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SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY AND DEVELOP STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF "CREATIVE WORK" AND "CREATIVE WORKERS" BY TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION HAWAII'S EXISTING CREATIVE WORK INDUSTRY, AS GROUNDWORK FOR THE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT MEASURES TO SUPPORT HAWAII'S CREATIVE WORKERS.

WHEREAS, creative work is generally understood as a tangible manifestation of creative effort, including fine artwork (sculpture, paintings, drawing, sketching), performance art, dance, writing (literature), filmmaking, and compositions, with a degree of arbitrariness such that it is improbable that two persons would independently create the same work; and

WHEREAS, people from all over the world who visit Hawaii have historically enjoyed the unique work produced by Hawaii's creative workers; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic negatively impacted the State's economy, particularly the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, due to the significant decrease in the number of visitors caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Hawaii's creative workers have also suffered; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the State's best interests to provide support to the State's creative workers; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Legislature to propose and adopt measures that would effectively provide support to Hawaii's creative workers, it is essential that the terms "creative work" and "creative workers" be clarified by taking into consideration Hawaii's existing creative work industry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study and develop statutory definitions of "creative work" and "creative workers" by taking into consideration Hawaii's existing creative work industry, as groundwork for the Legislature to adopt measures to support Hawaii's creative workers; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the statutory definition of the term "creative workers" is requested to include painters, sculptors, ceramicists, writers, poets, photographers, film makers, visual artists, singers, composers, musicians, lyricists, choreographers, dancers, actors, and other performing artists; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when conducting the study, the Legislative Reference Bureau is urged to consult with the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Taxation; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawaii Tourism Authority; State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; and Hawai'i Alliance for Arts Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Director of Taxation; Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Director of Labor and Industrial Relations; President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau; and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Alliance for Arts Education.