

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
LABOR, CULTURE, AND THE ARTS**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2019
3:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 699
RELATING TO BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM**

Senate Bill 699 proposes to amend Section 6E-40 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to require the Governor to include a minimum (a blank amount) appropriation request for the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum (Museum) beginning in with the 2021-2023 biennium in the Governor's budget request. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments.**

The Department believes that the Museum is the preeminent institution in the archaeology and culture of Hawaii and greater Polynesia. It also houses invaluable collections in a wide range of natural history fields, and employs uniquely qualified staff in those fields. The Legislature designated the Museum the "State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History."

One approach appropriate for a private non-profit museum for public benefit is for the Legislature to provide funds to the Museum via grant-in-aid to support its important educational, curatorial, research, and service functions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RODERICK K. BECKER
DIRECTOR

ROBERT YU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

TESTIMONY BY RODERICK K. BECKER
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE, AND THE ARTS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 699

February 12, 2019
3:30 p.m.
Room 224

RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM

Senate Bill No. 699 mandates that, beginning in FY 2021-23, the Governor's Executive Budget include an undetermined amount of funds each fiscal year to be allocated to the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History, also known as the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, and appropriates \$3,700,000 in general funds in FY 20 and FY 21 to support the work of the museum.

The Department of Budget and Finance has serious concerns with requiring in statute that the Executive Budget fund a minimum dollar amount for the Bishop Museum. Adjustments to Bishop Museum's subsidy in the department's budget can be made through the regular appropriation process. We note that the specific appropriation of \$3,700,000 for both FY 20 and FY 21 as contained in this bill would be in addition to the \$626,000 in currently budgeted annual subsidy for the Bishop Museum. This additional funding level was not included in the Executive Biennium Budget submittal to the 2019 Legislature.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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

LATE

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 699, RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

DATE: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 **TIME:** 3:30 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 require the Governor to include in the executive budget an unspecified minimum amount per fiscal year to be allocated to the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History ("State Museum") beginning with the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium. This bill also appropriates funds to support the State Museum for fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Because one Legislature cannot obligate a future Legislature to make an appropriation, we believe that this bill does not provide the mandatory level of funding for the State Museum that it purports to provide.

This bill is not an enforceable mandate that requires the appropriation of funds at the designated level because "one Legislature may not bind a successor Legislature (or even itself) to make an appropriation." Town of Milton v. Commonwealth, 623 N.E.2d 482, 484 (Mass. 1993).

Article III, section 1 of the State Constitution states:

The legislative power of the State shall be vested in a legislature, which shall consist of two houses, a senate and a house of representatives. Such power shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation not inconsistent with this constitution or the Constitution of the United States.

Thus, the Legislature has complete legislative authority and may enact legislation as it determines except as limited by the State Constitution or the Constitution of the United States. See, e.g. State ex. rel. Stenberg v. Moore, 544 N.W.2d 344, 349 (Neb. 1996); Opinion of the Justices, 623 A.2d 1258, 1262 (Me. 1993). Consequently, to read this bill as requiring the Legislature to appropriate funds as specified in its provisions would violate article III, section 1 of the State Constitution, by attempting to restrict the power of a succeeding Legislature to legislate.

We believe that this bill has no effect to bind the Legislature to a particular level of appropriations and acts only as an intention by the Legislature to appropriate funds in the future.

If your intent is to provide a mandatory 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.

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, February 12, 2019
3:30 p.m.
Conference Room 224

RE: SB 699, Relating to Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum

On behalf of Historic Hawaii Foundation, I am writing in **support for SB 699**. The bill would establish a mechanism to 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 SB 699.



February 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 **SB699**, Relating to the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Committee Members:

My name is Melanie Ide and I am the President and CEO of the Bishop Museum, Hawai'i's State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. I strongly support SB699, which would require the governor to include in the executive budget a minimum amount per fiscal year to be allocated to the Museum beginning with the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium and appropriate funds to support the work of the Museum.

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



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Date: Peleluali 12, 2019

Where: State Capitol Room 224

TESTIMONY

By: Kau'i Burgess

RE: SB 699, Relating to the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum

E ka Luna Ho'omalū Taniguchi, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalū Ihara, a me nā Kenekoa 'ē a'e o kēia Kōmike, aloha!

Kamehameha Schools writes in **SUPPORT** of SB 699, which requires and provides annual allocations to the Bishop Museum.

As the State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural and Cultural History, the Bishop Museum serves as a place in which our identity as Hawai'i and as a native people is preserved. As such, Kamehameha Schools believes that the museum fulfills an important role in our community instilling confidence and resiliency in Hawai'i's learners and Hawai'i's people.

The Bishop Museum is home to an irreplaceable inventory, second to none in documenting the natural and cultural histories of Hawai'i and the Pacific. Through these artifacts, archival documents, and biological specimens, the histories of our people and place can be better understood, enabling more informed solutions for today and tomorrow.

The Bishop Museum's collections also provide a variety of services for our community, as do the knowledgeable museum staff. Local and global scholars and resource managers consistently use the museum's repository for research. Museum staff also support the State through a broad range of critical functions, such as invasive species identification.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an educational organization striving to restore our people through education and advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

With this testimony, Kamehameha Schools requests your **SUPPORT** of SB 699 as written. Mahalo nui.



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

Micah Alike Kāne, Chair
Charles Reed Bishop Trust
587 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 3:30 PM

SUPPORT for SB 699, RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAAHI BISHOP MUSEUM

Aloha kākou. On behalf of the trustees of the Charles Reed Bishop Trust, 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 I wholeheartedly support this bill to increase the Museum's annual appropriation.

Bishop Museum: the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History

Bishop Museum serves the people and State of Hawai'i through its ongoing work to explore, celebrate, and perpetuate Hawai'i's rich natural and cultural history. As the premier resource for Hawaiian and Pacific materials, Bishop Museum houses the world's largest collection of Hawaiian and Oceanic cultural artifacts as well as over 22 million biological specimens from Hawai'i and the Pacific. The Museum's cultural collections contain unique and irreplaceable materials of Hawai'i and the Pacific, which are essential to perpetuating the Hawaiian culture and innovating from a base of knowledge. The Library and Archives, one of three main Pacific libraries in the world, is an unparalleled resource of Hawaiian and Pacific rare source materials. The natural history collections represent a "library of life" that document changes in Hawai'i's environment over time and provide information crucial to protecting native species and habitats, as well as combating invasive species.

Over the past 130 years, Bishop Museum has preserved, translated and published key Hawaiian language and cultural resources; founded fields of study and performed research leading to countless discoveries; provided the foundational knowledge for such achievements as the rediscovery of Polynesian celestial navigation and the renaissance of hula; mounted major exhibitions that have celebrated the nature, culture and history of

Hawai'i and the Pacific; served State and Federal resource managers and agencies; and produced a wide range of educational and public programs for Hawai'i's community. It was designated the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History in 1988.

Bishop Museum is recognized worldwide for its signature historic buildings and newly renovated gallery spaces dedicated to Hawaiian and Pacific culture, a robust daily schedule of educational programs and tours, and its planetarium, which serves more visitors per year than any other planetarium in the United States. Dynamic original exhibits and public programs are offered regularly and leverage the Museum's unrivaled resources—cultural artifacts and biological specimens, knowledge of Hawai'i's heritage and complexities of our natural world, and excellence in exhibits and educational programming—to create an array of unique opportunities to inspire community engagement, learning, and discovery for over 200,000 students, teachers, scholars, cultural practitioners, visitors and Hawai'i residents each year. And, while the Museum's programmatic activities are grounded in its Kalihi-Pālana campus, its impact extends far beyond the Hawaiian Islands and across the Pacific through its outreach programs, strategic partnerships in research and education, and an expanding database of digitized artifacts, specimens, stories and resources which allow for increased global access to Hawaiian and Pacific knowledge.

Today, Bishop Museum is the world's premier institution for Hawai'i and the Pacific, recognized internationally for its natural and cultural collections. This “library of life” and archive of our cultural heritage connects us to our ancestors and chronicles changes in Hawai'i's environment over time. It provides a global resource of primary source material that enables us to perpetuate our culture and face ever-changing environments based on information and knowledge.

Current State Funding

Bishop Museum is significantly under-resourced. While it is one of the top ten museums in the world by collections size, scope, and significance, it functions at less than a quarter to the tenth of the budget of its peer institutions. It is estimated that the Museum is under-staffed by at least a factor of four. Currently, at its minimum levels of funding, the Museum spends approximately \$3.2 million a year to care for its collections, including the cost of staffing, securing, and maintaining the collections and providing proper environmental controls. These materials are critical to the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge as well as our understanding of how Hawaii's environment has changed over time. They are essential to understanding long-term cultural and environmental sustainability for the State and our broader Pacific communities. In addition, the Museum spends another \$500,000 each year to support its educational programs serving Hawai'i schoolchildren, families, and visitors. In total, the Museum spends approximately \$3.7 million annually—more than a quarter of its operating costs—to support these critical programs.

Bishop Museum Collections Services

Bishop Museum's collections and scientific expertise are regularly accessed by State agencies, including the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Health, the Department of Agriculture, and the University of Hawai'i. In fact, various State entities account for approximately one-quarter of all collections usage at the Museum, and Museum staff record a minimum of two months' worth of cumulative

staff time per year to support various State agency requests at no charge. The Museum also provides training to State personnel in entomology, botany, malacology, species identification, taxonomy and other areas at no charge.

Bishop Museum biologists work closely with State scientists to provide assistance in identifying weeds, insects, snails, reptiles, and other intercepted, potentially invasive species. For example, during the Christmas season when large numbers of trees are imported from the Pacific Northwest, Bishop Museum identifies all intercepted snails and slugs from the tree shipments for the Department of Agriculture. Last year, the Museum identified more than 20 potential new invasive slugs and snails through the tree shipments and helped to prevent their establishment in Hawai'i. The Museum also identifies all snakes and other reptiles and amphibians that are intercepted by HDOA's Plant Quarantine officials—all at no cost to the State. Museum biologists are also working with the Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, and others to conduct field surveys and screen snails and slugs for the parasite that causes rat lung worm disease. These are but a few examples of the ways that Museum scientists support various State agencies in their environmental work, and these identifications are only possible because of the Museum's vast collection of terrestrial, marine and freshwater specimens from the Hawaiian Islands—the largest such collection in the world.

In 1992, the Museum was designated by the State Legislature as the Hawai'i Biological Survey. The Hawai'i Biological Survey (HBS) was created to locate, identify, document, and evaluate all native and non-native species of plants and animals within the State. This essential information helps State resource managers to protect endangered species, maintain native ecosystems, and prevent the establishment of agricultural and garden pests. As the HBS, Bishop Museum is committed to the research and documentation of the endemic and invasive flora and fauna within the State of Hawai'i, and maintains the world's largest collection of terrestrial, marine and freshwater specimens representing Hawai'i. The collections are a representation of Hawai'i's flora and fauna over time and geographic distribution and are critical for understanding changes to our natural environment for the protection of endemic species and habitats.

In coordination with related activities with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and other federal, state, and private agencies, Bishop Museum disseminates this knowledge to ensure wise stewardship of Hawai'i's fragile ecosystems and rich natural heritage. Annually, the Museum responds to more than 200 inquiries from the State of Hawai'i, University of Hawai'i, and related agencies regarding HBS, taxonomic queries, nomenclature, staff training in entomology and botany, and other needs. An increase in the state subsidy will positively impact both the Museum's ability to conduct field surveys throughout the islands to gather pertinent data and its ongoing work to increase access to these resources through the digitizing of information from its collections and associated scientific literature into comprehensive computerized databases. Increased access to this information will aid natural resource agencies in the proper management of Hawai'i's endemic resources for future generations.

Bishop Museum's Hawai'i Biological Survey is also a vital resource to support the continued development and implementation of projects like the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP), an interagency effort to control the detrimental impacts of invasive species in Hawai'i. The Museum's collections, scientific

knowledge, and research can be instrumental in mitigating the negative impacts of invasive species—fruit flies that cause losses to our state’s agricultural revenues, the spread of mosquito-borne diseases like Zika, dengue, and malaria, and impacts to our native ecosystems and watersheds.

Bishop Museum Educational Programs

Bishop Museum provides vital educational programs and resources to students and teachers of the Department of Education, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs that address the HCPS III Science Standards. Cultural programs are used to connect students in meaningful ways to Hawai‘i’s rich history and culture, and to help them explore the important relationship between Hawaiian culture and environmental sustainability. Planetarium programs and guided visits through the Museum’s exhibits and signature galleries expose students to varied topics, ignite curiosity and inspire learning. These educational experiences ultimately help to create inquisitive, grounded, life-long learners who will eventually grow to make meaningful contributions to our community, environment, and State. Bishop Museum’s educators serve more than 25,000 students per year through various on-site educational programs.

Subsidy History and Impact

Bishop Museum was officially designated as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1988. The State has supported this designation through an annual appropriation of general revenues to support the Museum’s operational activities, which are of great cultural, scientific, and intrinsic value to the State of Hawai‘i. In 1992, the subsidy was \$2.47 million (\$4.5 million in today’s dollars), representing 22% of the Museum’s annual budget—relatively similar to the funding level of other State museums. Today, the Museum’s annual appropriation is \$626,000, covering just 4% of the Museum’s operating budget.

In recent years, this reduction, combined with economic shifts and a \$2.8 million reduction in federal earmark funds in 2012, have necessitated significant reductions in the Museum’s staff and programs. The Museum has managed its resources carefully to ensure that its most essential services continue. However, sustained, increased support is critical for the Museum to ensure its collections are properly stewarded, as well as build the foundation necessary to grow and expand its services.

State funds are critical to ensuring the continued growth and success of the Hawai‘i State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. An increase in the subsidy will provide essential resources the Museum needs in order to provide the appropriate level of care for its priceless cultural and scientific collections. It will also provide resources to support the Museum’s vital research and education programs that directly benefit the people of Hawai‘i.

Increasing the subsidy will allow the Museum to continue to provide direct support to various State agencies, and will allow the Museum to waive its bench and access fees for State agencies. The Museum will be able to direct resources towards digitizing information from its collections into comprehensive computerized databases, aiding State agencies in the proper management of Hawai‘i’s endemic resources for future

generations. This support will also enhance the Museum's ability to educate and empower increasing numbers of school children, residents and visitors while contributing to the protection of our State's most precious cultural and natural resources.

Mahalo for your commitment to care for the cultural artifacts of our ali'i, Hawai'i, and the Pacific.



NATIVE HAWAIIAN
HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION

February 9, 2019

To: **The Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts**
c/o Chair: Senator Brian Taniguchi and Vice Chair: Senator Les Ihara, Jr.

From: **John De Fries /JDF**
Executive Director

cc: **Melanie Ide**

Subject: **SB699 - Testimony of Strong Support:** (Relating to the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum)

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

The Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association respectfully asserts its vigorous support for SB699 and the prudent means by which the Bill stipulates funding via appropriations from general revenues in the proposed amount of \$3,700,000.00 (*or so much thereof as may be necessary*) for FY2019-2020 and FY2020-2021.

This initial step paves the way beginning with the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium for the Governor of Hawaii to sustain or increase this level of funding as a line-item in the executive budget that will be submitted at that time, to the Hawaii State Legislature. Effectively, this joint effort over the next four years will demonstrate that both the executive and legislative branches of our state government are fully committed to the growth and success of Bishop Museum and its designation in 1988, as the “State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History”.

In closing, I share with you a well-known Hawaiian proverb - ‘**Ōlelo No’eau**:

I ka wā mamua, ka wā ma hope - our future is in the past

This proverb underscores a Hawaiian perspective that the past is filled with knowledge, experience and wisdom; which in turn has the capacity to inform our decisions, actions and intended outcomes, for the future. Given that Bishop Museum is a repository for Hawaii’s natural and cultural history, this proverb reminds us that this institution will continue to play a vital role – as a center of knowledge, discovery, innovation and collaboration; to support the State of Hawaii and its leaders in charting our pathways toward a future that is sustainable.

Your committee’s unanimous support of SB699 is requested and much appreciated. Mahalo!



NATIVE HAWAIIAN
HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION

SB-699

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 3:10:58 PM

Testimony for LCA on 2/12/2019 3:30:00 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 IN SUPPORT OF HB1375 AND SB699
TO ENHANCE STATE FUNDING TO BISHOP MUSEUM**

Professor Brian R. Bowen

February 9, 2019

I am a research professor at Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB). While I write this as a private citizen, I have first-hand knowledge of how Bishop Museum interacts with the University of Hawaii to provide cost-effective scientific and cultural services to the state. I have personally witnessed that the Bishop Museum is severely underfunded.

Legislators know the value of the Bishop Museum as an educational resource, when their children or grandchildren come home with bright eyes and great stories about a day at the Museum.

Legislators know the value of the Bishop Museum as the primary repository for the cultural history of Hawaii, safeguarding priceless artifacts that reveal the rich traditions and creativity of the first people of Hawaii.

Legislators may be less aware of the role the Bishop Museum plays in documenting and conserving the tremendous biodiversity of the Hawaiian Archipelago. With 22 million biological specimens, it is the premier trove of information about the Hawaiian species that occur nowhere else. My specialty is reef fishes, and about 25% of fish biodiversity here is endemic, existing solely in our archipelago. In the last decade, HIMB has partnered with the Museum and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration to document this biodiversity in the Papahânaumokuâkea Marine National Monument. The Bishop Museum is the leader in describing these species, a process that continues today. Unfortunately the present level of funding is not sufficient to properly catalog and preserve these biological treasures. The Museum simply doesn't have the resources in terms of both personnel and facilities.

I have visited biological repositories all over the world, and while Bishop Museum is one of the world's best by reputation, it's looking kind of shabby. Valuable specimens are getting neglected and the Museum is severely understaffed. I know many museums in the developing world that have better funding and support. For this reason, increased state contribution to the Museum is an urgent priority.

Finally, I would like to note that for facilities like the Bishop Museum, funding begets funding. From experience at HIMB, I know that bringing potential donors through a run-down facility is a recipe for failure. The new director of Bishop Museum, Melanie Ide, is a dynamic leader with fund-raising plans to enhance the Museum's core strengths. If she can show that the state is invested in this renewal, it will greatly enhance her prospects for funding from private sources. Therefore the increased subsidy from the state will likely be a multiplier of resources for the Bishop Museum. Please support HB1375 AND SB699, to provide urgently needed financing for the proud repository of Hawaiian culture and biodiversity.



SB-699

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 10:29:57 AM

Testimony for LCA on 2/12/2019 3:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meleanna Meyer	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

LETTER IN SUPPORT OF SB699

**RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM- STATE OF HAWAI'I
MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY**

Dear Legislators who have the kuleana, the responsibility to support the best efforts of those institutions that perpetuate and endeavor to educate and enrich both residents and tourists alike here in Hawai'i-nei;

Aloha mai kakou! To you Senator Brian Taniguchi and to those of you that I had the privilege of teaching an art class to while you folks were in session a short 2 years ago, I am confident that your love of and appreciation for the arts grew through our hands-on class time together! (We studied and drew Hitchcock's Waimea Canyon, remember?!)

As a life-time educator and artist who is passionate about all art forms, and fully invested in having our young ones enjoy the remarkable benefits of attending exhibitions and viewing world-class collections at the Bishop museum, my wholehearted support is to remind all of you that we have a responsibility to our youth in Hawai'i, to do whatever possible to augment and support educational enrichment in their lives— in all forms and capacities.

The Bishop museum is this kind of priceless, irreplaceable, extraordinary cultural and artistic institution that continually gifts residents and visitors alike, with timeless, viable information and aesthetics that connect all of us to the spirit of these islands, to Hawai'i and the greater Pacific. Financial stability for all museums is critical and must be taken seriously--it is an investment in our collective well-being and future.

At this critically important juncture, increased financial commitments from State funding are very much needed to support the world-class operations of the Bishop Museum. It is our only cultural treasure to house and afford others the unique opportunities to not only view material culture from their collections that come from

throughout the Pacific, but which allows others to interact and become immersed in innumerable opportunities to educate themselves through lectures, presentations, workshops, celestial viewing of stars and numerous other extraordinary activities!

The levels of funding required must match today's demands and should therefore be increased substantially and even returned to previous levels of funding. My argument would be to even increase funding beyond 1992 levels!! Given that almost 10 million tourists come to Hawai'i yearly, that, in some measure should compel all of us to support the Bishop Museum in all capacities. (Perhaps a surcharge of \$1.00 for each tourist! I think 10 million dollars would be most fitting) I certainly financially support the museum myself as both a contributor and active participant in giving tours, taking youth around the campus, engaging in most exhibitions in some inform way--and therefore, ask all of you to seriously consider the support of SB699 and the ongoing financial needs of this true treasure of the Pacific—the Bishop Museum. If there are ever any questions that need to be asked, please feel free to contact me. With gratitude.

Me ka ha'a ha'a, a me ke aloha,

Meleanna Aluli Meyer, Artist and Educator, M.A.Ed.

SB-699

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 11:33:12 AM

Testimony for LCA on 2/12/2019 3:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Cowie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Tuesday, February 12 at 3:30 pm

Conference Room 224

By Robert Cowie

SB 699 – RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM

I provide this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 699 that relates to inclusion in the Governor’s executive budget from 2021 a minimum amount of annual State funding for the Bishop Museum. In my professional capacity I am a faculty member in the Pacific Biosciences Research Center at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, and for 11 years prior to that I was a researcher/curator at the Bishop Museum. I have been a researcher in Hawaii for 29 years.

The Bishop Museum is the premier museum in the world, by far, regarding both the cultural artifacts and natural history specimens from Hawaii and the islands of the Pacific that are held in its wonderful collections. It is among the ten museums globally in terms of the size of its natural history collections. These collections are of huge cultural and scientific importance, as I can attest from being responsible for the Museum’s mollusk collections for 11 years.

Yet the Museum has suffered for decades from being seriously underfunded and therefore understaffed and unable to adequately develop the collections from the perspective of interpreting them to the public and making them available to researchers from around the world.

Stable and guaranteed funding from the State would go some way to permitting the Museum to better address its goals, ambitions and responsibilities to the Hawaiian public, visitors to the islands, and global research community.

SB-699

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 1:15:23 PM

Testimony for LCA on 2/12/2019 3:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Ito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting support for SB 699. This bill supports the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum and the legacy of Hawaii's history. The beauty of the buildings on the museum's campus are an important asset in helping to share Hawaii's history (culture, food, architecture, education, flora, fauna, people, way of life). I have fond memories of attending field trips to the museum as a child to learn about Hawaii. The museum was filled with artifacts and we marveled at its age and how strong the buildings from 1899 appear. I would like for the future generations of keiki to have the same memories that I have had the luxury of experiencing in my childhood. I strongly support this bill.

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., 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

SUBJECT: Testimony in SUPPORT of **SB699** RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUahi BISHOP MUSEUM..

The Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA) has over 150 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. I'm writing in **SUPPORT** of **SB699**, 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.



11 February 2019

Hawaii State Legislature

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of Increased Funding for the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History, Bills HB1375 and SB699

Aloha,

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.

Please feel free to contact me by telephone at (808) 946-2548 ext. 103 or by e-mail at rikehara@iarii.org if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Rona Ikehara-Quebral, Ph.D.
International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc.



IARII

INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

LATE

February 11, 2019

Hawai'i State Legislature

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of Increased Funding for the Bishop Museum's Annual Appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History; Bills HB1375 and SB699.

Aloha:

I am writing to support a significant increase in Bishop Museum's annual appropriation as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History. I am a professional archaeologist who has been working in Hawai'i for 38 years. In fact, my first professional experience as an archaeologist in Hawai'i was with the Bishop Museum for two years. As such I have first hand knowledge of the Bishop Museum and understand its immense value to the public.

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.

Please feel free to contact me by telephone at (808) 946-2548 ext. 104 or by e-mail at JSAthens@iarii.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

J. Stephen Athens, PhD
General Manager/Senior Archaeologist
International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc.