

HB-1375-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 9:17:18 PM

Testimony for LCA on 3/12/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jan elliott	Testifying for Bishop Museum Association Council	Support	No

Comments:

As a volunteer member of the Bishop Museum Association Council, I'm writing to support a significant increase in Bishop Museum's annual appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. I have watched for years as employees struggle to do multiple jobs and deferred maintenance piles up. It's hard to attract and retain members (The Council's task) when there is not only no money to run innovative and creative programs for members, we can't even run these programs when they are free! There is simply not enough staff to support them. But what really got my attention was last year's museum fire in Brazil, which destroyed millions of irreplaceable biological specimens and items of cultural significance. This could happen here. Bishop has 22 million biological specimens as well as one of the 3 top Pacific libraries in the world. Its archive of Hawaiian and other Pacific artifacts is the largest in the world. Bishop is recognized worldwide as the premier museum of the Pacific region, with 130 years of history and a vast archive in many fields. It is of immense value to scientists and cultural practitioners alike. It would be catastrophic if these irreplaceable treasures were lost to a fire like that in Brazil.

Hawaii should be proud and supportive of our State Museum and help it to survive for the benefit of current and future generation. Please support the above bills!

Hawai'i State Museum of Natural and Cultural History

Supporting an Increase in the Museum's Annual Appropriation

SB699 & HB1375

HB1375/ HD2: Appropriates funds to support the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History; provided that the appropriation shall not reduce DBEDT's base

budget for the Hawaii Museum. This bill has a [hearing](#) scheduled in front of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts on **Tuesday, March 12 at 2:45 pm** in Conference Room 224.

[SB 699/SD2](#): Beginning with the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, requires the governor to include in the executive budget a minimum amount per fiscal year as a recurring cost to be allocated to the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History. Appropriates funds to support the work of the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History. This bill has a [hearing](#) scheduled in front of the House Committee on Tourism & International Affairs on **Tuesday, March 12 at 9:00 am** in Conference Room 312.

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

FROM: Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
Historic Hawai'i Foundation

Committee: Tuesday, March 12, 2019
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 224

RE: **HB 1375 HD2, Relating to State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural & Cultural History**

On behalf of Historic Hawaii Foundation, I am writing in **support for HB 1375 HD2**. The bill would appropriate funds to support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, which is designated as the State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum campus is a designated historic district that is significant for its cultural, architectural, educational, scientific and historical contributions to the Hawaiian Islands. The first building of the museum was constructed in 1889. It was founded by Charles Reed Bishop as a memorial to his wife, Pauahi, who was the last of the royal Kamehameha line.

The Hawaiian Hall complex, built to house the founding collections of Bishop Museum, was constructed in three building phases from 1888 to 1903. Its buildings established a construction style and use of materials that was used through the early 1930s in Hawai'i. Particularly notable was its precedent-setting use of cut basalt stone, most of which was quarried on the grounds. Today, the complex is regarded as a masterwork of late Victorian museum design. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of Hawai'i's most significant and iconic buildings.

The impact and importance of Bishop Museum is incalculable, not only for the people of the Hawaiian Islands, but also throughout the Pacific. The buildings, operations, research and exhibits all need to be supported for the education, inspiration, pleasure and enrichment of the public. The proposed appropriation will assist the Museum in its stewardship and trusteeship for both present and future generations.

Since 1974, Historic Hawai'i Foundation has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. Its members and supporters work to preserve Hawaii's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believe that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, economic viability and environmental sustainability of the state.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports HB 1375 HD2.

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts

Senator Ryan I. Yamane, Vice Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts

FROM: Angus Raff-Tierney, M.A., Legislative Committee Chair,
Society for Hawaiian Archaeology
angusrafftierney@yahoo.com

HEARING: Tuesday, March 12th at 2:45 PM in conference room 224.

SUBJECT: Testimony in SUPPORT of **HB1375** RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY.

I am Angus Raff-Tierney, Legislative Committee Chair of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology. We have over 150 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. I am writing this testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB1375 HD2**, which will significantly increase the Bishop Museum's annual appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. As our State Museum, Bishop Museum's work is of great cultural, scientific, and intrinsic value to the State of Hawai'i and must be supported at a much higher level than it is today. Bishop Museum stewards the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic materials, including unique and irreplaceable materials that are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge. Its natural history collections provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species. In addition, the Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to support the educational development of Hawai'i's school age children. These activities are of tremendous importance to the State and to the work of my organization, and I wholeheartedly support this bill to increase the Museum's annual appropriation.

Mahalo for considering our testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email address.

HB-1375-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 6:04:13 PM

Testimony for LCA on 3/12/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rona Ikehara-Quebral	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Senate Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts

From: Rona Ikehara-Quebral (Archaeologist), International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.

I am writing this testimony in **SUPPORT of HB1375 HD2**, which will be heard on Tuesday, March 12th at 2:45 PM. I have been a professional archaeologist in Hawai'i for over 30 years, and advocate the protection and preservation of our island's dwindling cultural resources. In order to do this, more funding is needed to properly restore and curate these resources. I support a significant increase in Bishop Museum's annual appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. As our State Museum, Bishop Museum's work is of great cultural, scientific, and intrinsic value to the State of Hawai'i and must be supported at a much higher level than it is today. Bishop Museum stewards the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic materials, including unique and irreplaceable materials that are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge. Its natural history collections provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species. In addition, the Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to support the educational development of Hawai'i's school age children. These activities are of tremendous importance to the State and to the work of my organization, and I wholeheartedly support this bill to increase the Museum's annual appropriation.

Thank you for your consideration.

To: Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

From: Dr. Julie M. E. Taomia, US Army Garrison – Pohakuloa Cultural Resources Manager

I am writing this testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB1375 HD2**, which will be heard on Tuesday, March 12th at 2:45 PM. I am writing to support a significant increase in Bishop Museum's annual appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. As our State Museum, Bishop Museum's work is of great cultural, scientific, and intrinsic value to the State of Hawai'i and must be supported at a much higher level than it is today. Bishop Museum stewards the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic materials, including unique and irreplaceable materials that are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge. Its natural history collections provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species. In addition, the Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to support the educational development of Hawai'i's school age children. These activities are of tremendous importance to the State and I wholeheartedly support this bill to increase the Museum's annual appropriation.

As a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley I traveled to Oahu for archival research at the Bishop Museum that contributed to my dissertation on the prehistory of the Cook Islands, accessing notes and information not available in the published literature. As a professional I have continued to make use of the Bishop Museum's resources, and the Cultural Resources Section at Pohakuloa Training Area regularly contacts Bishop Museum staff to assist us in understanding the material remains we find in archaeological sites at PTA.

Almost three years ago on a family vacation I was lucky enough to trip across the exhibit "Royal Hawaiian Featherwork: Nā Hulu Ali'i" with my children at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, which included feather works from the Bishop Museum collection. But I was crushed to learn that due to a shortage of funding this fantastic exhibit was not shown at the Bishop Museum. I encourage you to increase funding for the Bishop Museum so that exhibits such as this one can be shown in Hawai'i, and so that the valuable resource that is the Bishop Museum will continue to be available to researchers and the people of Hawai'i for years to come.

HB-1375-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:51:45 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/12/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Hodara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Senate Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts

From: Rachel Hodara Nelson

I am writing this testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB1375 HD2**, which will be heard on Tuesday, March 12th at 2:45 PM. I'm writing to support a significant increase in Bishop Museum's annual appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. As our State Museum, Bishop Museum's work is of great cultural, scientific, and intrinsic value to the State of Hawai'i and must be supported at a much higher level than it is today. Bishop Museum stewards the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic materials, including unique and irreplaceable materials that are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge. Its natural history collections provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species. In addition, the Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to support the educational development of Hawai'i's school age children. These activities are of tremendous importance to the State and to the work of my organization, and I wholeheartedly support this bill to increase the Museum's annual appropriation.

Having just returned from Aetearoa, New Zealand, I witnessed the great investment in culture and natural history and education in that country, and hope that Hawaii can make the same investment for its precious cultural and natural history.

Aloha,

Rachel



March 12, 2019

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts

Conference Room 224
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in strong **SUPPORT** of **HB1375 HD2**, Relating to the State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural and Cultural History

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Committee Members:

My name is Melanie Ide and I am the President and CEO of the Bishop Museum. **I strongly support HB1375 HD2**, which appropriates funds to support the work of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, officially designated as the State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

The Museum's collections encompass more than 25 million catalogued objects, placing Bishop Museum among the top five natural history museums in the United States and the top 10 in the world. The collections include over 1.2 million cultural artifacts, representing Native Hawaiian, Pacific Island, and Hawai'i immigrant life; more than 125,000 historical publications, including many in the Hawaiian language; 1 million historical photographs, films, works of art, and publications; and over 22 million plant and animal specimens.

Museum researchers have discovered over 17,000 species of plants, animals, and insects throughout the Pacific region, and have made countless discoveries related to the migration, settlement, and daily life of Pacific peoples. The Museum's educational programs provide science and cultural education opportunities to thousands of Hawai'i schoolchildren each year, and it is estimated that the Museum has hosted more than 10 million visitors over its history. Passage of this bill enables our committed staff to continue sharing Hawai'i's unique knowledge base and stories with the world.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.

Me ka ha'a ha'a,

Melanie Y. Ide
President & CEO

March 12, 2019

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE, AND ARTS

Sen. Taniguchi, Chair
Sen. Ihara, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 12, 2019
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Location: Conference Room 224, Hawaii State Capitol

Re: RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY.

This bill appropriates funds to support the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History; provided that the appropriation shall not reduce DBEDT's base budget for the Hawaii Museum. (HB1375 HD2)

Dear members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture, and Arts:

The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) testifies in Strong Support of Passage of HB 1375 HD 2.

The State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History is an incomparable and precious resource for the state of Hawaii and its people, in part due to the strength of its collections and its longstanding and rigorous research, which has helped to capture and tell the story of the people of Polynesia, including Native Hawaiians.

The knowledge and information this museum provides is crucial to our understanding of Oceania and Polynesia, and increased state funding is crucial to its continued existence, which benefits all of us.

We support HB 1375 HD 2 and urge its passage.

Sincerely,



J. Kuhio Lewis
Chief Executive Officer

HB-1375-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:54:52 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/12/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mele Look	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am Mele Look, 1st Vice President of the Bishop Museum Association Council, a volunteer organization that represents the members of the Bishop Museum. I strongly support the increase in financial support for the Bishop Museum. The Museum is an important resource and unique treasure for Hawaii, the Pacific, and the World. It is a premiere institution and is designated a State Museum.

Bishop Museum stewards the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic materials, including unique and irreplaceable materials that are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge. Its natural history collections provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species. In addition, the Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to support the educational development of Hawai'i's school age children. These activities are of tremendous importance to the State and to the work of my organization, and I wholeheartedly support this bill to increase the Museum's annual appropriation.



Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Time: 2:45 p.m.
Date: March 12, 2019
Room: State Capitol Room 224

TESTIMONY

Submitted by the listed organizations

To: Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee

RE: In Support of HB1375, HD2 Relating to the State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural and Cultural History

The listed organizations are writing to **SUPPORT HB1375, HD2**, which increases the annual appropriation for Bishop Museum, our State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. As our State Museum, Bishop Museum's work is of great cultural, scientific, and intrinsic value to the State of Hawai'i and must be supported at a much higher level than it is today. Bishop Museum stewards the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic materials, including unique and irreplaceable materials that are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge. Its natural history collections provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species. In addition, the Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to support the educational development of Hawai'i's school age children. These activities are of tremendous importance to the State and to the work of our organizations, and we wholeheartedly support this bill and urge the Committee to **PASS HB1375, HD2**.



Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaiiauthority.org

David Y. Ige
Governor

Chris Tatum
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
CHRIS TATUM

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
2:45PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #224

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL NO 1375 HD2
RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII
MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts: The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** House Bill 1375 HD2, which provides funding for the State of Hawai'i's museum of natural and cultural history which would allow the museum to hire additional staff and enhance their operations.

Residents and visitors alike appreciate and cherish the memories gained through experiencing firsthand the beautiful, unique, and significant natural and cultural history that Hawai'i has to share. Funding for the museum to support operations will allow the museum to continue their mission and ensure a bright future for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **support** of this measure.

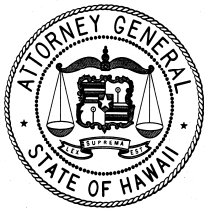
HB-1375-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:51:31 PM

Testimony for LCA on 3/12/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1375, H.D. 2, RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

DATE: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 **TIME:** 2:45 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 224

TESTIFIER(S): Clare E. Connors, Attorney General, or
Randall S. Nishiyama, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 to support the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History ("State Museum"), provided that any funds appropriated shall be in addition to and shall not supplant any portion of the base budget of the Department of Budget and Finance for the State Museum.

This bill is not an enforceable mandate that requires the appropriation of funds at the designated level because the Governor, in the preparation and submission of the budget and the budget bill, does not have a mandatory duty to comply with all spending levels fixed by statute. Maryland Action for Foster Children, Inc. v. State, 279 Md. 133, 148, 367 A.2d 491, 500 (1977). If this were a mandate to provide a funding level of at least \$2,000,000 a year for the Bishop Museum, then this would infringe on the Governor's constitutional duty under article VII, section 8, of the Hawaii State Constitution, to submit the Governor's budget for the Legislature's consideration.

If your intent is to provide a minimum level of funding for the State Museum, then the State Constitution would have to be amended to provide for this.

We respectfully ask the Committee consider our comments.