



Hawai'i Convention Center
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David Y. Ige
Governor

Chris Tatum
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
CHRIS TATUM

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
1:15PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #016

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL NO 420 HD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN CULTURE.

Chair Shimabukuro, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Taniguchi, members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs and the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism: The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **strongly supports** House Bill 420 HD1, which removes the provision designating the Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC) as the location for the operation of a Hawaiian center and museum of Hawaiian music and dance.

The concept of developing a Hawaiian Center and Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance is one that we fully support; however, the challenge has been the requirement of locating the center at the Hawai'i Convention Center. By removing this requirement, we will then be allowed to work with the community to identify the best location for this very important facility.

We humbly request your support of this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of House Bill 420 HD1.

HB-420-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:19:48 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/19/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Testifying for Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaiian Affairs Caucu	Comments	Yes

Comments:

We would have no objection to relocating the Hawaiian Center and the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance, but are concerned that this measure does not identify the new location. Especially, we want to assure that this measure does not in any way cause the loss of the \$1,000,000 of transient accommodations tax revenue currently allocated to build and operate the Hawaiian Center and the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance. We have seen at least one other bill that described the new location as the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History, but that bill did not receive all hearings necessary to enable its passage.

Please assure that HB420 HD1 will not harm the appropriations to build and operate the Hawaiian Center and the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance.