



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

CHUNG I. CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Wednesday, March 24, 2021
3:10 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of
SCR 242 / SR 201
**REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A CREATIVE RESURGENCE TASK FORCE
TO BUILD AND FOSTER CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION THROUGH THE ARTS,
CULTURE, AND HUMANITIES.**

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports SCR 242 / SR 201 which requests the convening of a creative resurgence task force to build and foster creativity and innovation through the arts, culture, and humanities.

DBEDT requests the Resolution be amended to include DBEDT's Director or its designee on the proposed Creative Resurgence Task Force. DBEDT, through Creative Industries Division (CID) initiatives has built capacity for business acumen, export of intellectual property, and supported various programs of creative entrepreneurs through workforce development, infrastructure, and access to capital. Collectively the 53,000 individuals and small businesses which currently represent our creative economy contributed \$4 billion to Hawaii's GDP in 2019.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII

STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

No. 1 Capitol District Building
250 South Hotel Street
Second Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

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Clyde Sakamoto
Sherman Warner
Allison Wong

Executive Director
Jonathan Johnson

Telephone
808.586.0300

Fax
808.586.0308

Website
sfca.hawaii.gov

**TESTIMONY OF THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS
Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 3:10 p.m. CR 225 via Videoconference
S.C.R. 242/S.R. 201**

**RELATING TO REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A CREATIVE RESURGENCE TASK
FORCE TO BUILD AND FOSTER CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION THROUGH THE
ARTS, CULTURE, AND HUMANITIES.**

Chair Brian T. Taniguchi and members of the Committee, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), offers **COMMENTS** on S.C.R. 242/S.R. 201.

S.C.R. 242/S.R. 201 proposes to form a creative resurgence task force consisting of representative of fourteen entities to build and foster creativity and innovation through the arts, culture, and humanities by examining a variety of tax, economic and workforce policies.

To facilitate an effective outcome by the task force, the State Foundation proposes the following recommendations:

- Appoint a member from both the Department of Taxation and Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to address the tax and labor elements included in the resolution.
- Reduce the number of members on the task force to facilitate effective outcome.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts welcomes the opportunity to lend our expertise to build and foster creativity and innovation through the arts, culture, and humanities in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

**Hawai'i
Arts
Alliance**



*Affiliated with the
Wolf Trap Institute for Early
Childhood Arts Integration*

*State Captain –
Americans for the Arts*

*Member of State Arts
Advocacy Network*

March 23, 2021

Senator Taniguchi, Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture & the Arts

RE: SUPPORT for SCR 242

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A CREATIVE RESURGENCE TASK FORCE TO BUILD AND FOSTER CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION THROUGH THE ARTS, CULTURE, AND HUMANITIES.

Aloha Senator Taniguchi,

I am writing on behalf of the Hawai'i Arts Alliance in **SUPPORT** of **SCR242**. A Task Force would help reveal the devastation that has crippled the creative sector in Hawai'i. The State cannot recover unless the creative sector receives support and creative workers are employed. The creative sector brought in \$2.6 Billion to the Hawai'i economy before COVID hit.

In 2020, there were 2,788 arts businesses state-wide and more than 12,300 full time employees in the creative sector. Nonprofit arts and culture events annually attracted 2,907,608 state residents and 249,404 non-resident attendees. Event-related spending was \$25.26 per person, excluding the cost of admission. These audiences generated \$79.7 million in economic activity, excluding the cost of admission. Please convene a Task Force to compare how the creative sector has been devastated by COVID.

The Hawai'i Arts Alliance is committed being part of the Task Force and looks forward to helping with the economic study of the creative sector.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and mahalo for your work in support of the creative sector.

Sincerely,

Teri Skillman
Executive Director

Creatives are 2nd Responders and Essential Workers.

P.O. Box 3948
Honolulu, Hawai'i
96812-3948
Phone: (808) 533-2787
Fax: (808) 526-9040
arts@hawaiiartsalliance.org
www.hawaiiartsalliance.org

SCR-242

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 2:29:30 PM

Testimony for LCA on 3/24/2021 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon Levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support creative and innovative thinking.