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**TESTIMONY OF  
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
TO  
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
ON  
MARCH 25, 2013**

**HCR 163 / HR 131**

Chair Evans and members of the Committee, I am Eva Laird Smith, executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and I am pleased to support HCR 163 / HR 131, providing that passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

Urban art, which includes graffiti and tagging, is a form of social commentary, a vehicle of personal expression by young generations of city youth who are continuously looking for ways to have their voices heard. HCR 163 / HR 131 attempts to turn a problem into a service that benefits the community through assigning specific locations, art supplies, and procedures where young potential artists can express themselves without violating the law. We view this as a viable solution by government officials to encourage urban art, in the spirit of public murals and street art, which have successfully engaged urban populations and diverse audiences in communities around the world.

We are advised that a task force studied the climate and identified conditions and spaces in which youth can work. We are fully supportive of individual State departments working with the SFCA in this process, including the department of accounting and general services, the department of land and natural resources, DLNR's state historic preservation division

and any other stakeholders deemed appropriate by the SFCA. Collectively, we welcome the opportunity to discuss how the outcomes can be efficiently assessed. We also hope to continue this dialog about a more permanent solution that bridges the creative expression of our youth with the discovery of art in all of its diverse and wonderful forms.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you.



**To:** Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair  
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water & Land

**From:** Kiersten Faulkner  
Executive Director, Historic Hawai'i Foundation

**Committee Date:** Monday, March 25, 2013  
9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 325

**Subject:** **HCR 163/ HR 131, Establishing A Pilot Program For The Creation Of Urban Art On State-Owned Property Under The Direction Of The Hawaii State Foundation On Culture And The Arts**

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing with comments on HCR 163 and HR 131, which would establish a pilot program to establish a process for urban art projects.

The pilot program framework includes a specific provision that prior to approving the urban artwork, the state foundation on cultural and the arts shall consult with the state historic preservation division to determine if the proposed art work would have an adverse effect on a historic property, and to also consult with Historic Hawai'i Foundation and other appropriate stakeholders. If the proposed project could adversely affect a historic property, the urban artwork would not be permitted.

While Historic Hawai'i Foundation does not take a position on urban artwork in other situations, HHF accepts the kuleana to provide review and comment to ensure that historic properties are treated in an appropriate manner, and to assist the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to carefully consider and design projects to avoid impacts to historic resources. We have no objections to being included in such a role in the proposed pilot project.

The State of Hawai'i, through its administrative departments, is the steward and caretaker for many historic and cultural properties. These include schools, office buildings, museums, bridges, state parks, engineering works, and other structures that are significant for association with historic events or persons, or that embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value. These significant historic properties and cultural resources are entrusted to the State to ensure their preservation, interpretation and appropriate treatment for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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**Historic Hawai'i Foundation**

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Historic Hawai'i Foundation was established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites and communities on all the islands of Hawai'i. As the statewide leader for historic preservation, HHF works to preserve Hawai'i's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, environmental sustainability, and economic viability of the state.

## lowen1-Kyli

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 21, 2013 3:14 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** lynhowe1946@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR163 on Mar 25, 2013 09:00AM

### **HCR163**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for WAL on Mar 25, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This would be a wonderful use of land. Art is so important in our culture today and throughout history. I think it is important that we show our visitors that we are supporting and furthering the arts in Hawaii. I strongly support this mill

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## lowen1-Kyli

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 23, 2013 1:06 PM  
**To:** waltestimony  
**Cc:** tabraham08@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR163 on Mar 25, 2013 09:00AM

### **HCR163**

Submitted on: 3/23/2013

Testimony for WAL on Mar 25, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support urgent passage of this bill to allow graffiti but as long it font promote wrong messages and it promotes messages of peace and hawaiian history preservation.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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