
From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 7:23 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: toml@relativitymedia.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1550 on 3/1/2011 9:00:00 AM
Attachments: President_Clinton_Letter_HB_1551_SB_1550[1].pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: Green Category

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:00:00 AM SB1550

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Thomas Loftus
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: toml@relativitymedia.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:



WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

February 10, 2011

To Members of the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of Hawaii:

I have been asked to provide my personal support on behalf of HB 1551 (duplicate for SB 1550).

After reviewing the bill and working closely with Shangri-La, this is exactly the kind of credit, training program, commitment to build, and company affiliation (with Relativity) that the state of Hawaii needs to turn its economy around.

Currently, you have the lowest number of people employed by the film business of any state that has a credit/rebate program, and you have no structure to service this program. Each year, the number of people employed by your program decreases, and yet, more and more films are shot worldwide.

The proposed bill will lead to the employment of many people both in the construction of stages and in the entertainment industry as a whole, and it will create long-term sustainable jobs as the film industry dramatically expands. According to the comparative analysis used by every other state, the passage of this bill should increase the value of Hawaii's film-based economy from \$20 million to over \$800 million in the first year alone.

The Shangri-La/Relativity commitment to build the most environmentally friendly stages in existence, coupled with the economic benefits of this bill and Hawaii's timeless appeal, will make Hawaii the most attractive place in the world to shoot a film.

I hope that you will pass this bill and give your beautiful state the growth and employment it needs and deserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Clinton". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

William Jefferson Clinton

From: Branscombe Richmond [brebiz1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:09 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: sb1550 sb138

LATE

Aloha -- Im Branscombe Richmond -- 35 yrs in show biz --- im asking you to please support sb1550 and sb138 --- we need the jobs ,, for us as well as for the future of our kids who want this type of work ,, Our school kids are studying tv production already , but no where to go , other than the mainland -- we need jobs at home -- this is the future ,, for our state ,, the great state of hawaii ,, please help us ,, mahalo ,, br

From: john robotham [robostunts@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 7:22 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: sb1550 sb318

LATE

Dear Sirs,

My name is John Robotham and I have worked 35 years in the film business as a stuntman, stunt coordinator, actor and director. I ask you to support sb1550 and sb318 as it will add to the economic strength of the Hawaiian Islands. Film production provides much needed income that will be spread from the film crews to the local vendors. This compensation will then be passed throughout the Hawaiian economy. Please support these bills.

Best Regards,

John Robotham
201 Ohua Ave.
T-2 2113
Honolulu, Hi. 96815

From: Lei Richmond [leialoha_maa@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:50 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Fw: SB1550 and SB138 Pertaining to tax credits for movie studio and production

LATE

Feb. 28, 2011

Aloha!

I am Leialoha Maa Richmond. I was raised in Kaneohe, lived for over 25 years in Los Angeles and now reside in Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead in Kula, Maui. My husband is Branscombe Richmond, an actor and entertainer.

I am a former Miss Hawaii USA, and have worked as a model and actress.
Our 4 children were raised in this industry.
Our 2 eldest sons are fortunate to be working in the business they know and love.
Fairai is working on locations with Hawaii 5-0.
Maro-uo works with the Panavision Crane.
Our youngest son attended Kamehameha Maui from 9th thru 12 grade.
It was here that I became aware of a move to have the students choose academies which dictate their focus through high school.
The Academies are Science and Natural Resources, Computer Programming and Robotics, Business/ Leadership and Information Technology.
Internship within their academy is a graduation requirement.
You have no idea how difficult that is if you are interested in the movie industry or even video tech.

The idea of having a film production studio built on Oahu, or Maui would be a god send for our young people. They could get intern hours, train and work with professionals, and they wouldn't have to jump on a plane to do it. Currently, several of our son's classmates have moved to Los Angeles to participate in training there. Once that is over, they will have to stay there in order to work in their field. There is almost nothing they can do on Maui that uses those skills. The logistics of staying on the mainland are difficult and expensive for most local families. These kids are pursuing their dreams and many return home frustrated, having to look for something else to do.

As a native hawaiian, I see great possibilities to interview our elders, to document what remains of our historic sights, and tell our stories. This would be so much easier with access to professionals, and other documentary resources. Most of the world is ignorant of our rich history. With the arrival of film production studios, possible satellite studios on other islands,

I am confident that we will have a better opportunity to share the native hawaiian culture with the world, educate and preserve it in film for the children.

Jobs are hard to come by.
A film production studio here would benefit everyone. Not just those in the movie industry, but the laborers, the visitor industry, retail and food...the trickle down effect is great.
Think about our young people.
Our residents.
Our economy.
This bill affects much more than the movie industry or the studio to come.
It will bring hope for the future.

Mahalo for your time!
Leialoha M Richmond