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Statement of
Richard Harris

Before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND
TECHNOLOGY**

Monday, March 12, 2018
1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
HB2558
RELATING TO CREATIVE LAB HAWAII.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Senate Committee
on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology:

I am writing in support of HB2558 which appropriates funds to expand the
Creative Lab Hawaii Program.

My name is Richard Harris and I am a songwriter and record producer from Los Angeles. I was fortunate to have been one of the professional mentors and staff for the last two years at The Creative Lab in Hawaii. Both times I was taken back by not only the way the event was run but also by the talent and professionalism of the artists and writers I got to work with over the course of the immersive. Artists and writers like Liv, Chase and Carl Kauhane, Keilana Mokulehua and Joshua Jones were all so dedicated and it was a pleasure for me to write and help these participants. This industry requires a huge amount of talent and hard work to succeed but it also requires access to mentors that are already successful to guide new talent towards their own success. The Creative Lab does just that and creates working relationships that I know will last. The music we created at the last two creative labs are already generating income through the music licenses that have been placed. This is income that will sustain the writers and help them continue to write and develop more music which in turn will generate more revenue for them through synch licenses (placements in TV, Film and TV Ad's) and the royalties received from the performances. This can only positively impact on them and also the community around them.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.