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**TESTIMONY OF THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
February 14, 2023 Conference Room 224 & Videoconference at 3:15PM**

**S.B. 1119 RELATING TO THE WORKS OF ART SPECIAL FUND**

Chair Lee and members of the Committee, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is pleased to offer testimony **OPPOSED** to S.B.1119. S.B.1119 specifies that 0.5 percent, rather than one percent, of state fund appropriations for capital improvements shall be transferred into the Works of Art Special Fund. Limits the 0.5 percent amount to appropriations designated for the construction of new state buildings, properties, or facilities.

S.B. 1119 proposes to reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovations which account for an estimated 58% of revenues, which would result in a devastating 75% reduction of funding. Over the past five years, annual revenues to the Works of Art Special Fund average \$3,872,076. \$3,000,000 of arts funding will not significantly impact the State's progress in dealing with the backlog of renovations to state buildings or new construction, yet incorporating the arts into state facilities surely makes a visible difference. Enacting this cut would have dire consequences for the quality of life for the public, halting access to the arts and education work in primarily rural and underserved and creative communities.

Public and charter schools statewide participate in arts interpretation learning through the works of art special fund. For many schools and communities, the arts provided by the SFCA are the public school students primary exposure to creative education. In 2022, the SFCA served students in over 250 schools statewide. For the list of schools served, click the link to the [SFCA 2022 Annual Report](#).

Since 2020, support for Native Hawaiian art accounts for 76.7% of works of art special fund expenditures. The cuts proposed in S.B.1119 directly impact the funding of Native Hawaiian artists, practitioners, curators and Hawaiian owned companies. For a detailed report relating to expenditures from the works of art special fund for the curation and preservation of Native Hawaiian art, click the link to the [SFCA report to the 2023 Legislature on SCR 97](#).

The percent-for-art law was created in 1967 based on the intrinsic relationship between art and architecture, where art is included as an essential part of the architectural plan, providing access and education to the people of Hawaii. Hawaii was the first state in the nation to adopt a percent-for-art law where 1% of the construction appropriation is set aside for art in State buildings. Designating 1% appropriations from both construction and renovation provides a consistent funding base to carry out the intent of HRS 103-8.5 Works of Art special fund. Removing "renovation" from the law and specifying 0.5%, rather than 1% of state fund appropriations for capital improvements would end the SFCA's ability to fulfill that obligation. The statewide program with a focus on access and education includes acquisition and distribution of works of art, conservation of the public art collection, interpretation of the collection including applicable portions of the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools program and recognition of student artwork.

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S.B.1119 SFCA  
February 14, 2023

In fiscal year 2020, SFCA's appropriation ceiling was raised by \$1 million to allow SFCA to draw down more from the unencumbered balance to accommodate the needs of large projects where art is a significant part of the architectural design such as Kona International Airport and UH West Oahu. 0.5% funding would not be sufficient to address the needs of State buildings because the physical needs of the building generating the appropriation would not change.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



On Testimony OPPOSING SB 1119, A Bill for an Act relating to the Works of Art Special Fund

To: The Honorable Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Lorraine Inouye, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

From: Patricia G. Steinhoff, President, Hawai'i Handweavers' Hui

RE: SB 1119 Relating to the Works of Art Special Fund

On Behalf of the Hawai'i Handweavers' Hui, I wish to testify in opposition to Bill SB 1119, which proposes to reduce the current requirement that 1% of all state fund appropriations for capital improvements designated for the construction cost element be transferred to the works of art special fund. Senate Bill 1119 slashes the allocation by more than 50%, by reducing the amount of the special fund contribution from 1% to 0.5% and further limiting it only to new state buildings, properties or facilities, whereas the current law applies to all capital improvement appropriations, including renovations.

As you know, Hawai'i was the first state to create such a special fund for works of art in public buildings, a creative innovation that has spread to many other states. Because of this law, Hawai'i has a wonderful collection of art in all of its more than 600 public buildings and the law simultaneously provides support to local artists whose work is purchased or commissioned for display in public buildings. The Hawai'i Handweavers Hui is one of many local arts organizations that has benefited from this law. Our members have created many works of art that are in the state collection and on display throughout the state. We see no reason to reduce the very modest amount of capital improvement construction costs that are designated for the Works of Art Special Fund. This is a program that works effectively at modest cost. It generates broad public benefit by placing works of art, largely by local artists, in public buildings throughout the state, while also supporting the state's arts community that creates art reflective of Hawai'i.

The Hawai'i Handweavers' Hui is currently celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> year as an organization dedicated to the promotion of handweaving and related fiber arts. We currently have 146 members, with two very active clusters on Oahu and the Big Island. Since moving to the Downtown Art Center in 2021, we have been offering a range of weaving and other fiber and related craft classes in our weaving studio, and will have a juried show *Surrounded by Water* in the DAC galley this August. The best-known contributions of our members that were underwritten by this fund are the two massive handwoven tapestries that hang in the Senate and House Chambers of our State Capitol, which were created by the late Ruthadell Anderson and a team of fellow weavers. The

process of making and then hanging the tapestries was filmed by the artist's husband and fellow artist Web Anderson, and later made into the documentary film "Many Hands Make Light Work" that was shown in the Hawai'i international film festival two years ago and is now publicly available through the state's Uluulu Moving Image Archive.

Many other Hui members also have works in the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Art in Public Places collection. The State Foundation sends a delegation to our biennial juried shows, and selects works of art to be purchased for the State's collection. Some of our Hui members whose works have been purchased for the state collection that is supported by this law just in the past few years are Liz Train, Reiko Brandon, Gail Toma, Joan Namkoong, Gislaine Chock, Lynn Martin-Graton, Carmen Scelsa, Jean Williams, Linda Taylor, Mary MacMillan and Kyoko Kobasawa.

On behalf of the Hawai'i Handweavers' Hui weavers and spinners, I urge the committee not to reduce the stream of funding that goes into the Works of Art Special Fund, which would negatively impact the working artists whose works are purchased or commissioned for Art in Public Places, while reducing the important public benefit that the fund provides

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia G. Steinhoff". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Patricia G. Steinhoff, President, Hawai'i Handweavers Hui

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:13:59 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
maile meyer	Testifying for na mea hawaii	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

aloha mai kakou,

Mahalo for your service and your continued efforts for the good of our community. I want to share testimony against the passing of SB1119. First of all, reducing the percentage of SFCA funding to 1/2 of it's longstanding funding, and making it's funding source to "only new buildings" rather than funds from the renovation of buildings, feels extremely out of touch with the nature of the world and our hoipes for the future. More creative solutions to today's complex problems requires bigger thinkers, dreamers, and communicators with more access to creative processes and all walks of community, not less. Look where solutions are coming from during this time in our world--from those who think "outside of the box" and not those who are comfortable inheriting even smaller and smaller boxes.

Please reconsider passage of SB1119 as inappropriate for the needs of future generations. Now is the time for more creativity, and the State Foundation on Cuiture and the Arts through its intersections with public schools, private partnerships and community creative organizations is a beacon of hope for the Hawai'i of the future.

me ka ha'aha'a,

maile meyer

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:08:09 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aaron Wong	Testifying for TRADES A.i.R.	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As co-founder of a local arts non-profit and dedicated member of the arts community, I recognize how impactful ALL arts funding is, and that any reduction is detrimental towards the preservation and perseverance of arts in Hawai'i. Here we have the added incentive and opportunity to sustain native cultural practices and support artists that make work that is deeply responsive to place. Loss of funding creates disproportionate cultural losses that cannot be recovered. Arts and culture are central to what makes Hawai'i Hawai'i--they are indispensable and should be supported for their invaluable enrichment of our home and should never be targeted for spending reduction. Reducing the appropriation from 1% to 0.5% would lead to an 80% reduction in funds--the arts are woefully underfunded and any further reduction is inexcusable.

Dear Legislators,

I am submitting written testimony to strongly object to the proposed Bill SB 1119 relating to the Works of Art Special Fund. This bill is proposing to cut the 1% for the arts to .5% and this is simply unacceptable.

Hawaii was the very first state in the nation to establish the 1% for the arts in 1967, which designated one percent of construction costs of new buildings for the acquisition of work of art, either by commission or purchase. In 1989 this was expanded to the Works of Art Special Fund which allowed works of art to be available to all state public places.

It cannot be overstated how important this has been for the sharing and enjoyment of art in public spaces, for the education of the public and the appreciation of art and the artists themselves in our society today. Because of these programs there have been amazing sculptures commissioned for new buildings, and artworks are displayed in government offices, libraries, airports and numerous other public spaces. It is a representation of our people and many cultures - not only for the enjoyment of those of us who live here, but for all who visit the Islands as well. It is an important part of our cultural capitol.

This is the last place that should be targeted for budget cuts. Not only does it benefit every single one of us as the viewing public, but it is also a life line of financial support to the working artists of Hawaii. Artists careers are launched when awarded public commissions, and artists careers are supported when artworks are purchased from juried shows. If these cuts are allowed to happen it will be a blow to us all. The SFCA will no longer be able to purchase art, fund contracts or support local artists and performers who depend on this long standing source of public support.

Our legislators were the pioneers in recognizing the importance of art to the human spirit and development. Their efforts inspired the creation of over 300 public art programs nationwide at the federal, state, and county levels. Let us continue to honor this tradition of excellence and not let Bill SB 1119 pass to the detriment of the people of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Kathleen C. Grennan

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:51:58 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Evan Anderson	Testifying for Hawai'i Arts Alliance	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Aloha, Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee-**

**As Hawaii's statewide non-profit arts advocacy organization, the Hawai'i Arts Alliance strongly opposes SB1119's deep cuts to state arts funding. Now, more than ever, we need to bolster our support for the arts and our creative economy. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on the arts in Hawai'i and across the country, and we must do everything in our power to help our artists, cultural practitioners, and the arts organizations that support them recover from this crisis. In doing so, we support the aspects of our community and our culture that have the greatest potential to uplift and restore our physical, economic and mental health.**

**We urge our lawmakers to propose legislation that contributes to a sustainable, durable means of supporting all of the arts in Hawai'i. Our artists and cultural practitioners play an essential role in the fabric of our society and contribute significantly to the economy. According to the Americans for the Arts' Arts and Economic Prosperity Study of 2017, every dollar spent on the arts in Hawai'i generated nine dollars of in-state economic activity. This shows just how valuable the arts are to our community, both culturally and economically.**

**In the face of the challenges posed by the pandemic, it is critical that we sustain arts funding to the State Foundation at least at current levels, not only for the benefit of our creative economy but for the health of our community as well. The arts provide a much-needed source of comfort and inspiration, as well as a means of telling our collective stories and exploring the important issues of our time as we experience the grief, trauma, and economic uncertainties that have impacted all our lives.**

**In this time of healing and recovery, it is more important than ever to invest in the arts and our creative economy. I urge you to shelve this proposal and instead work towards sustainable support for all of the arts and cultural practitioners across Hawai'i. With the help of legislative leadership, the arts in Hawai'i can recover from the pandemic and drive a creative resurgence that uplifts us all.**

**Mahalo for the opportunity to present our testimony.**





**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:14:44 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Donald K. Johnson	Testifying for Windward Artist Guild	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB1119 OPPOSE**

Do you know why private schools teach art? It makes for smart people!

It is all of our responsibility to ensure all the children of Hawaii have well rounded education, which includes arts engagement. The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts uses their resources to provide education and access to the arts for all. Do not take away opportunities from our children to fix or build State buildings. It is obvious, taking away the arts money will not make a difference in the condition of State buildings. We need smart creative kids to come out of the Public Schools. That's where most of our island children get their education. Public buildings will not make creative kids! The arts money, designated to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, does make a difference in Hawaii.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:29:03 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Edwards	Testifying for Hawai'i Craftsmen	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As Vice President of Hawai'i Craftsmen - a (501(c)(3) arts organization founded in 1966 - I am writing to strongly oppose SB 1119. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically. I am writing to strongly oppose SB 1119. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically. Shame on you. These are cultural programs that actually work! Why break them? The bill would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal!

Hawai'i Craftsmen is a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to promoting fine crafts as a vital and enriching part of contemporary Hawai'i life. We support the creative growth and education of our member artists and the general public through educational workshops, lecture events, and juried exhibitions offered across the state, instilling the appreciation and value of fine crafts among the peoples of Hawai'i.

The arts play a crucial role in the cultural and economic well-being of the state of Hawai'i. They not only reflect the state's unique history and diverse communities but also serve as a means of preserving and celebrating its cultural heritage. The arts industry in Hawai'i generates millions of dollars annually, providing jobs and stimulating local economies. Beyond economic benefits, arts education fosters creativity and critical thinking skills in students, and community art programs bring people together, promoting social cohesion and a sense of shared identity. In short, the arts are an essential component of Hawai'i's identity and play a vital role in the state's cultural and economic vibrancy.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:47:20 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jackie Mild Lau	Testifying for Hawaii Craftsmen	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I strongly oppose the measures proposed in SB 1119 to cut what will amount to an 80% decrease in funding of programs supported by the Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts. Why would a state which led the way in funding the arts nationally step away from a long time commitment to the public using public funds for the education and cultural enrichment of its citizens.

The Arts are not just some form of esoteric beautification of individual spaces, but an enhancement of our quality of life, an upgrade to our visual and cultural environment and sense of well being. Arts education raises the bar for expectations of the building's and events in our daily experience and teaches decision making, empowering our Keiki to create their world. Those insecure about their creative skills tend to assert themselves through destructive behaviors.

Please preserve our landmark 1% for the arts legislation which, if anything, should be increased to stimulate economic development, community engagement and civic pride.

Most Sincerely,

Jackie Mild Lau

Hawaii Craftsmen

Artist, Arts Educator and Arts Activist

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:50:55 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aly Ishikuni	Testifying for AI MEDIA LLC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Aly Ishikuni and I am currently contracted by The Hawai'i State Art Museum as their Events Programmer. Each month, I produce FREE family-friendly gatherings and shows for the public with the help of the 1% of Works of Arts Special Funds, ensuring that ALL of our citizenry can access and enjoy local art through The Art in Public Places Program, the Hawai'i State Art Museum, and Student Art Exhibitions. These platforms and programs are absolutely CRUCIAL to building community, cultivating growth, and preserving our culture and history in Hawai'i.

Through our live events, such as First Fridays, Super Saturdays, and The VIBE, we provide exposure and job opportunities for hundreds of local artists, musicians, performers, food vendors, graphic designers, production artists, educators, and more. For many of them, HiSAM events are directly linked to their livelihood and is their main source of income to support themselves and their families. By reducing the Works of Arts Special Funds, opportunities for those interested in pursuing a career in the arts will be completely shut off and the impact will be detrimental for our creative community.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:52:21 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael D Marshall	Testifying for SFCA Hawaii Island Commisioner	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**The S.B. 1119 proposal to reduce funding to reduce Works of Art Funding from construction by 50% and renovation...**

**would affect an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions...is a terrible idea.**

**We would not tolerate proposals to skimp on construction. How is skimping on the Arts acceptable in a compassionate and advancing society, state, nation?**

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:15:16 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Linares`	Testifying for Exhibition Grid	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I am expressing my deep concern about the proposed SB.1119, which seeks to reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from the renovation.**

**As the CEO of Exhibition Grid, a Honolulu-based arts research and tour company, I am acutely aware of this bill's impact on our business and the cultural landscape of Hawai`i.**

**Exhibition Grid is establishing itself to educate the public on the rich history of Hawai`i arts and its impact on contemporary artists and institutions.**

**Our services include guided tours and research opportunities for retired art professionals and students studying art, museum studies, and art history. With the proposed cuts, the loss of funding will significantly impact our ability to provide these services and the retired art professionals and students we seek to employ.**

**The Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions all play a vital role in preserving the state's rich cultural heritage and promoting the growth of contemporary artists.**

**The proposed cuts will result in an 80% reduction of funding for these programs, which will have a devastating impact on the cultural landscape of Hawai`i.**

**Additionally, the loss of funding for these programs will also affect the ability of the state to communicate its cultural identity through art. The results negatively impact not only the state's and all private collections, reducing the power of these collections to convey the cultural impact of talent in the state.**

**In conclusion, I strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed cuts outlined in SB.1119. These cuts will have a profound impact on the cultural landscape of Hawai`i and the ability of companies like Exhibition Grid to provide education and employment opportunities for those passionate about art.**

**I appreciate your consideration.**

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:02:25 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sidney Lynch	Testifying for Glass Fusion Collective	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii already does not do enough to support the art and artists. Please do not cut the current funding. It is important to see art created by local artists in public places. If anything this amount should be increased so that more is done to get local art in the public eye. With proper guidance, promoting local art to tourists could be an income generator for Hawaii. Unfortunately up to know there has not been the necessary guidance to elevate art to where it would not only benefit the artist but also the economy. You have to invest to get a return. Again - please do not cut the current funding.



2/13/23

Sean Browne

2965 Robert Place

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Der Committee Chair and Committee members:

I write in opposition to SB1119. As a practicing artist and educator, I have witnessed the benefits firsthand of the arts programs, administered by the HSFCA, having played a significant role in promoting, perpetuating and preserving the culture and arts of Hawaii.

As a native Hawaiian, I have been able to create works of art that reflect Hawaii's rich and diverse culture, throughout the State of Hawaii. I am most proud of the works of art that I created for three DOE K-6 schools, Keaukaha Elementary School, which I attended as a child, Ma'ema'e Elementary School and Kohala Elementary School.

The HSFCA's ability to implement these visual art projects as well as other programs statewide, is a credit to their long term vision. A fifty percent decrease in the works of arts special fund as this bill indicates, would seriously hamper their reach to all of the people of Hawaii, young and old.

Thank you for your time.

Aloha, Sean Browne

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:59:23 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnny Macas	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

**My name is Johnny Macas, and I am a taxpaying citizen from Honolulu County on O’ahu. I am an artist, arts educator, art historian, and interpretive guide at a local publicly-funded art museum. Today, I am here in opposition of measure SB1119, which reduces the State of Hawai’i’s one percent for the arts to 0.5%.**

**As a worker that is contracted by the Hawai’i State Art Museum, I am completely surprised that someone would introduce a bill like this to potentially reduce funding for the Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Day in and day out, I see how much public good these funds directly serve, both for our kama’aina and international visitors. For tourists, we show them some of the vibrancy and distinguished artistic ability that the arts coming out of Hawai’i has. The display of this art in public venues creates room for dialogue, learning, and engagement, in a way that may be hard to achieve otherwise. For example, right across this street, we have “Eternal Flame”, by the Kauai-born artist Bumpei Akaji. You may be familiar with it, it's a large, welded metal form with a perpetual flame coming out of its top. The artist was a veteran who fought in the 442nd regiment in WW2, which was comprised almost entirely of second-generation Japanese-American soldiers. Using the welding skills he developed from his military service, and his fine art training he received from Italy after utilizing his GI Bill, Akaji became an incredibly prolific artist in Hawai’i, and you still see much of his work out in public, engaging with its audiences, in the public collection of the Hawai’i Arts in Public Places collection.**

**What this measure would effectively do, is make it that much more difficult to preserve locally-resonant works like that of Akaji, or one of the other hundreds of pieces on public display. Not only that, due to the fact that the measure would cut funds for our yearly Student Art Shows & Arts Education programs, it limits the amount of artists we have coming from our next generation. As an arts educator, this is incredibly disappointing, because these kinds of student contest and exhibitions are ways I get my students engaged, and excited about pursuing an artistic career in the future. Even without considering the great artists of Hawai’i and the younger generation of artists, there is a middle-ground of up-and-coming artists, as well as non-profit art institutions and exhibition venues, that depend on State art grants to make any living.**

**I'm not sure how many of you have actually been to the State Art Museum and State Foundation for Culture and the Arts right next door, but they need MORE funding, not less. We have ONE conservator for the entire State of Hawai'i. Every piece of public work you see, whether on O'ahu or Kauai or Maui, is conserved by ONE professional. People wonder why the Museum exhibits take so long in between exhibitions. It's because we have ONE curator for the State collection, who has to choose between focusing on our public museum, or switching out the art in your offices in this very building. If there is any conversation to be had on the State Foundation's budget for the arts, we should be debating how much MORE funding we should allot to the arts.**

**The way I understand it, the State Works of Arts fund should even be considered to be cut as a "cost saving" measure, because if our taxes do not go towards the perpetuation of culture, then where is Hawai'i headed? The State Foundation does amazing work, funding artists both Kanaka and Kama'aina, as well as educating and preparing Hawai'i's keiki for an exciting and creative future. Without proper funds, it is difficult for me to see a scenario in which Hawai'i even as a public, free museum anymore. I truly hope that the next time I am here, testifying in this art-filled Capitol building, that it is for the grand increase of the State arts budget. Thank you for your time, and I hope you reconsider passing this bill, for the sake of Hawai'i's artistic past, present, and future.**

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 9:21:56 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keri Powlison	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I have worked in the Architecture and Interior Design industry in the State of Hawai'i for over 10 years and the Art in Public Places Program is of the utmost importance to maintaining our cultural identity as a community and as a tourist destination. To reduce the funds used to purchase local artworks, to teach budding local artists, and to share the rich artistic history and community of Hawai'i with its people and it's visitors is a short-sighted, quick money grab that will have long-term consequences when visitors stop seeing Hawai'i as a unique and special place to visit and it just becomes another random beach location, interchangeable with the Floridas and Mexicos of the world. What makes Hawai'i so very special is its culture, and that is a fragile thing that needs support or it will wither away. We need to continue to support our artists, to show our children their culture and heritage, to share this unique and creative culture with our visitors. Our construction, our renovations, our sense of place is grounded in the rich artistic heritage of our beautiful islands. Many places have palm trees and sandy beaches, nowhere else has our Aloha. We need to celebrate that, not strip it away.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:04:46 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Janes-Brown	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee and Vice Chair Inouye,

I am Paul Janes-Brown, I live in Pukalani, Maui, Hawaii and I am vehemently opposed to this measure. I have previously stated my qualifications concerning this measure in my testimony of SB 119.

Sen. McKelvey and Sen. Kieth-Agaran have introduced measures that will harm the arts in the State of Hawaii. One measure SB 119 seeks to re-allocate funds from the Works of Art Special Funds. This measure SB1119 seeks to cut the fund in half and eliminate the amendment to the fund that added renovations to the percent for art program. Why on earth are they opposed to measures that beautify and humanize our state buildings and increase public access to the arts?

This measure, were it to pass, would have a disastrous impact on the State’s ability to purchase works of art to carry out the mandated purpose of our percent for art program. A program that was the first state approved percent for art program in America and one which has been a paragon for the hundreds of state, county and municipal programs that have subsequently been adopted throughout our country.

I am certain that Masaru “Pundy” Yokouchi, the first chair of the State Foundation on Culture & the Arts, who spearheaded the legislative effort for the adoption of our first in the country percent for art program in 1967 is spinning in his grave. It shocks me that the introducers of this measure, who both purport to represent Maui, would dishonor one of Maui’s most beloved, generous, and well-known sons by attacking the programs he birthed.

One of the best things about Maui is the extent of the arts and the quality of its artists. This measure would do terrible harm to the quality of life on Maui and the state. Please do not allow this bill to go any further and Sen. Gil-Agaran and Sen. McKelvey owe the people of Maui an apology for putting forth such a harmful, insulting and embarrassing piece of legislation, which, should you move it out of this a committee and should it actually pass, I hope our brilliant Governor Green would veto. Mahalo nui loa and I hope you do the right thing and kill this now.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:02:12 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

**Aloha and thank you for this opportunity,**

**I strongly OPPOSE SB1119** introduced by KEITH-AGARAN, MCKELVEY. This is another manipulative bill that takes away from the arts and culture while not allocating it for renovations that the arts need. Instead, it has languaging to use the arts as the sheep cloth and the lion is the edit 'or renovate' allowing the state to build new buildings without supporting any renovation initiative or having anything to do with the arts.

It is a very low-brow move not empowering and celebrating culture and the arts in Hawai'i State. Needless to say another method of taking away arts funding in critical places for the next generation. PLEASE KEEP OUR 1% BILL INTACT! It is the foundation of what makes HI State SPECIAL AND ENCOURAGES INNOVATION, HOPE, HEALING, COLLABORATION, EMPATHY, CRITICAL THINKING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN OUR NEXT GENERATION!

**SB1119** RELATING TO THE WORKS OF ART SPECIAL FUND

Specifies that 0.5 percent, rather than one percent, of state fund appropriations for capital improvements, shall be transferred into the Works of Art Special Fund. Limits the 0.5 percent amount to appropriations designated for the construction of new state buildings, properties, or facilities.

- S.B. 1119 proposes to reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovation, which would result in an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions.
- Deletes the word 'or renovation'. This money is not for our benefit but to be able to build NEW buildings and take away arts funding at the same time.

7 construction cost element; provided  
8 apply only to capital improvement ap  
9 designated for the construction [ex-  
10 buildings [-], properties, or facilities  
11 transfer requirement shall not apply  
12 passenger facility charge special fu  
13 261-5.5 and the rental motor vehicle  
14 special fund established under sect  
15 2. By amending subsection (c)  
16 "(c) The ~~one~~ 0.5 per cent an  
17 all capital improvement appropriatio

2023-0574 SB SMA.docx



**Mahalo for your time,**

**Maki Morinoue**

**(I am a HI State artist, HI art advocator & arts in schools/community volunteer) 96725**



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:26:01 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Germaine Salim-Hagihara	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha, thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding SB 1119 relating to the works of art special fund. My name is Germaine Salim and I am a resident of Honolulu. I am testifying in opposition of SB 1119, specifically the following:

I oppose reducing the percentage of state fund appropriations for the works of art special fund, from 1% to 0.5%. The works of art special fund is a vital and important part of supporting the arts in Hawaii. If, in accordance with HRS 103-8.5, the intent of the program is to support, promote, and recognize excellence of the State's diverse cultural, creative, and traditional artists; then 1% of construction cost element from state appropriations is already a small ask and should not be reduced. The arts are intended to inspire awe, curiosity, to lift the spirit. A belief in the value of art and celebration of artists are the mark of an advanced society. I am extremely disappointed that this bill would be proposed when the construction industry in Hawaii is thriving. At this time in particular, this bill seems tone deaf.

I also oppose the limiting of the percentage appropriation to new construction only. Both new construction and renovation are important parts of construction planning budgeting in the State. By removing the appropriation from renovation only projects, this will reduce the funding allocated for the works of art special fund.

My communities and particularly our children benefit from art as part of our everyday lives. Art must be everywhere for the fullest realization of the human condition. It is deeply upsetting to see legislation that diminishes this important part of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha and thank you for this opportunity,

**I strongly OPPOSE SB1119** introduced by KEITH-AGARAN, MCKELVEY. This is another manipulative bill that takes away from the arts and culture while not allocating it for renovations that the arts need. Instead, it has language to use the arts as the sheep cloth and the lion is the edit 'or renovate' allowing the state to build new buildings without supporting any renovation initiative or having anything to do with the arts. It is a very low-brow move not empowering and celebrating culture and the arts in Hawai'i State. Needless to say another method of taking away arts funding in critical places for the next generation.

**PLEASE KEEP OUR 1% BILL INTACT!** It is the foundation of what makes HI State SPECIAL AND ENCOURAGES INNOVATION, HOPE, HEALING, COLLABORATION, EMPATHY, CRITICAL THINKING & CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN OUR NEXT GENERATION!

#### **SB1119 RELATING TO THE WORKS OF ART SPECIAL FUND**

Specifies that 0.5 percent, rather than one percent, of state fund appropriations for capital improvements, shall be transferred into the Works of Art Special Fund. Limits the 0.5 percent amount to appropriations designated for the construction of new state buildings, properties, or facilities.

- S.B. 1119 proposes to reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovation, which would result in an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions.

- Deletes the word 'or renovation'. This money is not for our benefit but to be able to build NEW buildings and take away arts funding at the same time.

**If you would try to reduce or kill our 1% Bill, what else we would be proud of this state? This 1% Bill had influenced many other states across the U.S. and that is our country is still maintain Well-Being of Citizens with richness of CULTURE & ARTS. I believe that where people's well-being sustains with enrichment of Culture and Arts, their economy must grow naturally.**

Mahalo for your time,

Setsuko Morinoue

artist, HI art advocator & arts in schools/community volunteer / 96725

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 5:01:07 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gaye Chan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB1119/HB1472 proposes to reduce Works of Art Special Fund; Capital Improvement Appropriations by 50%. This will have a severe negative impact on Hawaii's artists, who contribute to Hawaii's economy.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:06:56 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Owen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 1119. I have been so proud of the state of Hawaii (my home since 1980) because we were the first state to designate one percent for art. This bill would cut that one percent to one-half percent, and would also eliminate any funding from the renovation of public buildings. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically, two programs I care most about. It would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal!

Mahalo,

Jennifer Owen

1051 Kokomo Rd.

Haiku, HI 96708

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:53:59 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Emily McIlroy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii was the very first State to establish the 1% for the arts and I am proud to reside here because of it. 1% for the arts provides Hawaii artists with a way to fund the heartfelt and often financially unrewarded work they do to enrich the lives and spaces of the whole community. It would be horrific to see this bill passed and I strongly oppose it.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 12:33:00 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynne Gilroy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 1119. I am a visual artist and participate in arts programs on Maui and Oahu. I am honored to be living in the state of Hawaii which strongly supports the arts with 1% Works of Art Funding from construction. This bill would cut that one percent to one-half percent, and would also eliminate any funding from the renovation of public buildings. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically, two programs I care most about. It would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal! Lynne Gilroy, Makawao, Hawaii

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:19:02 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Don Bernshouse	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am an architect and a visual artist and participate in arts programs on Maui and Oahu. I grew up on the Hawaiian Islands and my entire life and career were strongly impacted by Hawaii's support of the arts, especially the Honolulu Academy of the Arts and later the Contemporary Museum.

I am honored to be living in the state of Hawaii which strongly supports all of the the arts with 1% Works of Art Funding from construction. This bill would cut that one percent to one-half percent, and would also eliminate any funding from the rennovation of public buildings. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically, two programs I care most about. It would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal!  
Don Bernshouse, Architect, Makawao, Hawaii

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 5:59:07 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe there is a lack in aid and support for the local arts community. The lack of funding divides are communities already as is. Perhaps the government plans to wipe art out.



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 6:05:15 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Douglas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB1119.

The outer islands and the Big Island in particular have not been a fair recipient of the existing funds as it stands. The works in public places are almost nonexistent, an disrespectful embarrassment to the islands. Taking away 80% of the funding will annihilate the little that we have and further cripple the arts on the outer islands. Don't allow Hawaii to become an arts desert.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:49:53 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Katherine Love	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill which would dramatically reduce funding to the Works of Art special fund. This reduced funding would severely imperil the arts across Hawaii. It would limit the introduction of art to students (through the Artists in the Schools program), would severely hinder the ability of locally-based artists to advance their career through an acquisition to the SFCA Art in Public Places collection, and would drastically cut the capacity of the Hawaii State Art Museum to plan and mount exhibitions celebrating and sharing the creativity and cultural practices of artists in Hawaii.

The SFCA and its programs are vitally important. The practice and enjoyment of art is not only a meaningful way to explore our connections to community, past, present, and future, but is also important for a thriving and diversified economy. Please do not cut funding to this valuable source of support for the arts in Hawaii.

Thank you,

Katherine Love

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:25:49 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Ball	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the Committee,

I am writing in vehement opposition to this bill, which seeks to gut the support for arts and cultural programming that has made us a model for the entire nation. It effectively destroys the SFCA's ability to manage their crucial mission for the arts and culture across the state. As an Executive Board member of the Friends of the Hawaii State Art Museum--an exemplary public institution bringing our community together during these difficult times--I have seen the transformative power of the SFCA to promote and sustain those things that matter most in our community. I urge the Committee to reject this bill and to throw their support behind our nationally recognized public arts programming. Thank you for your time, consideration, and support of arts and cultural programming.

Sincerely yours,

Dave Ball, Honolulu

Board Member, Friends of the Hawaii State Art Museum (FHiSAM)

ALOHA

My name is Gunda Nollenberger, and I am writing today as a concerned citizen to testify in opposition of SB1119 `Relating to the Works of Art Special Fund` and I am in support of leaving the fund as is.

As I understand it, the proposed wording of S.B. No. 1119 specifies that 0.5 per cent, rather than one per cent, of state fund appropriations shall be transferred into the Works of Art Special Fund. On top of that, funding from renovations would be eliminated entirely. All this translates into cutting funds by essentially 75 to 80 %.

Giving artists the opportunity to present their work and audiences to experience creative ideas expressed in art forms makes the world as a whole, and Hawaii in particular, a culturally richer place. Art is not always tangible, but it inspires people in so many different ways. We need innovative concepts to explore new avenues to move forward, think outside the box, and feel positive about the place we all share and most of us call home. From my experience, museums are places of interest when filled with people (life) who get to meet artists and get involved with the arts, including events after hours. Buildings, rooms and walls provide the platform for conversation.

The arts cannot exist in a space that lacks an outlet to give it expression. A drastic cut in funding would dramatically shift the landscape and diminish people's enriching experiences with the arts.

We are in desperate need of vision and visionaries.

MAHALO

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:14:55 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Juvana Soliven	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Reducing the funding for the Public Art Fund from 1% to 0.5% is a move that I oppose. In the face of adversity, we have all witnessed how art uplifts, revitalizes, and energizes community and spaces. The state cannot cut funding to the arts anymore than it already has. This proposal also does not support renovation or conservation of public art already in place. What is expected to happen to these spaces that need renovation?

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:28:13 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Mori	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose the bill SB1119 because it would cut in half the percentage of state appropriations for capital improvements that are transferred into the Works of Art Special Fund. I believe that art is fundamental to a healthy society and deserves to be funded. Art lets people share ideas freely while promoting creativity, wellness and cultural awareness. It brings people together through its capacity to tell a community's shared story, inspiring reflection and forming connections that transcend differences. What could be more important for our island state?

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:58:51 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Debra Drexler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to the bill, which would drastically cut support to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. This bill would harm the cultural community in the State in several ways.

1. During the past 30 years, when I have been a professor at the University of Hawai'i, I have witnessed many of our most talented, local artists leave the state after graduation, because of the lack of opportunities in the State. The programs provided by the State Foundation such as the Art in Public Places Program, and the Art in Schools Program, are one of the few opportunities to launch the careers of young local artists, and prevent talent drain in the State. An excellent example of how important these programs are in retaining local talent can be seen in the most recent exhibit at HISAM, "Accession: new additions to the Art in Public Places Program", which features 15 UH alumni. SFCA keeps local artists in the State where they can share their vision and talent with the community.

2. These State Foundation programs are essential in supporting Native Hawaiian artists, and art forms. It is vital to have support for true practitioners of cultural forms that represent the history and legacy of the islands. SFCA is one of the only organizations that supports Native Hawaiian arts.

3. Contemporary local art is a bargain compared to other physical elements that could be added to finish architectural structures. Instead of providing generic decor, contemporary, art perpetuates the culture and provides inspirational and educational experiences to people who enter State buildings, at a fraction of the cost of generic decor brought in from the continental US.

I greatly appreciate your time and your interest in support future generations of local artists.

Mahalo!

Debra Drexler

Professor and Department Chair

Department of Art and Art History, UHM



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:58:51 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Debra Drexler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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Mahalo!

Debra Drexler

Professor and Department Chair

Department of Art and Art History, UHM

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:12:15 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
May Izumi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NO. What a stupid idea. SFCA has no capacity or experience in creating a film library. Also a great way to create bad feelings in the various art communities by pitting them against each other for dwindling resources. Will result in fewer opportunities for all and more people leaving the islands.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:16:46 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Edwards	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to strongly oppose SB 1119. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically. Shame on you. These are cultural programs that actually work! Why break them? The bill would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal!

The arts play a crucial role in the cultural and economic well-being of the state of Hawai'i. They not only reflect the state's unique history and diverse communities but also serve as a means of preserving and celebrating its cultural heritage. The arts industry in Hawai'i generates millions of dollars annually, providing jobs and stimulating local economies. Beyond economic benefits, arts education fosters creativity and critical thinking skills in students, and community art programs bring people together, promoting social cohesion and a sense of shared identity. In short, the arts are an essential component of Hawai'i's identity and play a vital role in the state's cultural and economic vibrancy.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:29:21 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dr. Maika Pollack	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

With the creation of the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (1965), the nation's first percent-for-art law (1967), and the Art in Public Places Program (1967), we see policies establishing art as a public good central to the quality of life in Hawai'i—a unique belief that continues to this day.

Hawai'i was the first state in the nation to initiate a statewide percent for art program. This program has been important in sustaining the vitality of the art community. What's more, promoting art and culture has always been integral to the image of Hawai'i outside the islands. We are a culturally unique place with a long heritage of supporting our artists and cultural practitioners. Cutting the budget in half, from 1% to .5%, would be devastating to the artistic community and do irreparable damage to the notion of art as an accessible, public good in Hawai'i. Thank you.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:44:12 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
bailey a ferguson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose -

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:07:20 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hadley Nunes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a professional artist and community organizer who has been working in Hawaii since 2012, I have seen first hand how State funded projects have benefitted both artists and the community at large. Given our geographical location, the arts in Hawaii are already at a disadvantage because unlike other areas where access to funding can be cultivated across a much broader pool of philanthropy, Hawaii often remains isolated and artists rely on fewer opportunities as it is to survive artistically as well as financially. Like any other professions, those working in the arts excel and develop professionally through the opportunities they have to demonstrate larger vision and expand the audiences who benefit from their art. I have watched Jerry Vasconcellos soar to new heights through his state funded projects, Kahi Ching and others who I know and admire have reached new levels of artistic excellence due to the opportunity to work on larger scales and touch more people through their state funded projects. Not to mention the many other projects and commissions that have enriched our communities and keiki thanks to State funding. I began teaching at UHM this fall as a lecturer in the Art Department. I feel deeply compelled to speak on behalf of students in our state education system who dream of making a difference in our State through the arts, they deserve better than even what we can now offer them. To allocate .5% towards other areas is a step backwards. In these times students and communities need more outlets to inspire and bring about the kind of collective hope and thoughtfulness we need to tackle some of the biggest challenges our state and planet faces in the years to come. Art has always been a beacon of light and offers society ways to think more broadly about our cultures, the environment and dreams for the future. Please reconsider this cut in the State funded arts budget. Thank you, Hadley Nunes

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:19:02 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcia Pasqua	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it would reduce 80% of the funding for Art in Public Places, which is a lifeline for many artists, Artists in the Schools, which supports both artists and public school students and teachers, and Student Art Exhibitions which directly affect Hawaii public school students. This funding keeps the arts alive. Leave it alone.



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:16:46 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Edwards	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to strongly oppose SB 1119. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically. Shame on you. These are cultural programs that actually work! Why break them? The bill would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal!

The arts play a crucial role in the cultural and economic well-being of the state of Hawai'i. They not only reflect the state's unique history and diverse communities but also serve as a means of preserving and celebrating its cultural heritage. The arts industry in Hawai'i generates millions of dollars annually, providing jobs and stimulating local economies. Beyond economic benefits, arts education fosters creativity and critical thinking skills in students, and community art programs bring people together, promoting social cohesion and a sense of shared identity. In short, the arts are an essential component of Hawai'i's identity and play a vital role in the state's cultural and economic vibrancy.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:35:56 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Matson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

Why are renovations no longer being included? Doesn't it make more sense to support and renovate facilities already in existance rather than just supporting new construction? I am in opposition to this change.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

Hawai'i Island Resident

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:38:50 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judy Bisgard	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB1119. I am very proud of what our State has accomplished in designating and using one percent for art. It is very important we keep this program active and vital. I am from a fifth generation Hawaii family and I have served as a Commissioner from Maui on the State Board. I have volunteered and worked in the arts field in the islands for over 50 years. Mahalo for your consideration.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:57:19 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
jeanne wheeler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in opposition to this bill, please do NOT pass it! Mahalo, JW

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:58:22 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tom Sewell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am against this bill. As a troubled teen, the arts was the only thing that i really enjoyed doing that didn't get me into trouble. Now at 83, I continue to make art everyday. It saved my life.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:10:36 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carl FK Pao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai,

I greatly oppose SB1119! As a professional artist and visual arts educator of over 25 years of experience here in Hawai'i, to make such cuts to such important programs will be devastating to an already under appreciated area in our society. So why make even more cuts? Does one not value the positive impact that the visual arts have on our community? SB1119 proposes to reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovation, which would result in an **80% reduction of funding** for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions, all vital programs that not only inspire our community, but also provide much needed jobs too for people who specialize in these fields. Are these programs and the people that run them and who they serve not valued anymore? And especially coming from a cultural perspective too, the visual arts are an integral part of our aboriginal Hawaiian culture and a good part of the various cultures that have immigrated here over the now centuries and present. The visual arts are an essential component of how we express ourselves as individuals, people, cultures, and societies as professionals, as a hobbyist, or as a developing child creating neurological pathways. The visual arts have existed since the beginning of our time as a race creating, recording, and expressing. Do not deem the visual arts and visual arts education anything less than the building blocks of who we are. The visual arts should continue to be celebrated and not be subject to more cuts!

Speaking as an arts educator, the visual arts also provide amazing opportunities for our youth to earn a college degree. To take away from our children's exposure to these opportunities is criminal. "If you see it, then you can be it", is such a true observation. To take the visual arts out of our schools and public places would take the potential for opportunities of possible futures away from our youth. I speak also from experience. If it were not for having artists visit my school growing up in Kailua and seeing the amazing art in public places, I would not have had the real life experiences to believe in myself to become a professional artist and visual arts educator. The visual arts provided me a university education, an MFA from abroad, and a steady income as a visual arts educator. And now having been a visual arts educator, I can give back. But how much can I give back if SB1119 succeeds? Less. Much less. And others will continue to lose out too. Lose out of jobs and possible futures. Please do not take that away from our society, our children's futures.

Again, I strongly oppose SB1119! Continue to support our visual arts and the programs that SB1119 proposes to diminish! The visual arts are too vital to make cuts in! We have the strongest visual arts legislation, let's keep it that way and make it even stronger by not supporting SB1119!

Mahalo nui for your time.

Mālama,

Carl F.K. Pao

Visual Artsist/Visual Arts Educator

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:12:51 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
noriko donna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my voice for SB1119. I oppose this bill. Our communities thrive from creative thinking. Teaching arts and culture is a key source of creativity, which will only help build a better future in Hawaii. Funds allocated to this effort must be protected.

Respectfully,

Noriko Donna



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:18:57 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ara Laylo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

As a board member for Hawai'i Contemporary and a lecturer at the UH Manoa Art department, I am writing to voice my strong opposition to SB 1119, the bill to cut funding to the arts from 1% to .5%.

The SFCA will no longer be able to purchase art, fund contracts, and support local artists and performers who depend on this long standing public support. It is critical that our community maintain it's support for the arts and culture to advance the development and growth of the lives of the people of Hawai'i. Arts education raises academic achievement through analytical reasoning, creative thinking, and collaborative pedagogy. The arts is vital to preserving Hawai'i's unique culture through art, music, and dance.

I strongly oppose the current proposal to cut funding for the arts by .5%. This is a small ask that could greatly impact the lives of an entire ecosystem of creatives who are the life source for our society to thrive.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Pag-ibig Ara Laylo

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:24:28 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

aloha,

just when we need to support more, not less, creative outlets in our society....

Our governor is talking about returning tax money to taxpayers. why we talking about eliminating funds supportive of positive activities for our communities including our keiki?

Where i live (Kona), this bill could remove funding for improving the likes of the historic Aloha Theatre -- a place which has given joy and creative alternatives to countless thousands of people over decades.

Works of Art funding for construction would be reduced by 50% with funding for renovation eliminated, which would result in an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions.

Please vote "NO" to this bill and any accompanying, similarly anti-art legislation.

mahalo and sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

kailua-kona

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:29:14 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Akiko Cutlip	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an local artist and art educator living in Hawaii. I am oppose to SB1119. This will reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovation, which would result in an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions. We need to keep our 1% funding to keep our artist and children thriving in art in our state.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:29:17 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Katherine Don	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The arts sector universally requires increased funding and supports to creative professionals. To reduce existing measures that provides critical funding from federal and state sources greatly reduces the capacity of a local economy.

Especially in Hawaii, where socioeconomic pressures are paralleled with that of major urban cities such as New York and San Francisco, measures to reduce funding and support towards the arts and culture removes local opportunities based in Hawaii to serve the local Hawaii community. It resorts to importing external talent that are unfamiliar with local culture.

I grew up in Maui and went to college in New York City where I majored in Art History. Upon graduating, my first job in the New York arts scene paid a minimal annual salary. Twenty years later, it is appalling that the arts salaries have not increased with nominal inflation rates nor with general recognition of highly educated creative professionals. There is a dearth of qualified, capable individuals in the arts who are able to make ends meet using art salaries alone. Additional sources of funding from federal grants and the private sector are imperative.

Creative = 5th largest sector for Hawaii economy / ecosystem

According to DBEDT report from May 2020, Creative Industry in Hawaii ([https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/data\\_reports/hawaii-creative-report/Hi\\_Creative\\_Ind\\_2019.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/data_reports/hawaii-creative-report/Hi_Creative_Ind_2019.pdf)), the CREATIVE INDUSTRY IS THE 5TH LARGEST SECTOR FOR HAWAII'S ECONOMY AND ECOSYSTEM. Behind Construction and Tourism, the Creative sector in Hawaii has enormous capacity and growth potential to further contribute to the state's economy, as well as provide a sustainable financial future.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:45:37 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bernice Akamine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Art should not be only for the elite, it should be available to everyone from all walks of life, everywhere. By reducing funding you are eliminating access for children from depressed neighborhoods to have access to art in these classrooms. By reducing funding you are eliminating the opportunity for youth to showcase their artwork and sharing their ideas in visual form. And, you are saying that the arts are not important.

Yet we all know that art is important to the economy. With huge arts events such as the Hawaii Triennial bringing in artists and their artwork from across the Pacific and beyond drawing in tourists who may otherwise not come to a state known to be an arts vacuum. The Glass Art Society, an international organization of glass artists, students, collectors and others is looking at Hawaii as a site to hold their conference, in the near future. Art can and is big business, your cutting funding to the main entity of teaching and sharing the arts with Hawaii and beyond is shortsighted indeed.

I therefore oppose bill S.B.1119.

Mahalo nui loa, Bernice Akamine, a very concerned artist.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:33:22 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Analiese Esopenko	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a local musician who has directly worked with hawaii state art museum. This bill would cut funding for the wonderful free programs they have going on. Please do not pass this bill! Arts are so important to us!

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:54:07 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Hagihara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to respectfully oppose Senate Bill 119 Relating to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Arts and Culture are a critical component to a healthy community and the Hawaii State Art Museum is an essential hub for Arts and Culture in our state. This bill would negatively impact the Art Museum as well as several other critical arts programs including Art in Public Places, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions. Instead of limiting opportunities in the Arts for Hawaii's youths, we should be increasing our support of the arts to encourage the creativity of Hawaii's keiki.

Mahalo,

John Hagihara

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:09:52 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter Arnade	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Comittee Members:

SB1119/HB1472 proposes to reduce Works of Art Special Fund; Capital Improvement Appropriations by 50%. This will have a severe negative impact on Hawaii's artists and arts community.



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:28:02 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julie Matheis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to this bill, as it would devastate the ability for the museum to expand its collection of contemporary Native Hawaiian artworks. This funding should not be redirected, but it should continue to be used to highlight and elevate the careers of emerging and student artists. This bill would also destroy the ability for the state to commission works of art at public sites, which is truly a loss for artists and communities throughout the state.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:29:26 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rose Anne Jones	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha from Kaua`i,

As a person who is not an artist, I must stand in total opposition from reducing the 1% State committment to the arts to .5%.

The State of Hawaii has historically been the leader of ALL States in our country by adopting the 1% committment to the visual arts back in 1965-1966. Their committment to the "richness and diversity" of the arts was a unique progressive decision and made a historical impact on artists of all backgrounds in Hawaii.

This impact has fostered the community that supports artists, respect for art in the community and a general appreciation for the skills and talents of those gifted individuals who express themselves beyond the ordinary.

Who can even guess how many of those gifted people...would have given up on their talents if the State of Hawaii didn't provide a level of support and appreciation for artistic endeavors. Those funds for over 50 years have helped to recognize and sustain individual artists and small community art groups.

Artists have a specai apptitude of seeing, not just through their eyes, but also through their community, their families, their art expression and the creative force working in and through them. Many working people have been able to hone their crafts due to the State committment to the arts.

Wealthy people always have that ability to follow their creative impulses since their wealth alone gives them opportunities to hone and promote heir talents and not have to choose between feeding and housing their children or assisting their kapuna. Hawaii citizens of average or lower than average financial means do not have that luxury...their family commitments often must come first ... before their artistic endeavors. Thus Hawaii and its rich art community loses the visions and talents of countless unknown artists due to their lack of financial resources.

In this land of aloha---Hawaii enchants the multitudes all around the world who hope, dream and save so they can visit Hawaii someday to explore its rich cultural heritage and vast beauty. I have traveled extensively and have met many in different countries who are fascinated with their image of Hawaii. I recall an engineer in Romania expressing to me his longing to take his family

to visit Hawaii; a dream he nurtured even while living under the Communist regime. When we toured China, so many locals that we spoke with were fascinated that our home is in Hawaii. It's not just the beauty of Hawaii that appeals to them...it's the "mistique" of Hawaii...the arts, the visual and musical expression of this unique and distant group of islands.

So many of Hawaii's visitors choose to take a bit of Hawaii home with them...and that is accomplished by their purchases of items that remind them of their visit. The most endearing items are the original artwork, whether paintings, koa carvings, fabrics, ceramics ...all unique items created by human hands in this exotic land that many of us are privileged to all our home.

Can you imagine...if the national government decided to decrease 1/2 of its financial commitment to the Armed Forces or 1/2 to the National Park Service or 1/2 to the Department of Education? What an uproar would be heard!

Please: Be strong and don't dismantle what those brave legislative leaders accomplished over 50 years ago.

With Aloha and my sincere hope that the State continues its support for the 1% towards the Works of Art Special Fund.

Rose Anne Jones; Kapa`a, Kaua`i

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:35:45 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bonnie Kim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Whom It May Concern:

The proposed bill, SB1119, would have a tremendous negative effect on education to numerous students from Gr. K-12 in public and charters schools, especially the students on neighbor islands.

I'm a teaching artist based on Hawaii Island. I provide arts integrated residencies through the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts' (HSFCA) arts education program called Artists in the Schools (AITS) Program. The program offers arts integrated residencies to public and charter schools in the State of Hawaii. Arts integrated residencies provide valuable learning opportunities and experiences for students to learn and express not only arts but also other core subjects, such as reading, math, science, and other subjectss in more holistic approaches. I often find my arts integrated lessons benefit students who do not normally excel in traditional learning settings with core subjects. They get to learn in different ways to gain knowledge and apply what they learn. The AITS program is funded with the funds from the source this bill proposes to reduce to half. The program is offered to public schools for free currently and without this, many students will not have the valuable learning opportunities offered by teaching artists. Especially for neighbor island schools where the accessibility to arts is even more limited, they will suffer even more from having much less opportunities to learn in more creative and innovative approaches.

Supporting education for our future is crucial. Hawaii has much less accessibility to arts and arts education compared to most mainland states due to our remote location in the world. By reducing the current funding source to half will rob our children's learning opportunities and also creative outlets for mental health. I oppose the proposed bill, SB1119 and hope the state legislature will find ways to support more for education and arts.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Kim

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:43:28 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lila Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill lacks common sense. To cut funding for the arts in Hawai'i would be detrimental. With Hawai'i finally making its way to the forefront of arts globally, this would be a huge step back.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:54:55 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Armhold	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 1119. I have been so proud of the state of Hawaii because we were the first state to designate one percent for art. This bill would cut that one percent to one-half percent, and would also eliminate any funding from the renovation of public buildings. This would cut the state's Art in Public Places program and funding for the Hawaii State Art Museum drastically, two programs I care most about. It would also cut funding for Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions, critical for the children of our state. This measure could cut funding to existing visual arts programs by as much as 80%! I strongly oppose this proposal!

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:01:36 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenny Endo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill doesn't help the arts in Hawaii.

### **SB1119 Relating to the State Foundation on Culture and Arts**

I am writing to oppose SB1119 which would reduce the 1% funding by 50% to the State Foundation on Culture and Arts Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools and Student Art Exhibits. All of these programs are vital to the artists and art teachers in the state. I am an artist who has had my artwork purchased by the SFCA from juried exhibits since the 1970's through 2022. The purchase of works of art by local artists is very important to those of us who have a career in making and selling art here. Many local artists also benefit from being able to show their work in the juried exhibits which are made possible by SFCA grants to nonprofit arts groups such as Hawaii Craftsmen, the Hawaii Handweaver's Hui and Honolulu Printmakers. I am a teaching artist who has worked in the Artist in The Schools program since the 1980's and the Art Bento program for the Hawaii State Art Museum since its inception. Both of these programs are vital to art education in our public elementary schools. The schools rely on these programs to bring art and culture to their students. As a museum guide for the Art Bento program, I have seen the impact on the students who are so excited to see real artwork. Often it is their first visit to a museum and the program is the only art education they will receive in the school year. This proposed bill also allows the fund to be used for performing arts and video documentation of performances. I urge you to reject his bill! Unlike visual artists, performing artists are able to sell tickets to fund performances. Visual artists rely on purchases to fund their production of artwork.

### **SB1119 Relating to the Works of Art Special Fund**

This bill will result in an 80% reduction in funding to the Art in Public Places Program. The original intent of the 1% law was to encourage and promote the production of permanent works of art that can be located at the Hawaii State Museum or other state buildings. The quality of the work is carefully vetted by special committees of volunteer professionals who go to the exhibits and serve on the committees. If the Art in Public Places budget for purchase of large sculptures, murals etc. is cut, the new buildings will not reflect the beauty and fine art culture that tourists, locals and students could be enjoying. Passage of this bill will deal a severe blow to artists and art teachers who already struggle to make a living in Hawaii. It makes no sense to drastically reduce the funding for the arts in this time of economic hardship when artists are already struggling to survive. Please reject this bill!





**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:02:37 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Bodner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**It would be an embarrassment and a shameful act to reduce the already limited funding for the arts on Hawaii and I strongly oppose SB1119.**

Not only does public art contribute to the cultural and heritage benefits of a community it adds value to its aesthetic and economic vitality. public art contributes to a community's identity, fosters community pride and a sense of belonging. Art enhances the quality of life for its residents and visitors. Public art is often used as an educational tool in fostering and inspiring our keiki. Art benefits everyone in so many ways through dialogue and increases community wellbeing by generating community discussions on social issues and raising awariness.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON SB1119!

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:45:49 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chris Sanchez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not support

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:57:14 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jenna Macy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

I am in opposition of bill SB1119 as reducing the funding for Art in Public Places would be a serious detriment to the visual artists it supports and the general public which enjoys this collection of works. The Art in Public Places collection is an essential source of culture in Honolulu. Not supporting it's continued growth and circulation would eliminate a source that connects the public to global contemporary conversations in art.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:04:26 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wil Tafolo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose strongly

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:15:35 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
maya portner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to strongly oppose this bill which would reduce the Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovation, which would result in an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artist in the Schools and Student Art Exhibitions.

I am a visual artist and arts educator in Honolulu. I have first-hand experience with many of these programs that would be affected.

1) I have regularly taken my college students to visit the Hawaii State Art Museum to view the collection of art that is own by us the taxpayers.

2) My artwork has been collected by the SFCA for the Art in Public Places Program, and this purchase provided me with validation and encouragement that my artistic endeavors are meaningful to Hawaii, and have a connection to the community through its acquisition to the state's collection.

3) I have volunteered my time to review application to the Artist In the Schools program, and understand what a truly vital role this program plays in bringing visual arts education to the children of Hawaii who are educated in our public school system.

Reduction of funding by over 75% is unthinkable, and would have such a devastating effect on visual arts culture in Hawaii.

I would urge my lawmakers to reconsider this bill. Visual Arts have a vital place in our society and they require protection in this moment.

Thank you,

Maya Portner

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:22:42 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Allan Spindt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe this is a bill that ignores and undervalues the role of the creative arts in Hawaii. It is the unique culture of Aloha that sets us apart. One percent of State construction and renovation funding Is a VERY small price to pay to support the creative and tangible expressions of Aloha that are made possible by the existing funding. Hawaii was a leader in establishing the 1% for Art program. It is something we should continue to embrace with pride. Our culture is our identity and it is imperative that we maintain that identity by continuing to fund the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions at no less than their current level.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:35:23 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brett Oppegaard	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii has been a national leader in the Percent for Art program, <https://sfca.hawaii.gov/art-in-public-places-program/percent-for-art/>, starting the first one in 1967, a model that has spread widely and prolifically throughout the country. We're known for this wonderful and thoughtful program and its idea. We should be proud of that achievement and be thinking of ways to build on it. Not cut it! The world needs less of a lot of things, but art isn't one of those. We need more public art, more ways to share common ground, more ways to be brought together. In fact, I think we should increase the Percent for Art program to 2 percent. That would be a wise investment in our shared culture.



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:53:46 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaimey Faris	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: [SB1119](#) RELATING TO THE WORKS OF ART SPECIAL FUND; [SB119](#) RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS.

I am writing to OPPOSE these two bills, as they would fundamentally strip the visual arts community in Hawai‘i of vital support.

I keep this testimony short, but the sentiment is backed by my almost two decades of experience as an arts educator in the UH system, arts organizer and a member of the SFCA acquisitions committee. During that time, I have witnessed how important these funds are to the entire population of Hawai‘i – from keiki learning to engage their environmental and creative/critical senses, to practicing artists trying to maintain important cultural heritages that would be lost without the support of SFCA’s acquisitions funds.

The 1% funds have had more impact on supporting generations of artists than ALL OTHER patrons in the history of Hawaii COMBINED. Without SFCA’s role in supporting artists through commissions and purchases, artists in the state of Hawai‘i would lose their most important patron.

I also write to relay the important kuleana the state and developers have in continuing to support arts and culture in Hawai‘i. What would Hawai‘i be without its vibrant cultural heritages? Painting, weaving, carving, kapa, etc. If the state continues to grow urban and tourist infrastructure WITHOUT also supporting the arts, the islands will become a cultural corrupt. It is the state's responsibility to give back to the historical cultures of its populations, ESPECIALLU if it contines to mine and market them for the sake of tourism.

Beyond the importance of the Works of Arts Special Fund, I also want to defend the use of these funds in K-12 education. SFCA plays a vital role in the creative visual arts education of the children of Hawai‘i. It needs MORE, not LESS funding!

Jaimey Hamilton Faris

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:58:04 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
MaryAnne Long	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony on SB1119 regarding the decrease from !% to .5% of funds transferred to the Works of Art Special Fund. Keep it at the present level and get more for your money by democraticing the selection process so more artist's works can be viewed and purchased.

Thank you for your consideration.

MaryAnne Long

Hau`ula

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:11:38 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Monica Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chairman and Members of the Hawai‘i State Legislature Senate Committee,

I am writing to submit my opposition of Senate Bill 1119 relating to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), and the Works of Art Special Fund / Capital Improvement Appropriations, which would specify that 0.5 per cent, rather than one per cent, of state fund appropriations for capital improvements be transferred into the Works of Art Special Fund, and limit the 0.5 per cent amount to appropriations designated for the construction of new state buildings, properties, or facilities.

Reports have shown that:

\* The arts help cities attract talent and foster innovation. (Economic Development Quarterly)

\* Every \$1 spent in the cultural sector generates \$6 in the local economy. (December 2020 Creative Resurgence Meeting for the Hawai‘i State Senate)

\* The arts are uniquely suited to help us understand and communicate concepts and emotions by drawing on all our senses and capacity for empathy. (World Health Organization)

Arts organizations drive significant economic activity, create jobs, attract talent and develop human potential. As such, the State Foundation for Culture and the Arts has never been more important to our State and to our community. Its programs, which promote, perpetuate, and preserve culture and the arts in Hawai‘i, ensure that the arts remain a vital part of our lives and our community. The Foundation keeps art relevant and, most importantly, public. This is increasingly important as other sources of funding for the arts, including private donations, continue to shrink.

Although we recognize the current financial position of the State, we believe that these difficult times only reinforce the importance of the Foundation and its role within Hawai‘i’s community. The maintenance of the one per cent of state fund appropriations for SFCA is critical to sustaining our cultural ecosystem. I hope that you will vote to oppose Senate Bill 1119 relating to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), Works of Art Special Fund; Capital Improvement Appropriations.

Mahalo nui loa for reading this testimony.

With gratitude,  
Monica Lee

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:38:14 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kai	Testifying for Uh manoa	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:24:50 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Benjamin Rotter	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Including public art in public buildings is important to elevate culture and promote beauty. The purpose of government is not just to simply provide services, but it is to improve the wellbeing and happiness of the citizens of the state of Hawaii. The beauty of the structures that are built using funds from the populace should match that of the natural splendor for the islands which we call home. Halving the amount allocated to public works of art on new construction, and completely eliminating the funding for renovation work, will make public buildings cold and sterile and inhospitable. I strongly oppose this bill, if anything the amount spent on public works of art should be increased.

Testimony by Sherman Warner  
To the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts  
On Senate Bill No. 1119  
RELATING TO THE WORKS OF ART SPECIAL FUND  
February 14, 2023 Conference Room 224 and Video Conference at 3:15pm

Testimony in Opposition to SB1119

Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Inouye and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts:

I am Sherman Warner, a resident of Hawaii Island and a former two-term commissioner with the Hawaii State Commission on Culture and the Arts (SFCA).

I strongly oppose SB1119, which would cripple the SFCA's Art in Public Places (APP) program by reducing the 1% for the arts assessment on new construction to ½% and exempting renovations from contributing to the APP program.

It's important to remember that the Hawaii Legislature, more than 50 years ago, was the nation's pioneer in creating a percent-for-the-arts program and that architects provided much of the impetus for that program, which they saw as a means to compensate for the degradation of Hawaii's natural beauty by the buildings that they, themselves, designed.

In a state where public school arts education is minimal or non-existent, the APP program provides public school students with valuable exposure to the visual arts through in-school artist residencies, commissioned works of art, the Art Bento program that brings students to the Hawaii State Art Museum, and other programs. I have had the richly rewarding opportunity to be on committees at several schools that, through the APP program, were charged with selecting an artist for the multi-year process of creating a commissioned artwork that embodies the traditions, history and culture of the school. To see students, teachers, administrators, parents and the larger community eagerly engage with this process was an affirmation of the importance of art in Hawaii's schools, a need that the APP program funded by the 1% law is uniquely able to fulfill.

Artwork purchases by the APP program not only directly support artists and, through commissions, the galleries that exhibit their work, but the fact that an SFCA Art Advisory Selection Committee (AASC) has visited a gallery enhances the reputation of that gallery among artists. From my own experience on the Exhibitions Committee at Kahilu Theatre, I know that the fact that AASCs have visited Kahilu's galleries and purchased art for the State's collection has significantly enhanced the quality of the artwork submitted to the Kahilu Galleries. Many of Hawaii's artists from other islands are willing to assume the cost of round-trip shipping to send their art to be exhibited in a small, Big Island town with a population half the size of Hawaii Kai because their art might be seen or selected by an Art Advisory Selection Committee. For those of us who live on the Neighbor Islands, where we lack the museum and gallery resources of

Honolulu, it is difficult to overestimate the positive impact the Art in Public Places Program has had on the quality of visual art that we are able to see.

The Art in Public Program brings the work of Hawaii's culturally and ethnically diverse visual artists to a much wider audience, reminding us of the values, traditions and beauty that we share. To slash funding for a successful program that supports the vibrant and uniquely diverse visual arts community in Hawaii would be a great loss for the people of Hawaii.

I implore you to let the current level of funding survive and continue to enrich our lives.

Mahalo for your consideration.



**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:28:45 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noelle Kahanu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

In 1967, Hawai‘i became the first state in the nation to adopt a percent-for-art law with the enactment of the Art in State Buildings Law, which designating one percent of construction costs of new buildings for the acquisition of works of art, either by commission or purchase. The purpose of the law is to beautify and humanize our state buildings and increase public access to the arts.

Aloha,

My name is Noelle Kahanu. I have been involved in Native Hawaiian cultural and art matters for over three decades, as counsel to the US Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in Washington, DC, as a 15-year veteran of the Bishop Museum, as a founding member of Maoli Arts Month, and as a former commissioner at the State Foundation of Culture and the Arts. I am absolutely 100% against SB1119, which seeks to diminish funds designated for the visual arts in support of the performing arts by 50%.

In 1967, Hawai‘i became the first state in the nation to adopt a percent-for-art law with the enactment of the Art in State Buildings Law, which designating one percent of construction costs of new buildings for the acquisition of works of art, either by commission or purchase. Since then, other states have followed suit, enabling the beautification and humanization of governmental buildings and increasing public access to the arts. Now, 56 years later, we are backtracking. We are relinquishing our leadership and foresight. At a time when the visual arts are more important than ever before, we are going backwards. Is this purely a money grab? What is the reasoning or justification?

I offer one very important impact this will have. Native Hawaiian visual arts has always and continues to be underrepresented. There are the Hōkū awards for music and now even the Grammys. For hula, there is the Merrie Monarch and Prince Lot and countless opportunities to expose literally millions to this art form. But what exists for Native Hawaiian visual artists, who remain the "unseen" of the art scene? Currently, Kanaka ‘Oiwi artists represent less than 3

percent of the entire holdings of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Recent inroads have indicated that the SFCA is willing to take steps to address these inequities, but now comes this measure which will gut any meaningful effort to highlight the amazing achievements of the Native Hawaiian contemporary visual arts movement. A current exhibition, 'Ai Pōhaku, recently opened at the University of Hawai'i Art Gallery. The earliest work, made in 1976 by Rocky Jensen, stands alongside a new painting by Charlie Sinclair, made last year. This exhibition is testament to the incredible and amazing works of our Native Hawaiian arts community over nearly 50 years -- one which almost no one knows about. And yet, here we are, with a bill that proposes to eliminate 50% of funding designated for the visual artists (and how was that amount even arrived at?). In other communities, like Anchorage, AK and Santa Fe, NM, Indigenous visual arts are one of the most important drivers of the economy. There, Indigenous artists are celebrated and honored. We have yet to come even close to that, but as we work to achieve parity, it is shocking to think that there are those who would seek to reduce funding for our visual arts community. For all these reasons and more, I am absolutely against this measure, as it is written and as it is intended.

A he leo wale no,

Noelle M.K.Y. Kahanu

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:30:14 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyla Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The positive effect art and access to it has on the community is immeasurable. Slashing funding to public art and arts education in the state will have not only short-term, but also long-term consequences for the Hawai'i community at-large. Art is vital to our community's livelihood, and as such, I oppose SB1119's call to cut the current appropriations toward capital improvements designated for the construction cost element in half from one percent to 0.5 percent.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:31:16 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nicole Duarte	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Art is vital to the human experience. It has a unique way of sparking curiosity, fostering empathy and understanding across fault lines, and enhancing critical thinking in society. Contemporary art helps us grapple with the issues of our time and make sense of our world. For many, seeing art and/or making art are crucial to their personal health and well-being. Not to mention the economic impact that arts and culture have: "Every \$1 spent in the cultural sector generates \$6 in the local economy." — December 2020 Creative Resurgence Meeting for the Hawai'i State Senate.

I oppose SB 1119, which would have devastating effects on Hawai'i's arts community and the local community in general. I strongly urge the State of Hawai'i to be a state that supports the arts for its people.

Mahalo.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:36:04 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joy Sanchez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Joy Sanchez, I am a visual artist and professional from the island of O’ahu and I oppose SB1119. As a young artist born and raised on this island I have seen the state’s public collection come and go throughout the museum. As I grew older I began to recognize the names of artists I have grown to admire over the years on display in other places around the state as well. Now as a young adult with my first work purchased by the Art in Public Places Program, I wonder if it will be the last.

SB1119 aims to reduce the works of art special fund from 1 to 0.5 percent. This reduction of funding will result in 80% reduction of funding for Art in Public Places program, Artists in Schools, Student Art Exhibitions and the Hawaii State Art Museums.

Please consider to keep the appropriation of funds for the works of art special at 1 percent. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:46:13 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Chock	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern in the Hawai'i State Legislature Regarding SB119/SB1119, etc.

Forgive me if I sound frustrated that funding of the arts needs to be defended yet again, but after nearly fifty years of doing so I find that little has changed. There are always lawmakers or administrators or even teachers who do not believe that the arts are important enough to be a priority in our lives, and are all too willing to reduce the already miniscule spending in this area, or even to eliminate it entirely.

Perhaps too many have not yet studied the role and value of art in societies throughout history, and are not aware that all great cultures have great art. If you are a community leader it is your duty to learn why the arts are so valuable and support them. A community that knows the arts appreciates the arts, benefits from the arts, learns life lessons from the arts, even finds ways to provide a living in the arts. Many find hope and joy in the arts when there seems to be no hope at all.

I see hopeful signs that native Hawaiian culture and arts are being revived and appreciated after decades of Hawaiian Renaissance, protests, rallies, lawsuits, and, now, examples of how art was important to everyday life are being rediscovered. This integration of the arts in all aspects of life is a great example for us now, and should continue and grow. But even that understanding seems to be compartmentalized and marginalized, and is not being applied to the society as a whole—and that goes against the basic philosophy and value of art nurturing all our lives.

Sadly, while art has to prove itself over and over just to be recognized, the lobbies for over-building on this limited 'aina, or for those who degrade the host Hawaiian culture,

or for any number of other important issues do not. Why is that? Does everyone need constant reminders of the value of art or are we just settling for less now? Our landmark 1% for art legislation has been a model nationwide! Are we no longer to be a progressive community?

Is it just too late to defend the idea of high standards, of a lifestyle where people have a sense of culture which not only includes various art forms, but knows in its heart that without the arts the lives of the people will descend to the lowest, crass, social media level of existence that now permeates every aspect of our lives? Let's be great again!

Can everyone stop using their phones for entertainment for a while, and instead do some serious research on the different ways arts are correlated to any number of good things, like the now old cliché of how music helps students improve their math skills, or correlates with higher test scores or grades, or how art or poetry therapy can help survivors of domestic violence, rape, bullying, PTSD, and all manner of grief? Children who can barely write can draw or paint a picture of their family, of who is missing from their home. Art is not only for the artistic elite; it's for everyone. Have you never found comfort in a favorite song that enabled you to get through a rough patch? Maybe your mother's or father's favorite, and after they've gone you honor them, keep them alive, in your life, that way.

Has no one found intellectual stimulation in a complex character in a story with a good plot? Do we need to review critical thinking versus passive screen time? I suppose it's too much to expect anyone to maintain a focus on how life lessons are not only conveyed in thematic messages, but also how cultural values that define who we are as an ethical people are actually preserved in the arts. Like religion. Like the poetry of the Psalms of David, the Song of Solomon, or the cross-referencing story variations of New Testament authors, or parables of the Buddha, or even mo'olelo 'aina, which integrates the literary with the music with the dance with the drama that only live performance can truly provide?

How do you teach your children their human sensibilities and values?

How do you learn to evolve your adult sensibilities?

How does a culture thrive without constantly nurturing art?

How does a community support art if not without public funding?

There is so much we take for granted, and we are the lesser for it.

And this barely speaks to the aesthetics of beauty in our lives!

I am trying to be more positive, but do we really need to debate

the value of cultivating Beauty, with a capital B, in our lives?

I really do not want to offend anyone or insult anyone's intelligence, but policies directing funding away from the arts as a whole are nothing new. There are always factions who want arts funding directed toward developers, contractors in construction or defense or any other industry that can afford lobbyists, anything else that pays way more than is allotted to arts programming; and each time the burden is placed on the arts community to defend its very existence, the paltry crumbs thrown its way. Is all the art in our lives not worth even 1%? For this we have to beg?

I hope to write words that have purpose and impact and actual effect. I hope to reach the souls, if not the minds, of those in seats of power today, as I have for decades as an arts practitioner, educator, arts administrator, arts advocate, as a community activist who feels that fighting a losing battle is better than never fighting at all.

So I try to have faith once again that some people who are paid money by non-art sources will find it in themselves to do what is right, what is *pono*, and will not need any more testimony to explain to them that a basic human characteristic—to make and appreciate art—to use art as a tool like any other human tool—to nurture life--is not something that should have to be fought for in legal arenas. Rather, it is something that should be assumed is a human right so that all people can have equal access to self-expression, theirs and others, in a living, breathing (inspired, *ha!*) interactive, artistic form, preferrably non-digital. And the role of our government should include full support of the nurturing functions of art: educational, entertainment, therapeutic, aesthetic.

Perhaps I misunderstand the bills, but it sounds like some arts programs will be cut in half, and then redirected, which means some good programs will be limited or eliminated. The thought that arts education in schools, already less than it was decades ago, would be cut even further-- Why do that? Doesn't everyone know that all education starts early and that the later it starts the harder it is for people to succeed? There should be more funding for the arts, not less, not so-called "redirected" funds cannibalizing one art program for another.

I know it's difficult. It's politics. The art of compromise. So let us find a reasonable compromise which supports Art instead of making it feel ashamed to have to defend its honor yet again. Is there no leadership to stand up for Art? We the people elected politicians who formed committees on important subjects. Art used to be among them, on its own, not in a forced marriage in a committee shared with International Affairs or Transportation. *Auwe*. Is this *pono*?

Where you going? Where does your road lead? What is your destination?

Do you look down that road and see a good place or just another urban desert?

Do you as a leader of this island culture plan ahead for your children's children?

Please do not give in to voices that you know put their self-interest ahead of others.

While that is necessary sometimes, as an ethical political leader you cannot do that and still do a good job. Please do an ethical job for the greater good.

Generations are counting on you for that.

So next time you find yourself standing among your fellow legislators, holding their hands and singing *Hawai'i Aloha*, think of how complicated aloha is, feel it in your bones, your iwi, your iwi kupuna, way back and way forward, and know that your actions must be *pono* for where you live now. Wherever you were born. Whoever you are. Are you doing what is *pono*? *Ua mau ke ea i ka 'aina i ka pono*.

*Mahalo*.

Eric Chock



Unaffiliated

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:48:58 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynda Hess	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose reducing the Works of Art Special funds from 1% to .5%. The artists who manage to survive in Hawaii invariably rely on the support of the state at some point in their careers. The State of Hawaii has been progressive for decades with this funding dedicated to artists and has been a leader nationwide in seeing the value of our local artists and arts organizations in both our economy and our cultural and spiritual life. Our physical remoteness keeps many of us from wider markets for our work but the support of this program has made an impact both on the health and survival of our local artists and an outsized impact on the wider world community. Please continue to support The Works of Art Special Fund at its current values and breadth. Our livelihood and the continuation of local culture depend on it. Aloha.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:10:29 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
marisa buhr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i needs art funding! Our artists are the most unique thing about Hawai'i and this is a necessary community that supports minority and BIPOC and local individuals to both express themselves and tell the story of Hawaii and Hawaii's people. this bill cannot pass.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:04:23 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alex Young	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully oppose SB1119.

Removing the large amount of funds toward renovation for an important public/community facility, as well as a reduction of construction funding, appears to be a depreciation of the importance of these buildings, places, and the programs and people they host. These places are important, as they provide an important experience our state of much history needs to preserve and to progress.

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:59:49 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
M Schwengel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This testimony is in opposition to SB1119. Please do NOT slash funding to this important support for the arts across the state of Hawai'i! The "Art in State Buildings"/percent-for-art law, created right here in Hawai'i, was a novel approach to bolster creativity by residents, for which Hawai'i should be very proud. Its value is demonstrated by the adoption of such a program by so many other states. Cutting its funding to 0.5% would be an abomination – not just impacting the viability and diversity of creative arts here, but also putting a stain on our legacy. Keep the full 1% funding in place! This will allow more locally-created works to be part of the artistic legacy documented through this program, will enrich our public venues with more art on display, and will continue to inspire the creativity in our residents – especially young people. As an artist in Hawai'i, I am honored to have had three of my works acquisitioned into the Art in Public Places Collection. One piece is currently on display in a campus library – as meaningful a placement as a museum, I say! Keep the full 1% funding!

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:59:08 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joshua Tengan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai,

As a arts advocate, tax payer, and a citizen of the State of Hawai'i, I fully oppose this bill proposes to reduce Works of Art funding from construction by 50% and eliminate funding from renovation, which would result in an 80% reduction of funding for the Art in Public Places Program, the Hawaii State Art Museum, Artists in the Schools, and Student Art Exhibitions

I have dedicated much of the last decade of my professional life to furthering the visual arts in Hawai'i and I have noticed that funding for the arts is constantly on the chopping block, especially with the state's ongoing economic woes, arising from COVID-19. Cutting underfunded arts programs further harms an already marginalized group.

The State Foundation for Culture and the Arts has never been more important to our State and to our community. Its programs, which promote, perpetuate, and preserve culture and the arts in Hawaii, ensure that the arts remain a vital part of our lives and our community. The Foundation keeps art relevant and, most importantly, public. This is increasingly important as other sources of funding for the arts, including private donations, continue to shrink.

Please stand with our artists and creatives from across Hawai'i and oppose this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Josh Tengan

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:55:20 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne ('Antu') Harvey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha TCA Chair Lee and Committee Members,

I OPPOSE SB1119.

This bill amends HRS Chapter 103.8.5 - Works of Art Special Art Fund.

- It cuts the transfer from 1% to .5%
- It also cuts the scope of what is subject to the transfer from NEW construction and Renovations, to just NEW construction.

We, the people should NOT be cutting funds for the Arts. We should be boosting our support of the Arts - and Public Art, specifically.

We need Art to live, to help understand the world around us, to help interpret events and changes in our lives and times. We need Public Art to help counter the modern pressures disconnecting us from our shared values and goals and wahi pana. Public Art helps us feel more connected, more human within our built landscape. Public Art grabs our attention, invites us to be present, it often poses questions of us. Public Art contributes to a healthy community. We should be boosting funding for Public Art. NOT cutting it.

Please OPPOSE SB1119.

Mahalo nui loa for your dedication and service.

Anne ('Antu') Harvey

96725

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:58:12 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Fae Yamaguchi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an artist and teacher, I have actively been involved for the past 30+ years with these wonderful SFCA projects. WE were so proud to have a 1% fro the Art in PUBLIC places and other important art programs. Othere states do not have the foresight or wisdom to acknowledge the importance of art and culture. 50% dections would destroy and eliminate many of the programs that touch the children and families of Hawaii. I am totally againat this bill.



**LATE**

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:12:40 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hatem Askar	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please keep the local art alive!

**LATE**

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:23:11 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Masami Teraoka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Reducing the art budget would affect Hawaii's art community's financial situation that make a worst mistake. To make Hawaii culturally constructive is the vision we should work for but not for educing it. To help develop art budget is our immediate vision but not reducing the budget. How dare to think even bring out this unreasonable argument?

We need to see a vision that would expand art program for Hawaii State. Are you aware how deeply art program has been needed now more than ever before? To increase art fund is the right vision. Especially Hawaii is in the midst of cultural center in the pacific rim. To reduce art budget should not be even an issue. Keep the budget as it is but try to increase should be Hawaii Legislature's mission. Instead we need to discuss increase art budget. Please wake up. To increase art fund for the state should be discussed not reducing it. Period.

Mahalo,

Dr. Masami Teraoka

**LATE**

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and committee members:

I strongly oppose SB 1119 and urge the committee to keep supporting the arts in Hawai'i.

As a musician, music has brought me joy and an escape from life's everyday challenges. Music has the ability to inspire and transform, especially our youth. I enjoyed singing and playing the piano in the choir of my public school and wish to see my kids have the chance to as well. Besides music, please oppose this bill and protect all of the arts in Hawai'i. Thank you very much.

Andre Bisquera

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:56:29 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anna Sachs	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am a Hawaii resident and creative in strong opposition to SB1119. The funding that this bill proposes to cut is essential to community events, education, art, and gatherings, all of which have proven to be a life force as we come back together after long covid closures that have kept us all apart. Speaking personally, I eagerly attend the monthly live music events at Hawaii State Art Museum and am always sure invite local and visiting friends to join me. My guests and I are always so amazed by the local and featured talents that are showcased so beautifully in the space. Additionally, as a proud student of the Jazz Music School at the Hawaii State Art Museum, I am grateful that this education of music is subsidized because it benefits a wide range of ages and demographics by providing access and opportunity to those who would not otherwise have it. The funding of arts, education, and community is not an accessory to our economy and commerce, but rather quite necessary for these things to thrive. A healthy local economy is an eco system based on connection and the sharing of ideas. This bill threatens to disrupt this. It's effects would be felt profoundly in our communities both presently and for generations to come.

**LATE**

**SB-1119**

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:06:52 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jean Toyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Whatever language is used to obfuscated the cutting of funds for art, please don't do it!! What adds to the beauty of life in these dreary and dangerous times must be supported. Artists already have a hard time making it. It is your duty to support what makes life better. Please listen to your heart.