

# **SCR 57**

**SUPPORTING A BID TO THE COUNCIL OF PACIFIC ARTS  
AND CULTURE FOR HAWAII TO HOST THE 2020  
FESTIVAL OF PACIFIC ARTS**



Hawai'i Convention Center  
1810 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
kelepona: (808) 973-7756  
kelepona: (808) 973-2253  
ka hua pa'ala: [hawaii-tourismauthority.org](http://hawaii-tourismauthority.org)

**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.C.R. 57**  
Supporting a Bid to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture  
for Hawaii to Host the 2020 Festival of Pacific Arts

Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts  
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs  
Monday, March 24, 2014  
3:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 224

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) supports S.C.R. 57, supports a bid to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture for Hawaii to host the 2020 Festival of Pacific Arts, and establishes an exploratory committee to submit a bid proposal.

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. In addition to the Native Hawaiian culture and its importance to the quality of our residents' life and the experience of our visitors, we also recognize the role that other cultures play in our "local" culture.

The Festival of Pacific Arts gives us an opportunity to host an event in which participating nations in Oceania to promote traditional practices and showcase and share their indigenous cultures.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 9:36 AM  
**To:** TECTestimony  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SCR57 on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM

**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha, In1984, I had the honor, among 26 kumu hula, to represent the State of Hawaii at the Fourth Festival of Pacific Arts, Noumea, New Caledonia. It was a lifetime memorable experience that left a lasting impression on me resulting in an appreciation of the other Pacific cultures. The Festival of Pacific Arts was founded due to concerns by elders that their culture was not being practiced by youth and was being westernized. Thus, the festival was conceived to stem erosion of traditional cultural practices by sharing and exchanging culture at each festival. Approximately 26 countries participate with over 3000 delegates. Finally, Hawaii has the opportunity to bid to host this festival, a meaningful activity that would enhance relationships with the indigenous people of the Pacific and their governments. Please support SCR 57.

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COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 24, 2014

TIME: 3:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 224, State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

**Subject: SCR 57 - Supporting a Bid to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture for Hawaii to Host the 2020 Festival of Pacific Arts**

My name is Maile Kanemaru and I support SCR 57.

Hawaii has never hosted the Festival of Pacific Arts and I think that this is a great opportunity to draw both tourists and local residents which would give an economic boost to the State of Hawaii

I strongly urge that an exploratory committee convene with the purpose of submitting a bid proposal to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture to host the 2020 Festival of Pacific Arts in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 23, 2014 7:48 AM  
**To:** TECTestimony  
**Cc:**  
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**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leslie Lucas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SCR57 and bring the Festival of Pacific Arts to Hawaii! It is a wonderful festival that promotes Pacific Island life and culture that can be shared with the world! This festival can and will promote Hawaii and it's culture in an awe inspiring way. It will bring many festival fans and participants to Hawaii and showcase Hawaii in its utmost beauty. Please support and pass SCR57! Mahalo nui loa!

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**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SCR57 on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM

**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annette Mueller-Dombois	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the bid SRC57 for the 2010 Festival of Pacific Arts to be held in Honolulu. I have attended, together with my husband, Dieter Mueller-Dombois, several festivals. Honolulu with its venues would be the ideal place for the festival. The people of Hawaii would gain knowledge of their neighbors in the Pacific and the Hawaii tourist industry would certainly benefit. For Oceania and its people, their values, their culture, their way of life, the festival in Honolulu will benefit all.

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**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**To:** TECTestimony  
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**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorothy Letts	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SCR 57. It is important for the State of Hawai`i to recognize and support its pacific heritage. The Pacific Arts Festival has never been hosted in Hawai`i and it is important that the State play an active role in hosting this event. The perpetuation and respect for the cultural heritage and practices of the first people of these islands is essential to maintaining our identity and way of life. I urge you to support this Resolution.

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Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie

**S.C.R. 57**

Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair

Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Hearing on Monday, March 24, 2014, at 3:15 p.m.

Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony **supporting** S.C.R. 57, which would form an exploratory committee to submit a bid from Hawai'i to host the 2020 Festival of Pacific Arts. As a dancer and kumu graduate of Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima, I have had the honor to be a member of the Hawai'i delegation to the Festival twice – to the 2000 Festival in New Caledonia and to the 2004 Festival in Palau.

I cannot tell you the impact that these experiences have had on me as a dancer, practitioner, and as an individual Kanaka 'Ōiwi. I was proud to represent Hawai'i and to be part of delegations that presented the very best of Kānaka 'Ōiwi traditional and modern cultural expressions – from hula, kākau, lauhala weaving, and kapa making to recent plays in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, pottery, fashion, and visual arts.

I also learned incredible lessons from those who hosted us and I have made life-long friends, not only with those within our delegation, but also with those who hosted us. I saw first hand the beauty, joy, and pride of the Kanak people of New Caledonia, their struggle for freedom from French colonial subjugation, and their ongoing efforts to forge a new relationship with France. I learned of the history of Palau and experienced its robust traditional culture, a culture that is still reflected in its legal institutions. I learned of Palau's complex relationship with Japan and its strong ties to the United States – ties that have not prevented it from gaining independence and fully expressing its own sovereignty. These journeys have informed my life and view of the world and have made me much more cognizant of Kānaka 'Ōiwi as part of the larger Pacific family.

Hawai'i would be an ideal place to hold the 2020 Festival of Pacific Arts. Others in the Pacific, including American Sāmoa and, most recently, Solomon Islands, have generously opened their homes and islands to host the Festival. Hawai'i would gain immeasurably – culturally, artistically, and even economically – from forging stronger ties to other Pacific Island nations and particularly to the indigenous peoples of those nations. Thus, I am in strong support of S.C.R. 57 and of Hawai'i submitting a bid for the Festival.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to present this testimony.



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**SCR57**

**SUPPORTING A BID TO THE COUNCIL OF PACIFIC ARTS AND CULTURE FOR HAWAII TO HOST THE 2020 FESTIVAL OF PACIFIC ARTS.**

Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts and Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

March 24, 2014, 3:15p.m., Room 224

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I have served as the Hawaii Representative to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture since 2000, and I have participated in four festivals since 2000.

- In 2000, I was the head of the women's performing arts group and assistant to the Head of Delegation (for 80 delegates) for the 8<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts held in Noumea, New Caledonia.
- In 2004, I was the head of the women's performing arts group and the Head of Delegation (for 70 delegates) for the 9<sup>th</sup> Festival held in Koror, Palau.
- In 2008, I was the Head of Delegation (for 60 delegates) for the 10<sup>th</sup> Festival held in Pagopago, American Samoa.
- And in 2012, I was the head of the men's and women's performing arts group and the Head of Delegation (for 27 delegates) for the 11<sup>th</sup> Festival that was held in Honiara, Solomon Islands.
- We are now getting ready to take a large delegation to the 12<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture to be held in 2016, in Guam.

The Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture started in 1972 in order to retain and maintain the traditional arts of the Pacific Island communities and to encourage the younger generation to learn from their elders and the masters of the arts. It is held every four years in a different Pacific Island Nation, and it selects first those countries who have not previously hosted this festival. Hawaii has participated in every festival since the second festival held in 1976.

In 2000, the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture decided that the festival would rotate between Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, and it has done just that since New Caledonia in 2000. In 2020, the 13<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture will be held in a Polynesian country that has not yet hosted the festival.

In 2012, at the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture, and on behalf of Hawaii, I submitted to the council intent for Hawaii to submit a full bid proposal to host the 13<sup>th</sup> Festival in 2020. The full council unanimously accepted our intent. We are now preparing to submit the full proposal to host the 13<sup>th</sup> Festival in 2020, and are asking for the support of the legislature.

During the last four festivals that I have attended I have seen countries unite, I have seen countries thrive, I have seen the economy of each country boosted because of the festival that they hosted. And I have seen delegates and hosts travel more frequently between their

countries to visit and share with each other because of the bonds that were nurtured during the festivals.

Hawaii is very unique in that we have indigenous people from almost every, if not every, country that participates in the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture, living in Hawaii, and now calling Hawaii their home. We have the potential of connecting these people with their families and friends they left behind. We have the potential of creating new, long lasting bonds that will bring our cousins across the Pacific closer to us and help us all to live in peace and harmony here in Hawaii. And, we the indigenous people of Hawaii, this homeland, are ready to take on this kuleana. Please support us to make this a reality.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Mapuana de Silva

Kumu Hula of Halau Mohala 'Ilima

Hawai'i Representative to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture

Head of the Hawai'i Delegation to the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture

Māpuana de Silva  
Halau Mohala Ilima

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**SCR57**

**SUPPORTING A BID TO THE COUNCIL OF PACIFIC ARTS AND CULTURE  
FOR HAWAII TO HOST THE 2020 FESTIVAL OF PACIFIC ARTS.**

Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts and Committee on Transportation and  
International Affairs

March 24, 2014, 3:15p.m., Room 224

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As the kumu hula of Halau Mohala Ilima, I would like to submit support of this resolution on behalf of my entire halau, it's students, and their families. We look forward to greeting and hosting our Pacific Island cousins to our shores in 2020, and we also look forward to working together with our indigenous Hawaiian community to prepare for the arrival of our cousins.

This is a great time for us as Hawaiians and as Hawaiian cultural practitioners to work together towards a single goal, that will both teach us and allow us to teach others. We have traveled throughout the Pacific to visit our Pacific Island cousins and would like to have the opportunity to reciprocate.

We hope that you agree that hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture in 2020 will be a good thing for Hawai'i and for the indigenous people of this homeland of Hawai'i. We are in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. We are the hub of Pacific travel. Let's welcome our Pacific Islanders and the visitors who would like to witness this great celebration to our shores with your full support.

Me ka ha'ahā'a,  
Kumu Hula Mapuana de Silva  
Halau Mohala Ilima

Chinky Māhoe  
Kumu Hula: Kawaili'ulā

Re: SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING A BID TO THE COUNCIL OF PACIFIC ARTS AND CULTURE  
FOR HAWAII TO HOST THE 2020 FESTIVAL OF PACIFIC ARTS.

I Chinky Māhoe support this bid for Hawai'i to host the  
2020 Festival Of Pacific Arts.

In the past, there were some less fortunate islanders  
hosting this festival and trying their best to make sure  
that festival continues.

I believe it is time for Hawai'i to come forward and give  
back to our fellow Pacific Islanders and organize this  
Festival.

We are a culture so enriched and strong today since so many  
of our youth has shown interest in learning the Hawaiian  
language, hula and crafts along with other aspects of our  
culture.

This is also a great opportunity for our local cultural  
practitioners to enjoy and participate in this festival  
without having to fundraise and travel to another  
destination.

Mahalo me ka ha'aha'a,

Chinky Māhoe

**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2014 8:12 AM  
**To:** TECTestimony  
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**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Howell Mahoe Jr	Kali'ula Foundation/Na Kini Kailua	Support	No

Comments: I Chinky Māhoe support this bid for Hawai'i to host the 2020 Festival Of Pacific Arts. In the past, there were some less fortunate islanders hosting this festival and trying their best to make sure that festival continues. I believe it is time for Hawai'i to come forward and give back to our fellow Pacific Islanders and organize this Festival. We are a culture so enriched and strong today since so many of our youth has shown interest in learning the Hawaiian language, hula and crafts along with other aspects of our culture. This is also a great opportunity for our local cultural practitioners to enjoy and participate in this festival without having to fundraise and travel to another destination. Mahalo me ka ha'aha'a, Chinky Māhoe

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**Gordon Fernandez**

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**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pamela Carey-Goo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Hawaii sponsoring the Pacific Festival. It is a great opportunity and privilege to support our Hawaiian culture and all Pacific island cultures. The opportunity for Hawai'i citizens to be able to witness this event without paying thousands of dollars to fly to one of the other countries who participate in the festival.

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**Gordon Fernandez**

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**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalani Kaanaana	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I stand in strong support of cultural activities such as this strengthening Hawaii and it's people. Please support this resolution to bring the Festival of Pacific Arts to Hawaii Mahalo, Kalani Kaanaana

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**Gordon Fernandez**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**SCR57**

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for TEC/TIA on Mar 24, 2014 15:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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