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MINORITY LEADER

## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 2, 2012

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CHIEF CLERK  
CAROL TANIGUCHI

Mr. Michael Moore

Re: Nomination to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission  
GM 877

Dear Mr. Moore:

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission. To assist the Senate with its confirmation process, I request that the following information be submitted to my office by **Monday, April 9, 2012**:

- (1) A resume with a list of references
- (2) A written statement that addresses the following questions:
  - (a) Why do you wish to be a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?
  - (b) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? During the past five years, State Foundation on Culture and Arts' funding and operations were severely curtailed. What recommendations do you have for State Foundation on Culture and Arts and other agencies to address funding shortfalls?

Enclosed for your information is SCR 57 SD 1, which proposes new partnerships to enhance future growth of State Hawaii Foundation on Culture and Arts.
  - (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.
  - (d) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

- (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?
- (f) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?
- (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Your prompt response in providing the above information will ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner. The committee is scheduling your confirmation hearing on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 1:15pm in Conference Room 016. Please contact Doris Lam or Ashley Advincula, EDT Committee Clerk at 586-6890 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Senate Economic Development Committee

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO  
ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS  
REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PLACEMENT OF THE STATE  
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS.

1           WHEREAS, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts was  
2 established by Act 269, Session Laws of Hawaii 1965, as a  
3 temporary agency and placed within the Office of the Governor;  
4 and

5  
6           WHEREAS, Act 192, Session Laws of Hawaii 1970, established  
7 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts on a permanent  
8 basis, placed within the Department of Budget and Finance; and

9  
10          WHEREAS, Act 302, Session Laws of Hawaii 1980, transferred  
11 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts from the Department  
12 of Budget and Finance to the Department of Accounting and  
13 General Services; and

14  
15          WHEREAS, since the inception of the State Foundation on  
16 Culture and the Arts in 1965, the Legislature has charged the  
17 State Foundation on Culture and the Arts with the task of  
18 stimulating, guiding, and promoting culture, arts, history, and  
19 the humanities throughout the State; and

20  
21          WHEREAS, across the country, state arts agencies have  
22 evolved to remain relevant, vibrant, and able to play a  
23 significant, if not the central role, in promoting culture and  
24 the arts in their respective communities; and

25  
26          WHEREAS, one means of achieving greater relevancy and  
27 assistance for Hawaii's arts and cultural communities would be a  
28 transfer of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts from  
29 the Department of Accounting and General Services to a  
30 department whose mission, assets, and purpose would provide



1 better opportunities for growth and expansion of the agency's  
2 purposes and functions; and

3

4 WHEREAS, such a transfer would provide an opportunity to  
5 evaluate achievements and best practices from other  
6 jurisdictions in refocusing the State Foundation on Culture and  
7 the Arts, as well as programs from other state agencies, to  
8 achieve a higher level of business development opportunities for  
9 cultural, heritage, and arts programs, as well as leveraging  
10 public-private partnerships for financing Hawaii's cultural,  
11 heritage, and arts programs; and

12

13 WHEREAS, this would assist the State Foundation on Culture  
14 and the Arts ensure that the agency is relevant and responsive  
15 to its community needs and audiences as it strives to present  
16 all dynamic and diverse art forms in Hawaii; now, therefore,

17

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the  
20 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
21 Accounting and General Services is requested to establish a  
22 working group to develop recommendations regarding the  
23 administrative placement of the State Foundation on Culture and  
24 the Arts; and

25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations build upon  
27 the current mission of the State Foundation on Culture and the  
28 Arts and incorporate the following objectives:

29

30 (1) Leveraging public-private financing in support of  
31 visual arts, music, design, literature, theater, and  
32 dance to strengthen Hawaii's cultural sector with  
33 expanded funding and raise the grants funding capacity  
34 of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and  
35 its partners to levels of \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000  
36 annually;

37

38 (2) Developing a strategic plan to expand the capacity of  
39 Hawaii's cultural, heritage, and arts organizations to  
40 provide Hawaii residents and visitors with quality  
41 cultural experiences;

42



- 1 (3) Developing a sustainable funding model to support  
2 increased investment in cultural, heritage, and arts  
3 programming throughout the State;  
4
- 5 (4) Recommending changes to State Foundation on Culture  
6 and the Arts programs and infrastructure, including  
7 broadening the scope of the agency and renaming it, to  
8 further the effective implementation of the above-  
9 mentioned objectives; and  
10
- 11 (5) Collaborating with interested stakeholders from  
12 cultural, heritage, and arts agencies, including the  
13 Department of Business, Economic Development, and  
14 Tourism; Department of Land and Natural Resources;  
15 Hawaii Tourism Authority; Office of Hawaiian Affairs;  
16 and Bishop Museum; and  
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting  
19 and General Services report its findings and recommendations,  
20 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
21 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
22 of 2013; and  
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved  
25 on June 30, 2013; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller;  
29 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;  
30 Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the  
31 Arts; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources;  
32 Executive Director of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Chief  
33 Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and  
34 Director of the Bishop Museum.



March 10, 2012

Aloha Senator Fukunaga,

My name is Michael Moore.

I have been nominated by Governor Abercrombie to serve on the State Foundation for Cultural and the Arts Commission and am writing in response to your request for information.

For the past 25 years I have, along with Robert Aguiar and Tim Moore, owned and operated the Old Lahaina Luau and the Feast at Lele, two of the signature cultural entertainment venues in the state. Our vision has been to create entertainment and dining experiences that educate and enlighten at the same time. We also operate three successful and noted restaurants in the Lahaina area, Aloha Mixed Plate, Star Noodle and Leoda's Kitchen and Pie Shop.

I have had a passion for both performing and visual arts for my entire life, and am an active collector of local and Asian artists – including numerous works by Tadashi Sato and Satoru Abe, and have a growing collection of street and graffiti inspired work. I majored in Film and Broadcasting and have been involved with the USC Summer Film program here on Maui where we created short community documentaries on Moku'ula and the final harvest of the Pioneer Mill here in Lahaina.

As outlined on the attached resume, I have served on boards and committees of a variety of community and cultural organizations, including many years on the Board of Directors for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center and as a member of the Marketing Committee for the Center. I continue to serve on the Exhibits Committee for the Schaefer International Gallery. I have also been instrumental in organizing a number of community and fundraising events. Our annual benefit for the Maui Coastal Land Trust raises over \$100,000 in a single night. In April we will be sponsoring the first "Empty Bowl Project" on Maui with the Maui Organization of Ceramic Artists – a benefit for the Maui Food Bank that celebrates food, art, music and a good cause.

I believe that the arts and humanities are important contributors to the health of our local economies. From a visitor industry perspective, it is the unique culture that sets Hawaii apart from our competitor destinations. In our particular business, by employing hula dancers, musicians, kumu and cultural practitioners, we provide an economic incentive to continue traditional arts and practices. In the case of performing arts in general, this means staffing of venues and the skilled and technical trades, such as lighting technicians, costumer designers, and engineering professionals needed for productions. In addition, auxiliary businesses such as restaurants and retail shops also benefit from the attendees. Art and cultural events define our destination and our support of artists and cultural practitioners is not only pono, it makes sense from an economic view as well.

But beyond the direct benefit to our local economic health, arts education is critical to preparing the next generation for the industries of the future. There is no doubt that entire businesses built around innovation and design are part of the new economy, and it is imperative that we teach young people about creative thinking and the creative process in order to participate and succeed in careers that are not necessarily even directly in the arts. In addition, understanding humanities has tremendous value in having a clear understanding of the world both historically and sociologically and gives a context to one's work in whatever field one pursues.

I believe that I have unique qualifications and skills to bring to the Foundation from both a professional and personal standpoint. Serving on the commission would be a small tribute to my long friendship with Pundy Yokouchi, whose vision created the Foundation, and it would be an honor to represent the interests of Maui and to advocate for the advancements of the arts and arts education for Hawaii as a whole.

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

Mahalo,

**Michael Moore**

**RE: Nomination to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission GM877**

**Why do you wish to be a commissioner with the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?**

I have had a passion for both performing and visual arts for my entire life, and am an active collector of local and Asian artists – including numerous works by noted Hawaii artists, Tadashi Sato and Satoru Abe, and have a growing collection of street and graffiti inspired work. I majored in Film and Broadcasting and have been involved with the USC Summer Film program here on Maui where we created short community documentaries on the sacred site of Moku'ula and the final harvest of the Pioneer Mill here in Lahaina. I believe that arts and culture are essential to creating communities that are healthy, vibrant and economically sound. Whatever role one plays in our society, one is more informed and effective with an understanding of where we have come from and how creative expression enables us to better understand the world. It would be an honor and privilege to represent Maui on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

**How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? During the past five years, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts' funding and operations were severely curtailed. What recommendations do you have for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and other agencies to address funding shortfalls?**

As business owners for the past 25 years, we have grown our businesses through several wars, airline strikes as well as through the current economic conditions. The very nature of supporting creative arts enables us to create solutions as well – creative partnerships, creative venues, creative funding mechanisms. There is little doubt that it is hard work and will be challenging in these uncertain economic times. The “new normal” is working with what we have. Commissioners are charged with the duty of ensuring that citizens' money is spent responsibly based on informed decisions made with integrity and transparency. The most important role of a commissioner is that of an advocate for the inherent value of culture and the arts in a modern society that honors the past while moving forward.

**Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.**

I have served on boards and committees of a variety of community and cultural organizations, including many years on the Board of Directors for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center and as a member of the Marketing Committee for the Center. I continue to serve on the Exhibits Committee for the Schaefer International Gallery. I have also been instrumental in organizing a number of community and fundraising events. Our annual benefit for the Maui Coastal Land Trust raises over \$100,000 in a single night. In April we will be sponsoring the first “Empty Bowl Project” on Maui with the Maui Organization of Ceramic Artists – a benefit for the Maui Food Bank that celebrates food, art, music and a good cause.

My business partners and I operate an organization of six business entities, over 350 employees and \$24 million in annual sales. I believe my business experience in the visitor industry and specifically in the field of “cultural entertainment” gives me a unique perspective and understanding of both of the importance of the arts and the costs and challenges associated with presenting and supporting the arts.

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

I believe that the arts and humanities are important contributors to the health of our local economies. From a visitor industry perspective, it is the unique culture that sets Hawaii apart from our competitor destinations. In our particular business, by employing hula dancers, musicians, kumu and cultural practitioners, we provide an economic incentive to continue traditional arts and practices. In the case of performing arts in general, this means staffing of venues and the skilled and technical trades, such as lighting technicians, costumer designers, and engineering professionals needed for productions. In addition, auxiliary businesses such as restaurants and retail shops also benefit from the attendees. Art and cultural events define our destination and our support of artists and cultural practitioners is not only pono, it makes sense from an economic view as well.

But beyond the direct benefit to our local economic health, arts education is critical to preparing the next generation for the industries of the future. There is no doubt that entire businesses built around innovation and design are part of the new economy, and it is imperative that we teach young people about creative thinking and the creative process in order to participate and succeed in careers that are not necessarily even directly in the arts. In addition, understanding humanities has tremendous value in having a clear understanding of the world both historically and sociologically and gives a context to one's work in whatever field one pursues.

I would hope to play a part in ensuring that arts and culture are accessible to everyone regardless of economic, social or demographic constraints.

**Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?**

I believe I am determined, passionate and creative. I believe that these are qualities that benefit any organization or group.

**Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?**

My long friendship and admiration for the late, Pundy Yokouchi, whose vision for the arts and culture created the Foundation, has been a driving force in my desire to ensure that everyone, especially young people are exposed to arts and culture so that they can better understand the world we live in. Pundy and I shared a friendship with Tadashi Sato, in my opinion one of the truest artists I have known. These two "local guys" instilled in me a passion not just for art, but to find ways to make sure that art is accessible to all. We are all enriched as a community when the culture is perpetuated.

I have had numerous remarkable experiences at Film and Art Festivals around the country and the world. Each has raised my awareness and knowledge and furthered my commitment to support of the arts. In May I travel to Cuba for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Havana Biennale. I am looking forward to gaining a greater understanding for another isolated island culture – offering an extraordinary opportunity to compare and contrast with our island home here.

**Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? How could you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?**

I cannot foresee any conflicts of interests, and would certainly make sure that I removed myself from any decision making position should one arise.



**GM 877**

**Mr. Michael Moore**

State Foundation on Culture and the Arts  
Commission

**EDT**



## MAUI TOMORROW

Protecting Maui's Future

April 9, 2012

Chair Carol Fukunaga  
Committee on Economic Development and Technology  
Hawaii State Capitol

Aloha Chair Fukunaga,

I am submitting testimony today in favor of GM877, recommending Michael Moore to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Mr. Moore has been a friend and business associate for over twenty five years. As an owner of Old Lahaina Luau and other successful businesses on Maui, he has long encouraged and supported the traditional arts of our host culture.

Michael served on the board of directors for the Maui Arts & Cultural Center, Lahaina Restoration Foundation, and Maui Visitors Bureau for a number of years and regularly contributes to cultural efforts throughout the state.

I know Mr. Moore to be a man of integrity and a true patron of the arts. He would be an outstanding addition to this vital commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Irene Bowie". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, personal style.

Irene Bowie  
Executive Director