

# SB 614

# Testimony

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO PUBLIC WORKS OF ART.

**Report Title:** Public Art; State Foundation of Culture and the Arts; Daniel Inouye; Patsy Mink; Appropriation (\$)

**Description:** Requires the comptroller and the state foundation on culture and the arts to commission permanent works of art to honor the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye and the late U.S. Representative Patsy T. Mink. Appropriates funds.

**Companion:**

**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** TEC, WAM

**Introducer(s):** GABBARD, CHUN OAKLAND, Baker, English, Keith-Agaran, Shimabukuro, Wakai

**TESTIMONY OF  
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
TO  
THE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS  
ON  
JANUARY 31, 2013**

**S. B. 614**

Chair Wakai and members of the Committee, I am Eva Laird Smith, executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. I am pleased to support the intent of S. B. 614 Relating to Public Works of Art. Provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

The contributions of the Honorable Daniel K. Inouye to the people of Hawaii and to Hawaii's development as a vibrant and respected state in the nation merit more than a single effort to memorialize him. The late senator has earned a place in the hearts of the people of Hawaii. The commissioning of a work of art to honor his legacy, and outstanding contribution to our state and our people will inspire generations to come. It is a most fitting tribute that will last in perpetuity.

The Honorable Patsy T. Mink also dedicated her life to representing Hawaii in the United States Congress. It is fitting that we honor her memory as well.

The State Foundation's Collections Policy for the Art in Public Places Collection stipulates that the SFCA cannot initiate

commemorative works of art, including memorials. However, S. B. 614 will make it possible for our agency to respond to a mandate from the Legislature. The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts will conform to its Collections Policy for commissioning works of art, and work alongside an art advisory committee that will recommend the type of artwork, selection of artist, and a suitable site and location in consultation with a three-member committee to be selected by the governor, senate president, and the speaker of the house of representatives.

Funds for memorializing works of art need to be appropriated at \$225,000 each. The works of art will be set for completion for fiscal years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

The State Foundation's Works of Art Special Fund currently operates with a cash balance of \$2.5 million at any given year. These funds are designated for commissioning works of art raised through construction of a building. In the case of commemorative works of art, construction is usually not part of the process.

We acknowledge the lasting legacy to our beloved state by the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye and the late United States Representative Patsy T. Mink. It is our fervent wish to honor them in perpetuity.

We therefore appeal to the Legislature to help us meet the estimated expenditures for the commissioning of two memorializing art works with some form of funding assistance.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.