

SB 1281

Testimony

Measure Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE IN WAIMEA, HAWAII.

Report Title: Kahilu Theatre; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Makes an appropriation for operating expenses of the Kahilu theatre in Waimea, Hawaii, in the form of a grant from the state foundation on culture and the arts.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: TEC, WAM

Introducer(s): SOLOMON, Dela Cruz



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**TESTIMONY OF
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO
THE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS
ON
FEBRUARY 7, 2013**

S. B. 1281

Chair Wakai 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 the intent of S. B. 1281, provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

The Kahilu Theatre functions as both a presenter of professional performing arts events, including music, dance, and theatre and as a producing organization for youth productions. It is a handsome facility built by the late Richard Smart, who greatly valued the arts. His generous gift to the community attracted not only the residents in rural Kamuela, but also people of the Hamakua and Kona Coasts. Visitors to the Big Island also enjoyed many fine performances in this theatre, which welcomed local performers like the Brothers Cazimero and Kealii Reichel, as well as domestic and international artists.

The theatre also provided drama classes during the summer when the theatre season was not in progress. These classes were attended by youth from nearby schools such as Hawaii Preparatory Academy and Parker School.

Due to the economic recession, funding for the theatre from the Smart Estate was discontinued, forcing management to close its doors last year.

While the State Foundation is not in a position to fund operations of the theatre at the level requested, we welcome the Kahilu applying again to our Biennium Grants Program for funding next year. In addition, we recommend that the Kahilu Theatre apply during this session for a Legislative Grant-in-Aid for assistance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: cookshi@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 6:51:43 PM
Attachments: [SB1281_SupportTestimonyForKahiluTheatre_2013.pdf](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patti Cook	Waimea Middle School	Support	No

Comments:

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WAIMEA MIDDLE PUBLIC CONVERSION CHARTER SCHOOL

67-1229 MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY * KAMUELA, HAWAII 96743

February 6, 2013

TO: State Senate Committee On Technology And The Arts
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair & Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
And Committee Members

RE: SB1281 – Kahilu Theatre Appropriation – Waimea, Island of Hawai'i

On behalf of the 285 sixth, seventh and eighth grade students of Waimea Middle School, and their families as well as our faculty and staff, we write to support this request for operating funds in the form of a grant from the State Foundation on Culture And The Arts for Kahilu Theatre Foundation.

As you may know, about 65% of our students are eligible for free-reduced lunch. Further, 56% of our students are Hawaiian, and we have a growing population of Pacific Island and Special Education students. This is not the "picture" many have of Waimea...and it helps explain why we are so indebted to and dependent upon the Kahilu Theatre.

Our children need and thirst for "the arts." But arts education is a thing of the past in most public schools. Federal No Child Left Behind mandates have forced us to strip arts and music education from the school day. Research supports the arts as not just "nice," but essential to a well rounded education. It's also very important as a means of engaging students in school. Attendance is essential to academic progress and when the entire school day is reduced to force-fed core curriculum, many children simply don't want to come to school.

To try to address the absence of the arts in the school day, WMS sought the help of Kahilu Theatre Foundation in partnership with other community funders and private donors, and for the past five years we have been able to offer students a free after-school K(Arts) program that culminates in a Grand Finale performance for fellow students, families, faculty-staff and community on the giant stage at the theatre. This program has become "the high point" of the school year for many of our kids. But it's not just about "having fun." This is about academic progress.

Many of our Pacific Island students have limited English Language skills and struggle in the traditional classroom. Likewise, SPED children struggle. Performing arts (dance, 'ukulele, etc.) are learning opportunities where these students can and do experience success and this helps them want to come to school! And kids who come to school and who are experiencing success and building self confidence – the data says – are more likely to complete high school and move on to college or other post-high school career training. Research further says that 13+ years of education significantly improves both lifelong employability and health/wellness.

And speaking of health/wellness – many of our parents have two jobs and commute long distances, which means that our students are often "latch key" kids at home alone throughout the afternoon into early evening. Our K(Arts) after-school program also provides a "safe haven" during these very high risk hours.

As you know, Kahilu Theatre is undergoing re-invention having encountered its own financial cliff. The new volunteer board made the very difficult decision to take an "intermission" this season to restructure itself. This was a very sad day at our school, knowing there would be no K(Arts) program this school year. But the board has done a superb job of paying off its debts with community donations, and was subsequently offered a grant specifically to help underwrite K(Arts) this semester and we have almost 100 students registered! But this does not mean the theatre is on stable footing and they do need and deserve public funding via the State Foundation to survive. This has been a painful experience for our entire community but one that also has opened our eyes to how important the theatre and its various youth arts programs are.

Thank you for considering financial support and please feel free to call on me personally if you have questions or wish to discuss this further. Mahalo and a hui hou –

Patti Cook

Community Liaison – 808-937-2833

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Cc: davidtarnas@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 12:13:51 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Tarnas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theatre is a very important cultural resource for our community. The appropriations requested in this bill will help ensure the viability of the Theatre and its programs. The arts and music education provided through the Theatre is very important for our local public school children since they do not get sufficient arts and music education in their schools. This appropriation represents a small but important part of the overall budget for the Theatre, most of which comes from private donations to supplement the revenue generated by event ticket sales.

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To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: mkerley@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:23:01 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marie Kerley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theatre provides a valuable service to the people of Waimea and the entire Big Island. It provides a valuable arts education to public school children who otherwise wouldn't get it. This appropriation would provide significant benefit to the theatre as most donations are via private individuals and ticket sales - which do not cover all of the theatre's expenses. Growing up, I performed at Kahilu Theatre and attended many shows, including participating in the summer arts program that is still offered through the theatre. I was exposed to the arts in a very personal and profound way. My childhood at the theatre helped me become the successful businesswoman I am today. Please appropriate these funds to the theatre.
Respectfully, Marie Kerley

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:30:29 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorraine Kohn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theatre is the one and only venue here on the west side of our Big Island that can host world class events as they have in the past. Because it would cost so much to replace, please consider a "shot in the arm" for Kahilu so they can keep offering important concerts, dance, drama not to mention helping with arts and music education for our keiki. Kahilu is worthy and deserving of public aid!
Thanks

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Cc: beeandvee@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:36:01 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Veronica Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support Kahilu Theater with this \$200,000. grant. This is a very worthy organization for the children and town of Kamuela and the entire county of Hawaii.

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Cc: raemiller@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:37:32 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marcie Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha - The Kahilu Theater is an integral part of the communities of North and South Kohala and the Hamakua Coast. For those of us who live in these districts, the Kahilu Theater provides quality cultural and educational experiences for residents and visitors, and especially our keiki. It is a gathering place for meetings, and a cultural resource for music, theater, hula and other kinds of entertainment. Our community is enriched by having access to such a wonderful facility. But it is more than simply a building - the mana that resides in such a place is of inestimable value, and we would be so much poorer without the Kahilu Theater. Please fund this tremendous social and cultural community resource! Mahalo!

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:39:03 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Sucke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the appropriation of \$200,000 for operating expenses of Kahilu Theatre in Waimea on the Big Island. This is the only commercial-size theatre facility within this community. It has struggled to stay in business. Thanks to Kahilu Theatre many artistic events have been available to Waimea residents that would not otherwise have come here. It is a precious resource created by Richard Smart of the Parker Ranch for his home community. We need to keep it running for the benefit of this community.

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Cc: robert.donigan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:42:41 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Donigan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I write in support of an appropriation for the Kahilu Theater in Waimea, Island of Hawaii. This is a small community, but rich in talent, both students and adults. This theater gives a place for performance by locals as well as imported programs which enrich our local culture. It had to close down temporarily due to financial shortages of continuing operation. An active board and local support has enabled it to reopen on a limited basis. Established by Richard Smart of Parker Ranch for the enrichment of the local community, continuing operating funds were not provided. After the shutdown, a fund-raising appeal has been successful, but more help is needed to guarantee its continued operation. It provides an excellent venue for individual performances, groups such as the Waimea Community Chorus and musical concerts and shows by local secondary schools, particularly Parker School. Individual and corporate donors will continue to be solicited for funds, but a grant from the state would guarantee the fullest reopening and continued operation of this splendid local venue.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:42:44 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Pekarsky Gary	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theater is a treasure for the Waimea community. A resource for education of young and old, a venue for masters of the performing arts and neophytes just beginning their experiences as performers. It is a center in which to celebrate our cultural diversity. It is something special to me because it is a place right here at home in which to showcase excellence --something we all need to be exposed to on a regular basis so we can strive for that ourselves. As a functioning part of our life scape it inherently is the antithesis to complacency. All of us on this island, especially in the Kohalas, benefit from its presence in our lives. Please vote yes on SB1281. Mahalo nui loa.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:44:52 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Signe Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLease give funding to Kahilu Theatre In Kamuela. The Theatre is a vital part of our community.

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Cc: r.charles.ray.md@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:45:55 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
R. Charles Ray, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu theater in Kamuela is an important cultural and education facility for North Hawaii county. By supporting a season of cultural events, the school kids in the area have unique opportunities to interact with international music talent that they would not get in any other place. Please allow this grant.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:46:00 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chadd Paishon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theater has been a great part of our community in Waimea. The history of Kahilu is about community. The future of Kahilu is for our community. The many performances and programs that have been held at this needed venue has been a benefit to our community and visitors alike. Our community needs and wants Kahilu Theater to be here and operating. We need and ask for your support. I add my support to Kahilu Theater as a member of the Waimea community. Chadd Paishon
Pwo Navigator, Voyaging Canoe, Makali`i Ohana Wa`a

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:51:47 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol A. Weaver	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, This testimony is in support of a grant being considered for the Kahilu Theatre and its programs. Not only does the community benefit in it programs including arts and music, but education for the children at the local public schools, which have little or no arts and music education. The appropriation would be an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre, most of which consists of private donations, as well as revenue from event ticket sales. Mahalo nui loa, Carol A. Weaver

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:56:28 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Constance Fay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theater has been an essential part of our Big Island community for many years. Its absence is keenly felt. Our school children benefitted from workshops and presentations by a wide range of artists. Free programs presented by the island Hawaiian community enriched us all. Please approve this grant so that this rural community can once again feel connected to the cultural riches of our islands and the mainland. I miss the art exhibits, the films (Herb Kane made one of his last presentations here at Kahilu), the music, dance and theater. Thank you.

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Cc: susanpinkard@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:56:46 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Yada	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please consider this bill for Kahilu. This theatre is an important part of our community and needed to support the arts and music for the children at our local schools as well as the adults of the community. The ongoing success will depend on the passage of this bill as they primarily operate on private donations and the sale of event tickets. We love the theatre!!

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:58:43 PM
Attachments: [Testimony In Support SB 1281.doc](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kari Waldhaus	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony In Support

SB 1281

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE IN WAIMEA, HAWAII.

Makes an appropriation for operating expenses of the Kahilu theatre in Waimea, Hawaii, in the form of a grant from the state foundation on culture and the arts.

I would like to testify in support of SB 1281, Making an appropriation for Kahilu Theatre in Waimea, Hawaii. As a resident of North Hawaii, a Board member of the Rotary Club of North Hawaii, a Board member of Waimea Community Theatre, a member of the Honokaa Business Association, member of the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce a member of New Hope Christian Fellowship and a member of the Waimea Community Chorus, I speak on behalf of myself and not the organizations I belong to – just wanted the committee to know that I am a concerned and involved citizen in our community. Kahilu Theatre has been a landmark and great contribution to our community. It has served as a venue for the Arts & Culture as well as a place that brings the community together. One of the special draws to living and working in or near Waimea is the venues for Arts & Culture. I have never lived in another community in Hawaii or on the mainland with such rich appreciation and support from the community for Arts & Culture. Kahilu is a legacy for our town as well as a monument to Richard Smart and his love for the Arts & Theatre. Kahilu has not only provided a venue but has been instrumental in providing resources and education in the arts and culture to our students in the community. The exposure has been invaluable to their appreciation and dreams of the arts & culture field. Besides the great artists that are brought in, Kahilu has been a strong supporter of local musicians and artists as well and the Waimea Community Chorus and The Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra. Without the venue of Kahilu these community organizations will struggle to find a venue for their performances – thus robbing the community of their own local talent pool. It would be a shame to let an already existing building lay in waste and with the support of the legislature Kahilu has a chance to thrive and grow so they can be around for generations to come. The community and the Kahilu board has shown that with creative out-of-the-box thinking they brought the theatre out of the brink to a viable community venue once more. Please support this measure so we can continue to have this for not only our generation but generations to come. Thank you!

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: lcthielbar@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:59:00 PM
Attachments: [On Behalf of the Kahilu Theater.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Chu-Thielbar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theater is an important asset not only to the local community of Waimea/Kamuela, but also to the island of Hawaii and even the state.

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On Behalf of the Kahilu Theater

To Whom it may concern,

I am a relative new comer to Hawaii, having lived in Kamuela for one delightful year, but in that short time I have experienced the incredible asset that the Kahilu is to both the local community of Waimea/Kamuela and to the entire island of Hawaii.

The Kahilu provides a splendid and important venue for the best of Hawaiian performing arts programs ranging from the quintessentially local and Hawaiian (the Brothers Cazimero) to programs of national importance (Neal Conan). Perhaps the most significant thing the Kahilu offers is a venue for the impressive and wide ranging local student talent that abounds both in Waimea and across the island (a recent student concert highlighting Broadway played to a full house).

The Kahilu is a source of pride and community spirit. As the third point in a triangle that includes the Palace Theater in Hilo and the Aloha theater in the Kona district, the Kahilu ensures both local interest and opportunity for the performing arts and also island wide interest and opportunity. Theater goers such as myself are encouraged and heartened by live performances and seek them out. Having local opportunity simply spurs one on to seek more elsewhere. Without that local impetus, however, interest and enthusiasm are in danger of flagging. The incredible local and island wide, even state wide, talent that makes great use of the Kahilu Theater deserves to have that opportunity continue and flourish.

Sincerely,
Lisa Chu-Thielbar
62-2146A Ouli St.
Kamuela, HI
96743

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly Barrick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support Kahilu Theatre. The theater has a huge positive impact on our community for youth arts education. The schools really rely on the Kahilu Theatre for their arts education. The children have really been dramatically affected by the loss of this resource this year. Please support Kahilu Theatre. Thank you.

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Cc: dianab@sonic.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:07:36 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana Bonnici	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this grant for Kahilu Theatre.. This theatre is an asset and an important part of Hawaii's culture, gathering place, children's performances, entertainment and non-profit organizations....Please support the Kahilu with the grant money...

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February 6,2013

Testimony in support of SB 1281: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU
THEATRE IN WAIMEA, HAWAII

I am writing to urge your passage of SB 1281 to make an appropriation for operating expenses in the form of a grant from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

This past season, Kahilu Theatre was forced to close its doors because of a substantial debt, and no funds available for ongoing operating expenses. The community rallied and raised to funds to clear the debts, so that the Theatre could go forward and resume its role as the prime site for arts and culture for our school children , and for the community at large. No other institution in West Hawaii serves this purpose.

To move forward, the Theatre needs funds for operating expenses as it works to improve its financial position. Not only was the theatre affected, but surrounding businesses in Waimea that derive business from the theatre patrons were adversely affected as well.

Please vote for passage of SB1281

Marcia Wishnick

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: haysamsongs@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:25:16 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheryl Samuel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We miss the Kahilu Theater in our community. There are a few annual events, that we have attended for many years, that are not being offered this year...because of lack of funds! This is our relied on location for performances, and workshops. Please help them to continue...

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From: mallinqlist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: nicoledillingham@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:29:12 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole and Gaylord Dillingham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support the Kahilu Theater grant. This theater serves a critical function in the Waimea community. The funds proposed are desperately needed to allow Kahilu to continue to serve as a beacon for the arts, music, cultural events and community education. The theater is critical to residents, visitors, performers and students and to economic development in the Waimea area as it attracts people from far and wide to attend programs who also visit restaurants, shops and contribute to the economy in the vicinity. This grant must be approved. Thank you!

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: nicoledillingham@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:29:12 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole and Gaylord Dillingham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support the Kahilu Theater grant. This theater serves a critical function in the Waimea community. The funds proposed are desperately needed to allow Kahilu to continue to serve as a beacon for the arts, music, cultural events and community education. The theater is critical to residents, visitors, performers and students and to economic development in the Waimea area as it attracts people from far and wide to attend programs who also visit restaurants, shops and contribute to the economy in the vicinity. This grant must be approved. Thank you!

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To: TECTestimony
Cc: Hawaii.opdycke@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:32:25 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Opdycke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theater is a treasure to the Big Island. In the past twenty years since i have lived on the Big Island it has given the children of the community much needed cultural exposure. Also, the educational value of having the Kahilu Theater operating is immeasurable. Because it is difficult for many local families to travel To other Islands to see and hear world class talent, we must allow the local people the opportunities that are afforded those on other Islands. Thank you for considering this proposal to enhance our lives.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: hntmcm@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:34:28 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Prudler	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the passage of this appropriation for Kahilu Theater. The contribution of the theater to the education and cultural enrichment of the community is invaluable. This appropriation is needed to maintain and enhance the high caliber programs presented to the community. Thank you.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: puako@lava.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:34:42 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pattie Freeman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Our small community benefits by having the Kahilu Theatre and its programs, including arts and music education for the children at the local public schools, which have little or no arts and music education. This appropriation is an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre, most of which consists of private donations, as well as revenue from event ticket sales. The Kahilu Theatre is the only venue for the arts that we have for Waimea and surrounding communities.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: clivebd007@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:46:15 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr&Mrs Clive B Davies	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senator Glenn Wakai, My wife and I are residents of Hawaii and are strong supporters of the Kahilu Theatre, The North Hawaii Community Hospital and the Keck Observatory. The Kahilu Theatre has until recently been funded almost exclusively by private donations and unfortunately has been forced to suspend their activities due to financial difficulties. This resource has not only provided the opportunity for residents of Hawaii to see world class performers and entertainers it has also reached out to literally thousands of school children by providing free shows and concerts to our young students and offering them a cultural experience they could not have seen unless they had travelled outside of the Big Island. The theatre has also been a venue for the free public community lectures organized by the Keck Observatory to educate and stimulate residents as to the exciting world class work being done at the top of Mauna Kea in the field of astronomy and cosmology. Lastly the Kahilu theatre puts on four free concerts per year for the community where musicians come from all over Hawaii to perform with the Kamuela Symphony Orchestra for the enjoyment of all age groups. This theatre established by Richard Smart is a wonderful asset not only for Waimea but for the whole of the island of Hawaii. A grant of \$200K per year to defray some of the operating expenses could well help to reinvigorate this community theatre. Even with an additional \$200K the current fund raising activities on behalf of the Theatre will have to be maintained. We urge you to approve this appropriation for the continuing education and benefit of the school children and the community at large.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: Mpcatering@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:51:30 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Peterson		Support	No

Comments: W need all the help we can get to support this cultural treasure here in Waimea.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: 5503100@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:58:52 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark SCHMIDT	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theater provides a unique cultural and artistic resource to big island citizens from Kona thru Kohala to Hamakua. As a resident of North Kohala, I urge state support for this bill and the Kahilu Theater.

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To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: watertalk@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 2:59:55 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank Snow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea needs Kahilu Theatre for art programs for our students and performance art events for the entire South Kohala community. It serves a vital function in teaching the importance of creativity in one's life.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: rumblefish5@verizon.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:20:40 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank Tornetta	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Having this theater in the community benefits the arts and music education for the children at the local public schools, which have little or no arts and music education.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: bridiejane@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:21:42 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bridie Ridsdale	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: As a professional early childhood educator I have been bringing children I work with to the children's shows at the Kahilu Theatre since 2001, babies, toddlers, older children ~ & have been blessed to witness the extraordinary and unparalleled thrill on the faces, and in the lives of these littlest members of our island Ohana~ As they witness the world appearing on our stage~ and have their eyes, ears, hearts and minds opened up to a world that includes not only the beautiful culture of Hawaii as portrayed in many productions~ but also to taste, hear and feel a part of an entire planet of wonder, beauty, excellence and diversity... No outing/class/adventure or educational activity that I have ever taken part in, or created, during my more than 25 years of work with children and families has witnessed such an exuberant outpouring of thrills, inspiration, joy & elation as the many unforgettable productions at the theatre~ Attending as an adult broadens our horizons, there is no doubt about it... But for the children on this tiny archipelago 2000 miles from anywhere, nothing could possibly, in their own language~ which is play, music, story, seeing, hearing, feeling and experience~ make them feel so much that they are citizens not only of this beautiful State, but of the world~ The Kahilu Theatre, and the wonderful outreach children's theatre program has changed their lives~ and may it continue to do so~ The far reaching impact of this exposure to global culture in a way that is fun, and inspiring and exhilarating for them cannot be overstated... and for this reason alone, I urge you to endorse helping the theatre to move onto a solid financial footing and to continue this beautiful work of bringing the children into the theatre to experience the culture of our world first hand, & taking the world out into the schools and communities of Hawaii~ (this form did not give me the option to attach these comments as a testimony file~ I hope this comments section will be considered as such~ this is the document I had prepared to upload as my testimony~ Mahalo)

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As a professional early childhood educator I have been bringing children I work with to the children's shows at the Kahilu Theatre since 2001, babies, toddlers, older children ~ & have been blessed to witness the extraordinary and unparalleled thrill on the faces, and in the lives of these littlest members of our island Ohana~

As they witness the world appearing on our stage~ and have their eyes, ears, hearts and minds opened up to a world that includes not only the beautiful culture of Hawaii as portrayed in many productions~ but also to taste, hear and feel a part of an entire planet of wonder, beauty, excellence and diversity... No outing/class/adventure or educational activity that I have ever taken part in, or created, during my more than 25 years of work with children and families has witnessed such an exuberant outpouring of thrills, inspiration, joy & elation as the many unforgettable productions at the theatre~

Attending as an adult broadens our horizons, there is no doubt about it... But for the children on this tiny archipelago 2000 miles from anywhere, nothing could possibly, in their own language~ which is play, music, story, seeing, hearing, feeling and experience~ make them feel so much that they are citizens not only of this beautiful State, but of the world~

The Kahilu Theatre, and the wonderful outreach children's theatre program has changed their lives~ and may it continue to do so~

The far reaching impact of this exposure to global culture in a way that is fun, and inspiring and exhilarating for them cannot be overstated... and for this reason alone, I urge you to endorse helping the theatre to move onto a solid financial footing and to continue this beautiful work of bringing the children into the theatre to experience the culture of our world first hand, & taking the world out into the schools and communities of Hawaii~

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: rucallahan99@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:23:52 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruth Callahan	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please appropriate funds for The Kahilu Theater. It is an integral island wide resource for arts, culture and education. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: russellsubiono@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:28:22 PM
Attachments: [Kahilu Theatre Testimony.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russell K Subiono	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Nishihara, and distinguished members of the Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts:

In addition to being raised in Waimea, graduating in the early '90s from Parker School in Waimea, and calling Waimea my hometown, I am also an actor, a writer, a photographer, and an aspiring filmmaker. I am a fan of the Arts and a contributor to the Arts.

Being raised in a small town on an island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean before the Internet isolated me from the various global art communities. Growing up, my sense and love of the arts primarily came from the hula halau that my parents were part of and from the cultural lessons provided by my kupuna and the Kumu that visited my classroom regularly. Exposure to other forms of art came from books, the rare programs that aired on TV, and the performances at the Kahilu Theatre.

It was through Kahilu Theatre, that I was introduced to dance and music from other cultures and live theater. I remember having the opportunity to watch the late Richard Smart perform in On Golden Pond at Kahilu Theatre while I was in high school and being inspired to audition for the stage productions that Parker School produced. Without exposure to live theater, I would have never realized my passion for storytelling or felt like I could contribute to the Arts.

My hometown has grown significantly since I was a child. We are still a proud ranch town, continuing pass our traditions on to the next generation. We are home to two excellent private preparatory schools that continue to raise the bar for academics in our state. We have a thriving athletic populace, which has developed multiple professional athletes. It is my strong belief that we need to keep Kahilu Theatre open and operating in order to provide the residents of Waimea and its surrounding towns the ability to experience the Arts and the opportunity to continue to grow our Arts Community. It is integral not just to the future of the Arts on the Big Island, but for the state as a whole.

Approving an appropriation of \$200,000 for operating expenses at Kahilu Theatre is not just a statement of the importance of the Arts to a culture and a people steeped heavily in artistic expression, but an investment in the future of local artists who will have a positive effect on our islands and become the leaders of our Arts communities long after we're gone.

Mahalo,
Russell K. Subiono

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: ptarail@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:28:45 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phyllis Tarail	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a resident of Waimea, living a 10 minute walk from the Kahilu Theatre. I have enjoyed the wide variety of concerts and shows that the theater has put on over many years. I also feel very strongly about the theater's connection with our island's schools and the free experiences that they have provided to our keiki. Please help our Kahilu Theatre re-open.

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To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: reed_joyce@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:37:25 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joyce Reed	Kahilu Theatre	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theatre blesses everyone in this lovely little community, and we are all so eager to have its functionality fully restored! I have lived in this community for over 30 years . . . I performed on that stage with Richard Smart . . . my children have performed on it, and have cherished the magnificent visiting productions that have come to enrich our community at the Kahilu. Please, please grant this request for funds, because everyone in town is busily committed to bringing this heart of our community back to life! Thank you so much.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: Parovzz@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:42:24 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J h Zechmann md	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Theater events are important to annual visitors also...

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: ironwoodframing@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:17:28 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margo Ray	Ironwood Custom Framing & Design. LLC	Support	No

Comments: As co-owner of Ironwood Custom Framing & Design we have sponsored the Keiki Art Show at the Kahilu Theatre for the last 7 years. K-5 students from North Hawaii are invited to submit a piece of art, it is then framed and exhibited in the Kahilu Theatre for the Annual Keiki Art Show, the student is then given their framed art free of charge. The event is very popular in the community and reached 150 students in 2012. When the Theatre is re-open we will continue to sponsor the Keiki Art Show.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: jeannievie@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:45:24 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeannie-vie Woods	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theatre is a blessing and a necessity for Our community and our children! All the shows and Programs offered are an essential part of our culture and ways of Sharing and expressing creativity. We are thankful and so Happy to know it will be funded and the love of the Performing Arts will continue! Mahalo Nui loa. Jeannie-vie

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: dave.clark@boerio.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:46:31 PM
Attachments: [Testimony_re_SB1281.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony re: SB 1281:

I have attended many events at the Kahilu Theatre over a period of several years. One of the things that "keeps me coming back" is the truly amazing variety of programs I have been able to see, hear and enjoy.

My first exposure to Jake Shimabukuro was at the Kahilu Theatre. I saw Alpin Hong play classical piano there; he also taught all of us in the audience what the composer had in mind when writing the pieces. I have seen films and community service events and art exhibits there. I have heard slack key guitar concerts and seen thousands of photos of the night sky above Hawaii in quick time exposure set to music.

I have seen and heard things at the Kahilu Theatre I have never seen or heard anywhere else, and I attend many cultural events every year. The Kahilu Theatre's presentations are truly unique. There is almost always an educational component to the presentations I have attended.

One of the many things that amazes me is the diversity of the attendees at these events. There is always a healthy mixture of young and old, for example. I usually see lots of children at the events I attend!

I was saddened to learn of the Kahilu Theatre's financial problems and subsequent closing. I have contributed financially in the past and will continue to do so, as I value the community focus and outreach of the Kahilu Theatre's programming.

I strongly encourage you to support Senator Solomon's bill to provide \$200,000 to support the general operations of the Kahilu Theatre. I know that would be an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre and would go a long way toward allowing the Theatre to continue its community outreach.

Mahalo,

David Clark

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: maggisnyder06@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB863 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:50:30 PM

SB863

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorothy Maggi	KAHILU THEATRE	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theatre is a major asset to our community in the way of arts and education. I am totally in favor of any support our government can provide.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: patrickmok1@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:55:31 PM
Attachments: [Testimony in Support of Kahilu Theatre.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick OKiersey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony in Support of Kahilu Theatre, Waimea, Hawaii Island

I am supporting a grant to the Kahilu Theatre because it is such an invaluable community resource. The performances put on by the Theatre are and have been of a rare and high quality. There are shows for everyone... of all ages and backgrounds. Keola Beamer, dance performances such as Black Grace, classical string quartets. The list goes on and on. Herb Kane's Voyages premiered here a few Years ago.

The lobby hosts art shows of every description. I have had the opportunity to exhibit my large scale oil paintings and charcoal drawings. There are kids shows and free kids shows for school age.

I can't say enough good things about the Theatre. The overworked staff puts out on a consistent basis. They are friendly and helpful and they work for the community and they seem to ask almost nothing in return.

I urge you to approve the grant for the theatre. Thank you.

Aloha

Patrick O'Kiersey

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: daniel.i.gomez@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:59:59 PM
Attachments: [Testimony in support of SB1281 by Daniel Gomez.doc](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Gomez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony in support of SB1281 "MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE IN WAIMEA, HAWAII"
Feb 6. 2013

In the last 16 years, as an involved resident of this Waimea community, I can testify that Kahilu Theater has been the acknowledged leader in providing significant and unique cultural and artistic enrichment in Waimea and the surrounding communities.

Kahilu Theater community programs have significantly impacted the arts and music education for all the children of Waimea at either minimal or no cost. This is especially surprising in light of the very high quality of local, national and international renowned performers they have been able to secure. Perhaps the greatest beneficiaries of these professional programs (which are modified to reach kids at their level) are children who attend local public schools; many of those are schools which have historically had little to no funding to provide arts and music education for their own. The numerous homeschool families that live in the area have also been able to join the performances to supplement and expand on their own education and exposure of their kids to an incredible variety of artistry and culture. Off the top of my head, this artistry has included acting/drama, orchestra music including hands-on exposure to all the instruments, piano compositions of video game tunes, Hawaiian musicianship with good time allotted for questions and answers about musical careers, dance troupes and the range of how many types of dance are incorporated in the real world, environmentally focused comedy and life lessons, etc, etc. --- ALL especially catered to the level of kids of different ages. As I write this, my own Waimea Middle school child is being hosted by Kahilu Theater at a weekly FREE afterschool class on Backstage Production.

The community benefits of the Kahilu Theatre existence extends to the use of its auditorium for non-theatrical events such as arts shows and galleries and even the use of it on Sunday mornings by the largest body of Christian believers in Waimea, a church I happen to attend.

I believe that this appropriation is an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre, though most of which consists of private donations and revenue from event ticket sales.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: malenb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:02:17 PM
Attachments: [Testimony Kahilu Theatre.pdf](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Male	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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It is sad that the arts suffer in times of economic downturns, and at a time when they are needed most. Such was the fate for Kahilu Theatre in Waimea (Kamuela), Hawaii when operating expenses could no longer be met. The Theatre had to close its doors. Kahilu Theatre served to inspire the community and the island by introducing the population to international caliber dance, musicians, singers, and playwrights. For most, especially the children, this exposure showed that professions in the Arts were possible. I understand that money might be made available to help the theatre with their operating expenses. I wholeheartedly support the measure, and can think of no better way to use the funds.

Sincerely,

Nancy Male
65-1122 Puu Opele Place
Kamuela, HI 96743
(808) 887-0862
malenb@hawaii.rr.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: schumani001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:07:35 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
judith schuman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a plea to approve SB1281. The Kahilu Theater provides a sense of community to far reaches of this large island. It enriches the education of children who have little of art and music in these difficult times. It provides a venue for Hawaiian culture as well as visiting artists from all over the world. I realize that the state budget is under great pressures, but I can assure you mine is even more stressed and I contribute mightily. Mahalo for giving this bill your positive consideration.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: johanna1@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:15:46 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Johanna Tilbury	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha and mahalo for being open for testimony.. I will be happy to explain to anyone how utterly a part of our community fabric the Kahilu theater is. It provides our youth with a venue for their dance, choir, plays and films.. It plays a leading role in the arts with the Ocean Festival, HPAF, the Kamuela Philharmonic Symphony's concerts and concerto contests. It is a heart beat of our community. Please fund the operating expenses for Kahilu Theater.. We as a community have shown again and again that we are in total support of this theater.. it would be great to have some help from our State Leaders Thank you for this opportunity Johanna

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: alethea@hula.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:29:21 PM
Attachments: [KTE.doc](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alethea Lai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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2-16-13

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this testimony in support of the Kahilu Theatre receiving funds. The Kahilu Theatre is one of the only sources of arts and music education for most of North Hawaii's school children, along with providing other important opportunities such as summer programs and artist in residency programs. Furthermore, the Kahilu Theatre spends significant funds bringing artists directly to schools across the Big Island. The Kahilu Theatre is the arts and culture hub for the Big Island, and serves an important role in our community. I urge you to consider funding the Kahilu Theatre and its valuable community programming.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
Alethea Lai
Executive Director
Mala'ai: The Culinary Garden of Waimea Middle School

From: mallin@list@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: info9@kohalacc.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:32:50 PM
Attachments: [I SUPPORT SENATE BILL 1281.pdf](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Bonahan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please PASS SB-1281

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MICHAEL J. BONAHAN

02/06/2013

RE: SB1281

Honorable Senators:

I write to you IN SUPPORT of SB1281. The Kahilu Theatre provides an important cultural and educational role in the Big Island community.

There are currently are little to no arts education programs in our public school system. Children on the Big Island have depended on the Kahilu Theatre for arts education.

With a drastic reduction in state and federal grants and a major decline in private support, our State Government is the last best hope to keep the Kahilu Theatre Children's Education programs alive.

Don't let pop music, rap, and violent video games be our children's only form of personal expression. Help keep the spirit of creativity and personal expression alive.

I strongly urge you to PASS SB1281.

Sincerely:



Michael J. Bonahan

PO BOX 44316 * KAMUELA, HI 96743

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: daniel@kahalacc.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:35:56 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Demars	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please PASS this bill!

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From: Rona Lee
To: TEC Testimony; WAM Testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE IN WAIMEA, HAWAII, SB 1281
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:36:24 PM

TESTIMONY FOR:

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, February 7, 2013
TIME: 1:16 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 414

State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

AMENDED AGENDA

SB 1281

Status &
Testimony

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE
IN WAIMEA, HAWAII.

Makes an appropriation for operating expenses of the
Kahilu theatre in Waimea, Hawaii, in the form of a
grant from the state foundation on culture and the
arts.

Aloha Ka Kou,

***My name is Rona Lee and I serve as the choir
director for St. James' Episcopal Church in
Kamuela. I have five grown children who were
home schooled and raised here on the Big
Island, and during their formative years I would
take them on day field trips to see performances
at Kahilu theatre, for a very reasonable rate of
\$3-\$5. My oldest child is now in her second
year of medical school at UH (John A. Burns
School of Medicine); my second oldest
interviewed for JABSOM in November, and UW
Med School last month. All 5 of my children
were involved with music, dance, and theatre in***

addition to sports, and church.

Music and the arts are healing and positive influences in a culture of brokenness and fear in which we live, and I am a living testimony to this. The arts often are under appreciated and neglected.

I currently serve on the Board of the Waimea Community Theatre and volunteer for the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival and on the Fund-Raising/Programming Committee for Kahilu Theatre. Unfortunately, Kahilu Theatre was neglected in his trust upon Richard Smart's passing. We are diligently working to bring Kahilu Theatre back to life, with a secure foundation. Please help us to make Richard Smart's dream for Kahilu a success.

I feel confident that any grants designated for Kahilu Theatre will be wisely and prudently administered by the current Board of Trustees for the theatre. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely, with Aloha,

Rona Lee

808-640-3954

<ronalee11743@gmail.com>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: lizard_lounge182@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:37:37 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sam Wilburn	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Honorable Senators, Please pass this bill! Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: info4@kohalacc.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:41:59 PM
Attachments: [Please Pass SENATE BILL 1281.pdf](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kohala Creative Construction	Kohala Creative Construction	Support	No

Comments: I strongly urge you to PASS SB1281. Mahalo nui loa!

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Kohala Creative
Construction

LLC

02/06/2013

RE: SB1281

Honorable Senators:

I write to you IN SUPPORT of SB1281. The Kahilu Theatre provides an important cultural and educational role in the Big Island community.

There are currently are little to no arts education programs in our public school system. Children on the Big Island have depended on the Kahilu Theatre for arts education.

With a drastic reduction in state and federal grants and a major decline in private support, our State Government is the last best hope to keep the Kahilu Theatre Children's Education programs alive.

Don't let pop music, rap, and violent video games be our children's only form of personal expression. Help keep the spirit of creativity and personal expression alive.

I strongly urge you to PASS SB1281.

Sincerely:

Ricci Racela

Ricci Racela
Small Business Owner

P.O. Box 44316
Kamuela, HI 96743

Lic. #BC-24630

Ph: 808-880-1436
Fax: 808-882-4604

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: ricci@kohalacc.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:43:46 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ricci Racela	Individual	Support	No

Comments: WE NEED THE KAHILU THEATRE FOR THE CHILDREN. PLEASE APPROVE THIS BILL.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: PROOP23@HOTMAIL.COM
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:46:03 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
PAULA MICHAEL	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE PASS THIS BILL

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: waimeawind@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:50:44 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael/Patricia KIMBALL	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our family, grandson, daughter, and us all use the theater frequently. Its existence is one reason that we chose to live in Waimea. We want the Theater to stay and continue being active in providing cultural, educational and entertaining programs

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: waimeawind@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 4:50:44 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael/Patricia KIMBALL	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our family, grandson, daughter, and us all use the theater frequently. Its existence is one reason that we chose to live in Waimea. We want the Theater to stay and continue being active in providing cultural, educational and entertaining programs

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: megan@macarthurhawaii.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 5:15:01 PM
Attachments: [Kahilu Theatre February 5.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan MacArthur	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 5, 2013

To Whom it may concern:

This letter is to share with those who are in a decision making position for potential funding for the Kahilu Theatre in Waimea.

I have been a participant of the theater since 1981. As a cast member in many of it's shows and child of the Kahilu Theatre, I learned so much about the arts, about the world, about myself, that I would have never gained access to had the Kahilu Theatre not offered the culture and exposure to me in my youth. This little town in the middle of the Pacific Ocean brought in some of the worlds most astounding performers and I know I am a better human being because of many of the people I have met, the artists who have inspired me and the programs I have be part of.

My children now are growing up in Waimea. They are both dancers, martial artists and performers. They love the theater. They dress up in their best outfits and head off to see the whole world in their own town. They laugh, they are brought to sweet tears of joy, they dream of being that character, the singer, the dancer, the pianist, they imagine through feelings brought about only through the touch of the arts, and their minds expand with ideas and visions for the future.

The artists are real. They have gifts to share in their workshops and master classes, as well as their amazing performances. They bring our community together in song, in laughter, in light, and in a gather place that holds untapped potential for the community, the business, the leaders, the families, elderly and most of all the young fresh and powerful minds and hearts of the children of our island.

The Kahilu Theatre is a significant part of what makes this town of Waimea one that fuels and inspires ideas, health care, Hospice, environmental issues, schooling and gifts of Hawaiian Cultural events in conjunction with international ideas and connections. This theater is one of the most worthy elements of funding for our community and it's ability to thrive. We truly need this base of creativity and education.

I hope that your choice is to support the Kahilu Theatre by offering a funding source for their programs. They are real and truly dedicated to the education and inspiration for our island's people.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Megan MacArthur

Megan MacArthur, R (Broker/Owner)
MacArthur and Company Sotheby's International Realty
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743
(808) 895-5748

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: dhenry@sonic.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 5:40:20 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DAVID HENRY	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the Kahilu Theater, it is a wonderful community asset bringing many forms of performance to all ages in Waimea. I often drive from Laupahoehoe to see events there. I know some of the performers do daytime events for free for school children in addition to an evening concert. Most of these types of venues have a hard time breaking even.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: emorriess@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 5:43:08 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
elizabeth morriess	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of 200,000 to be appropriated for the general operation of Kahilu Theater. The theater is an important educational piece for the public schools in our area that otherwise have very little to no music and arts education for our children. Because the theatre is privately funded, it is extremely hard in this challenging economic time to get the funding necessary to keep it running. Please pass this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: lisents@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 5:50:58 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisen Twigg-Smith	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha, I feel compelled to comment on the proposal to help help Kahilu Theater monetarily. I home schooled my children for 5 years and one of the most memorable things that we did was go to the music and performance programs offered to students at Kahilu Theater. At a time when many art and music classes have been cut from public schools I feel the continuation of Kahilu Theater's student outreach program is crucial to inspire and to raise our children with an appreciation for the arts.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: doug@douglasteeples.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 5:59:27 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Teeple	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the bill which helps our Kahilu Theatre with funds. It is a very valuable community resource which I believe deserves support.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: Steve@jefferson-builders.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 6:00:21 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve jefferson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It's a vital part of our community.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy A Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theater is an important link to culture and the arts in Waimea. Please vote to support this measure.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bella Grace	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This testimony is in SUPPORT of the BILL FOR the KAHILU THEATRE. The community benefits of the Kahilu Theatre and its programs are the exposure of the entire west hawaii community to the theatre/arts, music, dance, and culture, including arts and music education for the children at the local public schools, which have little or no arts and music education. The many performances that I have personally attended have given me great joy over the past eight years which has tremendously enhanced and contributed to my personal health and well-being. The appropriation is an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre, most of which consists of private donations, as well as revenue from event ticket sales. I urge you to pledge your support to the health of our community by giving your support to this bill. Mahalo nui loa.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Hummel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a K-8 Art teacher at a school in Waimea and I am so sad to have no Kahilu Theater for my students to visit. Kahilu Theater is an important part of Kamuela and it benefits everyone, from the very young to the very old, by promoting the arts and music. Keeping Kahilu alive will only enrich our community and will continue to keep the culture of art and music alive for many who have no other exposure to the arts.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hien Tran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the Kahilu Theater, which is an important part of the Waimea community with its cultural and educational programs. Thank you.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Springer Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu theater anchors the community and draws residents from around the island to dine and see shows in Waimea. Operating costs exceed what people can pay for accessible theater. The arts matter to Hawaii!

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Ota, D. Ac.	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The Kahilu is a community treasure not to be lost.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gail Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Hirt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This theater is a vital link in Waimea for the all important arts....it brings in a wide variety of artists and they always spend a day at local schools with students sharing their talents and experiences...please support this effort

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin Tarnas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As an elementary teacher and parent in the Kamuela community, I have benefited, and seen children and families benefit, greatly from programs offered by Kahilu Theatre, especially their school programs. Many students are inspired in the arts directly because of exposure to world class artists, who they would not have been able to see if not for Kahilu Theatre. The theater is also an important point of attraction for families who would need to travel too far in order to feel fulfilled in this aspect of culture, if they did not have the benefit of the concerts and shows brought to our community by Kahilu Theatre. Furthermore, as part of a consortium of theaters, Kahilu helps make it possible for top notch artists to come to the state of Hawaii. This theatre is a critical part of the West Hawaii community infrastructure.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cobey Doi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support measures to keep this landmark theater alive for our Waimea and Hawai'i Island community. Thousands of children and adults have benefited from artists from around the world who share their talents and crafts with our tiny little town. I greatly appreciate the chance to see performers and attend functions that I would not otherwise enjoy. Mahalo!

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pat Allbee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia West	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theatre is a landmark venue for The Big Island. It serves as an exceptional location for the island citizens to enjoy world class entertainment in an intimate setting with affordable prices. No other setting like it exists in Hawaii County. It's convenient location for people of West and East Hawaii adds to it's desirability. Let's help keep it going!

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Manu Hanano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Harris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 6, 2013

To: Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts

From: Susan Harris, Resident of Waimea

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1281 – Funding for Kahilu Theater

I am a fairly new resident of Waimea. When I was thinking about moving to Hawaii Island and mulling over where to put down roots, one of the attractions that Waimea had for me was the Kahilu Theater. The idea of having a local venue for theatrical and musical presentations was highly appealing—especially when moving from a more urban area where such things are taken for granted. I value the arts and was devastated when it appeared that the Kahilu Theater would be closing.

As an educator, I am deeply concerned at the lack of arts education available to most of our children. When I was growing up, the arts and music were an integral part of the curriculum. Now, with funding cutbacks and an over-emphasis on standardized testing, the arts have most definitely taken a back seat. I believe this is unfortunate on three levels. First, the arts can enrich the lives of our children. Second, if our children are not exposed to the arts on a regular basis, they will not support them for their children. Finally, as a society we need the arts to put our lives in balance.

I sincerely hope the Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts will give a “thumbs up” to Senator Malama Solomon’s bill requesting funding for the Kahilu Theater. I believe such funding will pay off by providing opportunities for our children—and our children’s children—not to mention those of us who will enjoy the opportunities for cultural enrichment right now!

Thank you for your consideration.

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Cc: chikakohp@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 7:25:52 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chikako Hoshino Powers	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is very important to have the Kahilu theatre to be in part of community. I support the Kahilu theatre to continue to be a part of Kamuela community.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adele MacArthur		Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. The Kahilu Theatre serves all the North/South Kohala Community in numerous ways. It has provided training, education and opportunities to many for several decades and generations.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Len Friedlund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a resident of Arizona and I have been coming to the Big Island for the last 20 years. A performance at the Kahilu is always on my list of things to do. My trip this year will be without that performance unless help is given to the theater.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivienne Aronowitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this community treasure. We have limited access to cultural event on the Big Island. The Kahilu has been very important to Waimea's quality of life and cultural enrichment. It has served all segments of the community and given soem support will get back to its ability to be self sustaining.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joyce oconnor	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support the appropriation for the Kahilu Theatre. It is so important to our community that this community theatre be maintained. It is part of what defines Waimea as a successful community and certainly offers the arts to all ages. These are the elements that define the quality of life in a community. Thank you, Joyce o'Connor

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Rocker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha I have lived in Waimea for the past 27 years and an integral part of the community. It helps to bring a full rounded cultural experience to the keiki and their parents. It has been the venue to support a broad range of the arts. It produces many programs directed at the school children who otherwise would not get a chance to see such wonderful performances. Richard B. Rocker Kamuela

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Kuzmicki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Wizinowich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill for the benefits to our community. The Kahilu Theater presents entertaining programs, yes, but also has vibrant, all-inclusive children's programs. It is the only venue of its type in Kamuela and its surrounding area. I urge you to pass SB1281. Mahalo for your kokua.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Penny Keli'i-Vredenburg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: You have my and my family's FULL support!!

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Snyder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee: I would like to give testimony on behalf of the Kahilu Theatre. I wish to emphasize the community benefits of the Kahilu Theatre and its programs, including arts and music education for the children at the local public schools, which have little or no arts and music education. I would like to point out the appropriation is an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre, most of which consists of private donations, as well as revenue from event ticket sales. Thank you, Jennifer Snyder

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurel Matsuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I simply want to say that the Kahilu Theater is a valuable community resource and I would love to see it supported. As a teacher, I have seen first-hand how many, many students benefit from the Theater's youth programs, and their loss this year has been keenly felt. Please support this community resource. Mahalo.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberley Magoon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I appreciate this bill for Kahilu Theatre being introduced and very much hope to see it pass. The theatre is a long-standing "institution" not only for our Waimea community, but all parts of the island. The theatre brings a variety of music, art, and education that enriches and supports the adults and children of the whole Big Island. Because Kahilu's programs, funded mostly by private donors, are shared with the public schools that have little or no music or art offered, kids get to be exposed to unique and world class experiences. My kids have participated in photography contests, viewed art shows, attended educational events, enjoyed music, art, dance, and theatre of all kinds in this great building. I feel it is a vital part of the community. Kahilu Theatre, which is a historic part of Waimea has struggled with funding over the recent years and its volunteers have worked diligently to remedy the situation to keep this very special place going, but it is very difficult. This is why the funding bill would be immensely important in keeping this Waimea and Big Island treasure alive. It offers so much and serves as an integral part of the education system here in Waimea. We respectfully request support of this bill in the amount of \$200,000 for general operations for Kahilu Theatre. Mahalo, Kimberley and George Magoon

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Rawle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a elementary school classroom teacher at nearby DOE school Waimea Elementary, I saw how the theater presentations excited our students in my 5th, 3rd grade classrooms. I have been to other shows as a resident of Waimea, and the theater brought together many different elements of our community. Please support the Kahilu Theater as a benefit to all future Big Islanders and the arts for kids. Kahilu will work hard and deliver a lot of value for the appropriation/grant under consideration.

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Cc: thelums@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:34:30 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Lum	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please consider the educational value to our children derived from events held at the theater. Hundreds of children have made up audiences for many kinds of programs by artists playing at the Kahilu in the past. We need some help to restart these valuable programs. Thank you. Ann Lum, Waimea

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Cc: joycerobertson@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:35:18 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joyce Robertson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the reopening of the Theater. The arts play an important part in the education of our young people.

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To: [TEC Testimony](#)
Cc: shermwarner@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:40:02 PM
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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherman Warner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS
REGARDING SENATE BILL 1281

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 7, 2013

Time: 16 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 414

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee

My name is Sherman Warner and I am submitting testimony in favor of SB 1281,
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE IN WAIMEA.

Over fifty years ago, I saw my first play (actually three one-acts by Eugene O'Neill, collectively titled THE SEA PLAYS) at the Kahilu Theatre—not the current theatre, but it's predecessor, a WWII USO which became the Kahilu Theatre and is now the Parker School Theatre. I didn't suspect it at the time, but it was a life changing experience. The seed of that experience stayed with me and germinated a couple of years later when I saw my second play, a professional production of OTHELLO in Hartford, Connecticut—actually I saw it many times, from the stage, as a volunteer spear carrier. A few years later, with a degree in theatre from the University of Hawai'i, I headed back to the mainland and a career producing plays and musicals on Broadway and across the United States.

Thirty years in the performing arts, as a stage manager, producer, and audience member, taught me the power of the performing arts, not only in individual lives but also in the lives of communities. The power of live performances of plays, musicals, dance, or music is greater than just the value of those performances as entertainment. The presence of the performing arts in a community is enriching in many, many ways. Across the country, I have seen the power of the performing arts as a catalyst for community growth. I have seen how efforts to revitalize decaying inner cities failed until a long-shuttered theatre was restored, and, when performances lit the stage again, the downtown area was revitalized. The power of the performing arts doesn't end when the curtain comes down, the lights go out and the audience goes home; the echoes and ripples of that performance are shared by the audience and have a lasting, unifying effect on a community.

At a time when arts education in our schools is minimal if it exists at all, the Kahilu Theatre offered extensive school programs. Whether or not a child takes up a career in the arts, as I did, or whether the arts enrich their lives in other ways, exposure to creative thinking has a lasting positive effect. Seeing performances and having direct contact with artists who express themselves in uniquely creative ways, who challenge us to celebrate, question, and affirm our lives is an experience that is an invaluable part of a student's education. On a big island, far from similar venues, the Kahilu Theatre is an invaluable resource for our students.

Waimea and the Big Island were blessed for many years by the generosity of Richard Smart and, after his death, by the hard work of the staff and board of directors who

fought to keep his dream alive. That was a challenge in the best of times, and now, in tough times, it is critically important to support the Kahilu's fight to keep the lights on. As the Kahilu Theatre undertakes a challenging turn around and emerges from what seemed like it might have been a permanent closing, funding to support its operating expenses is important to the Kahilu, to Waimea, to West Hawai'i, and to all of the Big Island. Please support SB1281.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Sherm Warner
P.O. Box 1185
Kamuela, HI 96743
885-1725

From: mallinlist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: zdelate@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:56:43 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zhenya Delate	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu is a very valuable asset to Big Island. Both myself and my 11-year old son had our horizons greatly expanded as both patrons and student of Kahilu's various programs. Top notch! PLEASE allocate some funds to doing away with that that pigeon poop! It's bad feng shui and my only complaint.

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Cc: aniko2@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Avi Okin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a resident of Waimea on Hawai'i Island. I strongly support the measure to provide funds for the continued operations of the Kahilu Theatre. It is a community asset that provides opportunities not only for enrichment of event attendees but also that of the education it provides to our schools with visits and events there. We all benefit from support of the Kahilu. Mahalo, Avi Okin

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Hind	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am in support of this bill to provide funding for the Kahilu Theatre in Kamuela, Hawaii. This theatre sits in the heart of Waimea and provides the only avenue for performing arts in the greater North Kohala, Hamakua, and Waikoloa areas. Through this community theatre all students have access to music, art, and performing arts that would otherwise be unavailable. The KahilumTheatre is vital to our growing community.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 11:48:14 PM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heathermarie Shepard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: ccs@techie.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 12:20:21 AM
Attachments: [Testimony on behalf of Kahilu.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Casey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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My Esteemed Legislators,

Wednesday February 6, 2013

Today, February 6th 2013 marked the 32nd anniversary of opening night at Waimea's Kahilu Theater. But today the theater is closed!

This theater has been an invaluable asset to our community by bringing culture in the form of performing arts to a community not normally blessed with the caliber of artistic talent that has been hosted at the Kahilu Theater over its 32 year run.

But Kahilu Theater is more than just an entertainment venue. It has become an educational instrument for our youth filling in the void created by DOE cuts to Art Programs in our schools. Every act that comes to Kahilu Theater stays in the community for days before the performance holding educational sessions for students of the local schools in N & S Kohala and Kona districts of the Big Island.

Now the operating costs to keep the doors open are being attacked by inflationary pressures beyond the control of its subscribers. This is an asset that we can and do support as a community but we need help from the business community and our government to get our doors open again.

As a state we need to attract residents capable of generating higher tax revenues and Waimea, also known as Kamuela, is one of those communities attractive to such people. But often it takes more than just tropical weather and rainbows to attract them. Schools, medical facilities, and access to quality performing arts are all significant considerations. HPA and Parker School address the educational attraction. North Hawaii Community Hospital begins to address the medical attraction. Unfortunately, the closing of Kahilu Theater has caused a huge void in the Arts attraction.

Please help us keep this valuable resource open and affordable for us all.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Casey

TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SB 1281:
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR KAHILU THEATRE IN WAIMEA, HAWAII.

From: Mike Luce
Kamuela, Hawaii

Aloha Senators,

My name is Mike Luce and I am a 40 year resident of North Hawaii. During that time, I am honored to have served as a volunteer with Kahilu Theatre from 1982 to 2007 when I stepped down as a Past-President of Kahilu Theatre Foundation.

My biography follows at the end of this testimony for your information.

I am writing today in support of SB 1281.

Opening in 1981, Kahilu Theatre flourished under the philanthropic support of Parker Ranch owner Richard Smart and the many dedicated and supportive hands of its loyal volunteers. With Richard's passing in 1992, the loyal volunteers remained but the Theatre's chief benefactor departed.

Kahilu struggled for the next 20 years with only 50% of its annual budget coming from ticket sales. State Foundation and other grants dwindled in a weakening economy, further laying the burden of its operating expenses on volunteers and donors. Then, too, budget cuts in our public schools made exposure to the Arts nearly non-existent save for programmes offered at Kahilu for students in North Hawaii.

I'm sure the Kahilu Foundation has submitted the data on number of performances and frequency of student contacts with the Performing Arts and Artists over the years and I won't repeat the numbers here. Suffice it to say that the data are staggeringly high for the contribution of the Kids at Kahilu programmes in the rural North Hawaii area and for the Big Island in general.

In fact, one of my volunteer/donor friends said upon hearing of Kahilu's taking a one year "intermission": "Without Kahilu, we have virtually nothing in North Hawaii to bring the Arts to our Keiki. The schools aren't doing it. What will we do?"

That is the sentiment on the Big Island regarding the value of Kahilu's presence in our Community-At-Large. Kahilu is needed by young and old alike.

The current Kahilu Foundation Board has managed to retire the debt accumulated during the past years of recession and stand ready to launch anew. Please add your support to their, and the Community's, efforts by passing SB 1281. To support Kahilu, a member of the Statewide network of Performing Arts presenters, is to support the Arts in the State of Hawaii, and especially to help our rural keiki to experience many cultures and the Arts that they would otherwise miss.

Mahalo for your favorable consideration.

BIOGRAPHY FOR MIKE LUCE

- Residence:** South Kohala: 2001 to present; North Kohala: 1972 to 2001;
Oahu: 1970 to 1972; California: 1946 (born) to 1970
- Education:** Undergraduate Degree, Economics, University of California
Graduate Work, Cinematography, California State University
- Occupation:** Founder (1977) and President (1981-2004), M. Luce Contracting, Inc.,
civil engineering contractor; President MLC, Inc. (2003 to Present);
Consultant to and RME for Solar Pools Hawaii, Inc. (2010-present)
Earlier work experience partially listed on page 2 of 2.
- Volunteer Service:** Chair, Waimea Community Assoc. Planning & Design Review Committee
Past Member, North Hawaii Community Hospital Board of Directors
Past Member, NHCH Strategic Operations Committee
Past President, Kohala Ditch Foundation
Past member South Kohala CDP Focus Groups
Past member North Kohala CDP Infrastructure Group
Former Director, Lucy Henriques Medical Center
Former Director, Hawaii Island Economic Development Board
Former Vice President, Hawaii Island Contractors Association
Past Chairman, Hawaii County Planning Commission
Past President, Big Island Business Council
Past President, Kahilu Theatre Foundation Board of Trustees
Past President, Kahilu Theatre Guild
Past President, Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce
Past President, North Hawaii Rotary Club and Paul Harris Fellow
- Past Member:** Kohala Community Association and Planning Committee
UH Hilo and West Hawaii Chancellor's Advisory Committee
South Kohala Traffic Safety Committee

Currently serving the Waimea Community Association as Planning and Design Review Committee Chair, Mike has resided for over 40 years in North and South Kohala. With an educational background in Economics and Cinematography, he was the Founding President of M. Luce Contracting, Inc., a civil engineering contractor, from 1977 to 2004. In 2003, Mike started MLC, Inc., a consultancy for Hawaii County Land Use Planning and Project Site Preparation. Both companies are currently inactive. He and Suzanne Hill were married in 2004 and currently reside at The Uplands of Mauna Kea Resort. In 2010, Mike and Suzanne formed Solar Pools Hawaii, a statewide solar pool heating business with Suzanne as President & Mike as the license holder and Projects Manager.

Mike is Past-President/Chairman of: the Kahilu Theatre Foundation and Guild (retired with 25 years of service), the Hawaii County Planning Commission, the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce, the North Hawaii Rotary Club and the Big Island Business Council. He is a Past-Director of the Lucy Henriques Medical Center, the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, and the Hawaii Island Contractors Association and a past member of the Waimea and Kohala Community Associations, the UH Hilo and West Hawaii Chancellor's Advisory Committee and the South Kohala Traffic Safety Committee.

From: mallinolist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: januarywaimea@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 12:31:55 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
January Herron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have been involved with Kahilu Theatre since it first opened in 1980 or '81. I've acted in plays with Richard Smart, Jo Diotalevi and performed in many musicals. I've attended ongoing acting classes at kahilu, and have both volunteered for years, as well as manage volunteers there. I've gotten great enjoyment out of doing stage make-up for casts, and assisting with costuming. I have also helped bring classes of young children in to experience the theater. Kahilu has been an all around educational, and entertainment center for the community. It has struggled making ends meet. Monies for general management of Kahilu theatre would be money well spent towards enriching the Big Island community and visiting guests. Thank you, Sincerely, January Herron

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Cc: shrickards@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 12:48:30 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Rickards	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I desperately support this measure. The community benefits of the Kahilu Theatre have been countless and its programs, including arts and music education for the children at the local public schools, which have little or no arts and music education, are invaluable for the Waimea community and beyond. Appropriation is an important contribution to the overall budget of the Theatre, most of which consists of private donations, as well as revenue from event ticket sales.

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SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katherine Bell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Kahilu Theatre has been fighting an uphill fight in the last two years, coming back from a \$200,000 debt caused by a combination of an incompetent board/management, and the area's poor economy. The new Board has done miraculous work both with the debt, and reconnecting with other area Arts groups, like the Hawaiian Performing Arts Festival. The Kahilu is an Island resource that not only brings live arts into the Theatre, but also into local schools as well. FOR FREE. Thousands of North Hawaii keiki have, over the years, been exposed to performances and participated in workshops that they would not otherwise have experienced. Some of them have gone on to Dance And Music Colleges elsewhere, and Coe back to perform in the HPAF. The theatre is also essential to the economic life of the town of Waimea. Hundreds of islanders attend each concert, supporting restaurants and stores. Real estate in the area has benefited from the Theatre's presence, as has school enrollment and arts training, including Hula. I can guarantee that if the Legislature is willing to support the North Hawaii community by giving the Kahilu a hand up, the community will pitch in and provide the rest of the support the Theatre needs. But we need your extra push to help stabilize the Theatre while it moves forward. Mahalo plenty for your support!

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Cc: steven.e.bauman@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM*
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 6:57:32 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Bauman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: amprince2000@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 7:21:51 AM
Attachments: [testimony_Kahilu Theatre.doc](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angel Prince	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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The Kahilu Theatre *is* Hawaii's home for the arts. I moved to Hawaii from NYC in 2003 and wondered how I would ever survive without my steady diet of art and culture. Then I discovered the Kahilu Theatre, tucked back behind the main street in Waimea, like a little hidden jewel. I began attending shows at the theatre and stopping in to see the latest art exhibit. As a member of the community I greatly enjoyed all the Kahilu Theatre had to offer, but once I became involved as an artist and teacher for the theatre, I was able to see it's real benefits to the community. There were after school programs like K-Art which provided, among many others, classes in dance, theatre, drumming, ukulele, film making, and song writing free of charge to middle school students who had never been introduced to the arts. This was a profound experience for all involved, teachers and students alike. When the doors to the theatre opened and the parents and friends of these students came to watch their child on stage at the Kahilu Theatre it was a joining of art and community so heartfelt it continues to have effects on those involved. There was a dance program at the theatre which each year included more than 100 students of all ages and brought over 600 people to watch it's final yearly performance. There was a summer student program, which taught science and art to children ages 6-13. There was local art exhibited in the gallery and the ukulele festival, which brought great masters to the community to teach and play this great Hawaiian instrument. There were outreach classes given by the world-class performers who came to the Kahilu Theatre. Dance classes with some of the greatest dance companies in the world, a music class by Victor Wooten and performances in local schools, just to name a few. Most of the performers also offered special performances in the theatre for the local school children, for some, the first live art they had ever seen.

The Kahilu Theater has also brought some of the best performers from around the world to this big island in the middle of the Pacific. From Mikhail Baryshnikov to Ladysmith Black Mambazo our island has been enriched and expanded because of the Kahilu Theatre's vision. Since it's closing last year there has been a hole in the heart of Hawaii. We need this theatre like we need the fresh air, the sunlight and the clean water that Hawaii provides. It is just as important and vital to our health and growth as the nourishment of the land. Please pass this important legislation and help bring the heart of culture back to the big island.

Thank you for your time.

Angel Prince

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: jispa38@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 7:34:54 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josephine I. Piltz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theater is a major benefit to the entire north end of the Island of Hawai'i due to two major reasons: 1. transportation to Hilo and Kailua-Kona, and 2. the cost of transportation to Honolulu. Having the theater in Waimea provides a location for cultural, education, and musical events that the general populations of Pauilo, Honokaa, Waimea, Waikoloa, Kawaihae, Hawi, Kapa'au, and Niuli'i would otherwise be denied. Not only would local families with children be unable to afford to travel to O'ahu for the excellent programs provided at the theater, but due to the distance to Hilo and the cost of gas, access to the UH-Hilo theater is difficult. Running a theater is terribly expensive, but the benefits are long term for our children at the north end of our island.

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Cc: erik@hawaiiancloudforestcoffee.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 7:54:26 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Gunther	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill! If there ever was a case for government support this is it. The arts are one of the best ways to educate and improve our lives. Thank you. Erik & Hillery Gunther.

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Cc: drfrantabor@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 7:56:36 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fran L. Tabor	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please provide funding to keep the Kahilu Theatre alive. It has been and needs to continue to be a cornerstone and vital part of our community. The theatre brings tourism, provides educational support for the arts for our children and adults, and is the only link to international culture that many receive. I have been a theatre volunteer for over 10 years and have seen first hand how the Kahilu Theatre is so critical to our quality of life.

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Cc: kitroehrig@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 7:57:15 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kit roehrig	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Saving Kahilu Theatre is a must. It is a substantial part of the community and island and the only theatre of its kind on the island.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: doppelblack@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:07:47 AM
Attachments: [Kahilu.pdf](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Blackburn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii Island needs for this important cultural resource to continue, and to thrive!

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I have lived on Hawaii Island for ten years, and became acquainted with the Kahilu Theater shortly after I arrived. From dance to classical music to Pacific Rim music to slack key guitar, the theater has offered a variety and quality of entertainment that has been available nowhere else on our island. This array of entertainment has been truly amazing, and the value of the theater as a resource to the Waimea community and to our entire island cannot be overstated. It has, in fact, allowed Hawaii Island to have access to a real slice of the cultural amenities available on Oahu and on Maui.

A crucial part of the theater's mission has involved the education of island school children. Many of the performers in the past have given additional performances specifically in schools as part of their theater agreement. At a time when funding for arts has been declining in general, and particularly for that aspect of education, the theater has been instrumental in introducing many of our school children to the broader world of performing arts. I strongly believe that education is not limited just to traditional classroom studies, and I believe the theater will continue to have a strong role in education and outreach to area schools.

The Kahilu Theater has been a venue and a resource that would be the envy of many larger communities. It's something that must not be lost. The local community has rallied to its aid; its value, I believe, goes beyond the reach of the local community and does, in fact, include the entire state.

Thomas Blackburn
Kailua Kona, Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: kaiulani@kalo.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:29:58 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
V. Ka'iulani Pahi'o	KALO - Kanu o ka Aina Learning Ohana	Support	No

Comments: In the past years, the Kahilu Theater has provided valuable opportunities through their positive cultural and educational programs. Please help to support this important endeavor for future programs. Mahaio for your consideration.

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Cc: dpetteys@hpa.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:30:58 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana Petteys	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this theatre as a vital part of arts and culture in Hawai'i.

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: napono13@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM*
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:50:37 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Devynne Pahio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: ferronguppy@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:51:55 AM
Attachments: [Kahilu Theatre.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michelle guppy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Kahilu Theatre

I reside in Kona and my children have been given multiple educational opportunities for music and arts because of the Kahilu Theatre. I believe that we are in need of support to continue the Arts on the west side of rural Hawaii island. Our families and keiki deserve to experience the Arts in a safe and comfortable venue.

Please fund Kahilu Theatre.

Michelle Guppy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: surfer.mom@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:54:09 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Haight	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kahilu Theatre is the only venue for our families to have exposure to any arts/theater productions. These productions provide the only exposure to a variety of art and music from all over the world. It was the only time my children could see, hear and feel the great performances of various cultures, styles and places. With all the arts/music cut out from school curriculum, this is often the **ONLY** place most of our communities families and children have the opportunity to experience the arts. The only other venues that may offer similar experiences are more than 60 miles away! This theatre is the heart of our community arts opportunities for children and organizations to display their work and experience world-wide culture. PLEASE support our community theater. Aloha, Barbara Haight

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: TECTestimony
Cc: jackiemjefferson@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:55:35 AM

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jackie Jefferson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To whom it may concern, I had the pleasure of working at the Kahilu Theatre 7 years ago, before I moved to Colorado. It was the single most gratifying role I have ever held in my career. I was involved in fundraising, in the development department and I spent long hours observing the performances, the audiences, the donors, and life at the Kahilu. I wrote grant proposals and final reports and many times it brought tears to my eye. The performances and learning that take place at the Kahilu touch the hearts and souls of adults and children alike. The Kahilu provides a valuable service to the children of Hawaii Island, particularly the underserved population. The arts provide an outlet for many young people and it is through exposure to the arts that they begin to formulate their own interests and confidence to pursue them. The arts also provide opportunities for families to come together in a stimulating environment and for many, it provides a conversation starter where there would otherwise be none. The arts bridge the gaps of social and economic, and generational disparity, When my family was making plans to move back to Hawaii, from Colorado, one of the things we were really looking forward to being a part of was the Kahilu Theatre. When I heard the "lights were out" at the Kahilu, I was deeply saddened. I was sad not only for myself and my children, but for all the families on the Big Island. Many of the performances at the Kahilu passively teach our community about different cultures, diversity, acceptance, foreign movements and sounds - not all of them we enjoy, but we can still learn to appreciate them for what they are and appreciate the hard work and dedication artists put into their work. The Summer Camp is another program at the Kahilu that is irreplaceable and without access to the facilities and participation of the teachers, there is, again, something sadly missing from our community. The Big Island has many festivals, parades, attractions and beautiful outdoor opportunities, but the arts and the way they are presented at the Kahilu are critical to the fabric of our community and we desperately need the theatre to be back in action and well funded. I implore you to support the Kahilu Theatre with as much funding as possible, to help the board of directors make a fresh start and create a sustainable performing art center. Aloha, Jackie Jefferson

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To: [TECTestimony](#)
Cc: kerlevm@bigisland.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1281 on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM
Date: Thursday, February 07, 2013 8:57:45 AM
Attachments: [Testimoney.docx](#)

SB1281

Submitted on: 2/7/2013

Testimony for TEC on Feb 7, 2013 13:16PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marsha Kerley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Marsha L. Kerley

59-315 Pualele Place

Kamuela, HI 96743

February 7, 2013

Re: Bill #SB1281

To whom it may concern:

I would like to submit testimony in favor of bill SB1281 which supports the Kahilu Theatre in Waimea on the Big Island. My husband and I have been supporters of the theater for almost 15 years and have missed its presence when it had to close its doors last year.

The theater has been the cultural center for live performances and music education for the children of this lovely island. Your help in reopening its doors would be a boon to the community.

Best regards,

Marsha Kerley