

SB 487

Measure Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION.

Report Title: Grants; Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds as a grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association for its tourism-related programs.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: THA, WAM

Introducer(s): GALUTERIA, Kahele

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
1/18/2013	S	Introduced.
1/22/2013	S	Passed First Reading.
1/22/2013	S	Referred to THA, WAM.
1/28/2013	S	The committee(s) on THA has scheduled a public hearing on 02-06-13 2:45PM in conference room 224.



SB487
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE
NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION
Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs

February 6, 2013

2:45 p.m.

Room 224

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB487, which proposes to appropriate an as yet unspecified sum out of the State's general revenues as a grant pursuant to Chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association for its tourism-related programs.

This bill would support the preservation and sharing of Native Hawaiian culture, fostering progress toward the achievement of one of OHA's strategic priorities, specifically:

Mo'omeheu Culture

To strengthen identity, Native Hawaiians will preserve, practice and perpetuate their culture.

In light of the above, OHA urges the committee to **PASS** SB487.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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Neil Abercrombie
Governor

Mike McCartney
President and Chief Executive Officer

Testimony of
Mike McCartney
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
on
S.B. 487
Making an Appropriation for the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 6, 2013
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 224

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) opposes S.B. 487, which makes a grant to the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association (NaHHA) for its tourism-related programs.

As a policy-making board, the Authority's board is empowered to make and execute contracts to engage the services of consultants to carry-out its functions under the law, subject to the availability of funds. As such, HTA's board has adopted the Tourism Strategic Plan, which includes in its objectives strengthening the relationship between the visitor industry and the Hawaiian community, nurturing the Hawaiian culture, and supporting Hawaiian programs and cultural practitioners, craftsmen, musicians and artists. Any Hawaiian organization, nonprofit organization, artists and cultural practitioners engaging in promoting Hawaiian culture can submit a proposal to the HTA to develop and implement tourism-related Hawaiian cultural promotional training programs.

The HTA continues to work together with NaHHA and supports their vision to "perpetuate an authentic spirit of aloha and Hawaiian culture in hospitality industry planning, promotion and product development." For the upcoming fiscal period, HTA has budgeted \$325,000 for its Hawaiian culture initiative, which includes incorporating the elements of the native Hawaiian culture into all HTA programs and leveraging visitor industry resources to help perpetuate the Hawaiian culture. As part of this initiative, NaHHA has received over \$3 million for its services and programs.

We do not feel that S.B. 487 is necessary, because what it attempts to achieve is already possible under the existing law. If the legislature wants to fund NaHHA, it should come out of the general fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

SB487

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for THA on Feb 6, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Au Hoon, President	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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