



**HAWAII**  
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**TESTIMONY OF  
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
on April 1, 2014**

**SCR 57**

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

Chair Ige and members of the committee, I am Barbara Saromines-Ganne, Chairperson of the Commission on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) and I am testifying in support of the intent of SCR 57.

The tradition of this gathering of Pacific Island peoples and nations carries with it the importance of the identity, independence, history and pride of island peoples in the Pacific. The SFCA has joined Hawai'i delegations in attending previous festivals with Commissioners and staff. The festivals are well attended and spirited. In years when our budget was restricted by economic conditions, we provided modest funding for related expenses such as planning committee meetings, costumes for musicians and dancers, and honoraria for participating halau.

The SFCA would be pleased to be represented on the local committee appointed to plan the festival if Hawaii's bid to host is accepted. Perpetuation of the arts and culture of Hawaii's native people has long been central to the SFCA's mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.