

LATE TESTIMONY



HAWAII
STATE FOUNDATION ON
CULTURE and the ARTS

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

Governor
Neil Abercrombie

Acting Comptroller
Jan S. Gouveia

Chairperson
Barbara Saromines-Ganne

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

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 & THE ARTS
ON

February 4, 2012

H. B. 2435

Chair Wooley and members of the committee, I am Eva Laird Smith, executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) and I am pleased to offer testimony on H. B. 2435.

The State Foundation acknowledges the admirable intent of this legislation and welcomes the support arts and culture merit from government. The arts are intrinsically part of the well being of society and always the cornerstone of all great civilizations. Our agency maintains that an investment in the arts is not only assurance of quality in our lives and the lives of our children, but also shapes the beliefs and practices that constitute world diplomacy and cooperation between nations.

We are undertaking a new strategic plan in FY 2013, which directly impacts our federal partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The need to be placed in a supportive environment with stable if not improved funding will be evaluated when our federal funding is allocated.

Our Commission greatly regrets the funding, program, and staffing cuts that the agency and our communities experienced over the years. Losing 37% of our staffing in FY 2010 was particularly difficult.

In light of hard times, our Commission recommends that our approach to relocating the agency be carefully viewed in the context of who we are, the goals of our strategic plan, and what we hope to achieve in the future. Indeed, we are questioning what our legacy will be to the people of Hawai'i. From that perspective, we recommend that the Legislature consider partnering with us in examining the most appropriate solution that will be long lasting and as much as possible, beneficial to all.

We can simultaneously proceed to conduct a study that identifies where we should be situated. To implement such a study, 1) We can request research performed by a mutually neutral organization, such as the Western States Arts Federation, in which we are members, and/or 2) we can request that the Legislature appoint a committee to conduct the research. The findings of the study will be presented to the Legislature prior to the start of the 2013 session. We also request that our agency be represented or chair the committee charged with this study.

Our Commission is planning to introduce a resolution reflecting their perspectives and the aforementioned recommendations during this session.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you.

As the education director at Maui Arts & Cultural Center for the past 14 years and a former special education teacher on Maui, I am writing to ask your support for HB 2407, which will greatly improve education in Hawaii.

Maui Arts & Cultural Center and DOE, Maui District, have been partners in the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts program, Partners in Education, since 1995. We are one of the strongest teams of the 115 in the country. We have conducted our own research on how arts integration impacts student learning and teacher effectiveness, thanks to grants from The Kennedy Center and private donors. Maui has the only fully arts integrated public school in Hawaii, Pomaika'i Elementary in Kahului. Students, parents, grandparents, and teachers tell us they want more schools like this one. Teaching to the whole child is the only way that we are going to have productive, fulfilled, innovative citizens. This bill will be a huge step in that direction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susana Browne

AMENDED

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki
Acting Comptroller

Jan S. Gouveia
Deputy Comptroller

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

AMENDED TESTIMONY
OF
DEAN H. SEKI, ACTING COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
CULTURE & THE ARTS
ON
February 4, 2012

H.B. 2435

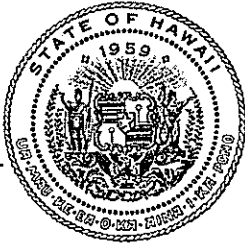
RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Chair Wooley and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2435.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports H.B. 2435.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts promotes, perpetuates, preserves, and encourages culture and the arts, history, and the humanities for the citizens of Hawaii. This mission is much closer aligned to the marketing efforts of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. In contrast, the Department of Accounting and General Services provides administrative support to executive branch departments and has a diverse group of attached agencies ranging from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to the Office of Elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



LATE TESTIMONY

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & THE ARTS
Saturday, February 4, 2012
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

in consideration of
HB 2435
RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS.

Chair Wooley, Vice-Chair Belatti, Members of the Committee on Culture & the Arts.

We strongly support HB 2435 which attaches the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) for administrative purposes. We believe such a move would enhance economic development opportunities for the agency as well as the department. We welcome the opportunity to dialogue with all stakeholders on this proposal to ensure alignment with both organizations' respective mandates.

DBEDT and its Creative Industries Division have worked collaboratively with SFCA, Friends of the Hawaii State Art Museum and other arts organizations to develop and implement programs such as "Live From the Lawn" events, which supports expansion of the arts experience, furthering economic development in the creative sectors and supporting cultural tourism.

Transferring SFCA from DAGS to DBEDT would enhance both organizations initiatives further promoting and attracting national and international attention for Hawaii's wealth of creative and cultural assets and industries.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.