

Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair

Friday, February 9, 2022 at 10:30 AM
Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

SUPPORT of House Bill 1765, Relating to the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum



Aloha Chair Gates and Committee Members:

The organizations represented in this written testimony support HB1765. Passage of this bill enables the Museum to address badly damaged and deteriorated buildings campus wide. Many of our buildings are historic, and the Museum Historic District is listed on the Hawaii and National Register of Historic Places. These buildings help to preserve and protect more than 25 million catalogued objects, which 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.

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
Bishop Museum



February 8, 2022

TO: Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

FR: Kanaeokana Network

RE: SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1765, RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM

Aloha Chair Representative Cedric Asuega Gates and Vice Chair Representative Adrian K. Tam,

Kanaeokana Network is in full support of HB1765 to appropriate CIP funds to support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum. Our network of schools recognize the unique nature of the Bishop Museum to history and learning and it remains an unparalleled repository of treasures of both ancient and modern Hawai'i. As an educational resource for Hawai'i's school children, it is imperative that our tax dollars support the continuance and strengthening of this institution.

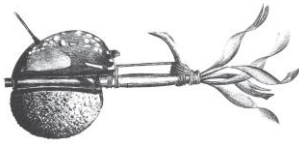
We view the museum as a national museum that, like our roads, freeways, and other public buildings, is in dire need of repair. The building has a unique position for Native Hawaiians as it is a repository of our national and cultural heritage that is irreplaceable. It provides a tangible and spiritual connection to our ancestors and past. We have shared our treasures since the museum was established with all of Hawai'i's residents and tourists and we recognize its importance to all of Hawai'i. Our members feel strongly that CIP funds to support the museum's aging, historic buildings are an appropriate use of our taxpayer dollars.

Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network includes membership of DOE Hawaiian Language Immersion Program sites, all 17 Hawaiian Focused Charter Schools (HFCS), and over 50 other Hawaiian education organizations.

We humbly ask all members Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs members to support HB1765

Mahalo,

Kanaeokana
advocacy@kanaeokana.net



SOCIETY FOR HAWAIIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

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TO: Senator Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Senator Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs (CAI)

Senator Sylvia Luke, Chair
Senator Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

FROM: Mara Mulrooney, Ph.D.
President, Society for Hawaiian Archaeology
membership@hawaiianarchaeology.org

HEARING: February 9, 2022, 10:30AM, Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

SUBJECT: Testimony regarding HB 1765, Relating to the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum

I am Mara Mulrooney, President of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 150 members including professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation. On behalf of SHA, **we support HB 1765.**

The intent of HB 1765 is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for assisting the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum through a capital improvement project. The Bishop Museum was founded in 1889 by Charles Reed Bishop, in honor of his wife Ke Ali'i Bernice Pauahi Bishop, who was the last descendant representing the royal Kamehameha Dynasty.

The Bishop Museum was originally established to house an extensive collection of irreplaceable Native Hawaiian artifacts and cultural material in connection to Pauahi's royal family legacy. The museum quickly expanded to include millions of artifacts, documents, and photographs relating to Hawai'i and other Pacific Island cultures. Today, the Bishop Museum is the largest museum in the State of Hawai'i and is the premier natural history institution in the Pacific. The museum is also recognized throughout the world for its Native Hawaiian and Pacific cultural collections, natural science collections, research projects, and public educational programs.

HB 1765 ensures the protection of the irreplaceable collections that are housed within the museum with the appropriate general obligation bonds. HB 1765 will assist the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum with plans, design, construction, and equipment for repairing the roofs throughout the museum's campus.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.

<https://hawaiianarchaeology.org/>

The Society for Hawaiian Archaeology is a registered tax-exempt organization established in 1980 to promote and stimulate interest and research in the archaeology of the Hawaiian Islands, encourage a more rational public appreciation of the aims and limitations of archaeological research, serve as a bond among those interested in Hawaiian archaeology, both professionals and non-professionals, and aid in directing their efforts into more scientific channels as well as encourage the publication of their results, advocate and assist in the conservation of archaeological data, discourage unethical commercialism in the archaeological field and work for its elimination.