

No. 1 Capitol District Building 250 South Hotel Street Second Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

Governor Neil Abercrombie

Acting Comptroller Dean H. Seki

Chairperson Barbara Saromines-Ganne

Commissioners Sandra Albano Mary Begier Leonard Chow Teri Freitas Gorman Clifford Kapono Peter Rosegg Sheryl Searman

Executive Director Eva Laird Smith

Telephone 808,586,0305

Fax 808,586.0308

TT: 808.586,0740

Website http://state.hi.us/sfca/

TESTIMONY OF STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS ON February 13, 2012

H.B. 2297

Chair Wooley and members of the committee, I am Barbara Saromines-Ganne, Chair of the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and I would like to offer testimony on H. B. 2297.

I concur with our executive director that this bill would bring back music to Hawai'i in the form of orchestral performance, which our state needs. We in Hawai'i have a tradition of all forms of music, our own as well as music from around the world.

We loved the Honolulu Symphony and would love to help this effort, but we need to defer to the Department of Budget and Finance to be sure we are in compliance with the Endowment that established the symphony of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you.