

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INTERIM DIRECTOR

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Statement of  
**RICHARD C. LIM**  
Interim Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
Tuesday, March 1, 2011  
11:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of  
**HB 986 HD1**  
**RELATING TO TELEVISION AND FILM PRODUCITON.**

Chair Oshiro, Vice Lee, and members of the Committee. DBEDT strongly supports HB986 HD1. We appreciate this measure which allows the department to establish a surcharge for all film permits processed and deposit the surcharges into the Hawaii Film and Television Special Fund for use by the Creative Industries Division (CID).

The CID has had drastic reductions in this past fiscal year, losing fifty percent of its funding and staff. This bill assists the CID and its Hawaii Film Office to generate an additional revenue stream that can then be used for operations, including repairs and maintenance of the Hawaii Film Studio and programs that accelerate the growth and sustainability of Hawaii's creative sectors.

The department appreciates that HB 986 HD1 includes additional sources of potential revenue for the Hawaii Television and Film Development Special Fund including deposit of revenues received from the rental of the Hawaii Film Studio, film permit violation fees assessed by the department, and fees for processing tax incentive applications (HRS235-17). The measure

also allows for the DBEDT director to designate the use of these funds, which will enable the CID and the Hawaii Film Office to expend funds as the Hawaii Film and Television Board has been inactive for many years.

We request the committee amend the current appropriation language, in Section 4, for the Hawaii Television and Film Development Fund in order for the department to expend funds in Fiscal year 2011-2012:

*There is appropriated out of Hawaii Television and Film Development special fund the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to be expended for the purposes of §201-113, Hawaii Revised Statutes.*

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

# HAWAII FILM & ENTERTAINMENT BOARD



*Brenda Ching, Chair*  
*Screen Actors Guild*

*Chris Conybeare, Esq.*

*Walea Constantinou*  
*Honolulu Film Office*

*Henry Fordham*  
*I.A.T.S.E., Local 665*

*Dana Hankins*  
*Independent Producer*

*Jeanne Ishikawa*  
*Teamsters, Local 996*

*Stephan Kato*  
*H.I.F.A.*

*John Mason*  
*Big Island Film Office*

*Brien Matson*  
*A.F.M., Local 677*

*David Rosen*  
*A.I.C.P.*

*Brianne Savage*  
*Maui Film Commission*

*Georja Skinner*  
*DBEDT, Creative*  
*Industries Division*

*Jason Suapaia*  
*F.A.V.A.H.*

*Art Umezu*  
*Kauai Film Commission*

*Randall Young*  
*I.B.E.W., Local 1260*

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

March 1, 2011 – 11:00 am -- State Capitol, Conference Room 308

RE: HB 986 HD1 -- RELATING TO TELEVISION AND FILM PRODUCTION

Dear Chair Oshiro and Vice-chair Lee, and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Film and Entertainment Board, whose members include all of the film industry labor unions, associations and film commissions, **supports the intent of the measure**, to find monies for the Creative Industries Division and specifically the film program to operate, **but has some concerns** and offers these additional comments.

We **support** the portion of the measure that allows the Hawaii Film Office / CID to **collect the monies paid for the Hawaii Film Studio into a special fund to help offset the cost and maintenance of the facility as well as Hawaii Film Office operations**. Additionally, we support the portion of the measure that seeks to **create a nominal application fee for applying for Act 88 and that those monies be placed in the same special fund as the film studio revenues**.

We do have concerns however with Section 201-14 (i) that seeks to mandate that the film office charge a fee for each permit issued despite the fact that many permits issued already have departmental fee attached to them. This would amount to a double-fee system that we do not believe is the intent. We offer the following as suggested language to clean up this portion of the bill (page 3, line 11-12)

Current language:

~~“(i) The department shall establish and collect a surcharge of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on each film permit application it processes.”~~

“(i) The department shall have the latitude to establish and collect nominal fees for the processing of film permit requests that do not have fees assigned to them from other state agencies.”

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments

Sincerely,

Brenda Ching,  
Chair

**TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM G. MEYER, III**

HEARING DATE/TIME: Tuesday, March 1, 2011  
11:00 a.m. in Conference Room 308

TO: House Committee on Finance

RE: **Testimony in Support of HB986 HD1**

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee Members:

My name is William G. Meyer, III. I am an intellectual property and entertainment attorney who has been practicing law in Honolulu for over 30 years. Among others, I represent both locally based and national and international motion picture and television production companies.

I support the letter, spirit and intent of HB986, HD1.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ William G. Meyer, III**

William G. Meyer, III

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**ent:** Saturday, February 26, 2011 6:52 AM  
**fo:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB986 on 3/1/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/1/2011 11:00:00 AM HB986

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: gregory swartz  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/26/2011

**Comments:**

Given the current dire economic condition facing the State of Hawaii and its counties, this bill is ill-advised. All revenues should go to the general fund particularly when you consider the terrible waste of taxpayer money on film tax credits.