

The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Thirty-Second Legislature, 2023 Regular Session

House Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

Representative Adrian Tam, Chair

Representative Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 15, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 3098

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

by

by: Matt Mattice, Executive Director
King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center

Bill No. and Title: Senate No. 1504, S.D. 2, Relating to A Modern Hawai‘i History Museum.

Purpose: Establishes a museum of modern Hawai‘i history. Establishes a task force to prepare the plans, specifications, and designs for the construction of the museum of modern Hawai‘i history. Appropriates funds.

Judiciary’s Position:

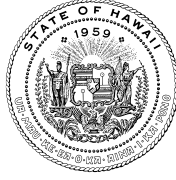
The King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center (JHC) supports this bill. Not only do we agree with the legislature’s findings that the state has made national and global impact with groundbreaking public policy, we also support the inclusion of the Judiciary on the measure’s proposed task force to create a Modern Hawai‘i History Museum. We look forward to working with the other members of the Museum of Modern Hawai‘i History task force to heighten awareness of Hawai‘i’s pioneering contributions in public policy.

JHC was established by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1990 through Act 211 and HRS §6F-5, and is an administrative program of the courts. Our mission is to educate the public about the judicial process and Hawai‘i’s legal history from ke au ‘ōiwi wale (the indigenous period)

through kēia manawa (present day). The museum is 3 years into an exhibition renovation and redesign project which will celebrate the role of Native Hawaiians, and the islands’ historic immigrant groups, in affecting notable public policy and legal precedent in Hawai‘i, the United States, and international jurisdictions. We applaud efforts to celebrate Hawai‘i’s robust contributions to advocacy and policy creation on significant issues facing Hawai‘i, the United States and the world. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII'Ī | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII'Ī
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWÉ LAULĀ
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WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

S. B. 1504 S.D. 2

MARCH 15, 2023, 10:00AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 309 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

RELATING TO A MODERN HAWAIIAN HISTORY MUSEUM.

Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 1504 S.D.2.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) strongly **supports** this bill and offers the following comments:

1. The State Archives, in its role as the Keepers of Public Memory, protects and preserves the documentary heritage of Hawaii from 1790 to current and is well versed in the history of Hawaii.
2. Since the formation of the Archives in 1905, thousands of artifacts were transferred by the Territory to the Archives for safe keeping. In effect, the Archives has served as a museum of Hawaiian History without display space necessary to share these artifacts with the public. Even with the over 260 objects on loan to Iolani Place and 80 objects on

loan to Washington Place, the Archives preserves a number of historically significant pieces worthy of display and capable of educating the public regarding the history of Hawaii.

3. Even with Bishop Museum serving as the State Museum for Cultural and Natural History, and Iolani Place as the Monarchy Museum, DAGS has felt there was still much of Hawaii's history that needed to be told and shared through the original documents and artifacts of those who helped shaped that history. As such, DAGS has already taken steps to determine the feasibility of establishing such a facility. The 2022 Legislature funded a CIP to create a Master Plan for the State Archives that included addressing the need for museum space to share the many historic documents and artifacts preserved by the State Archives.
4. Given the vested interest DAGS continues to have in seeing a Hawaiian History Museum established within the Capitol District, the State Archivist is appreciative of the generous appointment to the working group and looks forward to contributing to the establishment of just such a museum.

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



HAWAII

STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

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**TESTIMONY OF
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
MARCH 15, 2023 Conference Room 309 & Videoconference at 10:00AM
S.B. 1504 S.D.2.
RELATING TO A MODERN HAWAII HISTORY MUSEUM**

Chair Tam and members of the Committee, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is pleased to offer testimony in **SUPPORT** of S.B.1504 S.D.2. S.B.1504 S.D.2 establishes a museum of modern Hawaii history and a task force to prepare the plans, specifications, and designs for the construction of the museum of modern Hawaii history.

The SFCA supports the concept to convene a Task Force to prepare the plans, specifications, and designs for the construction of the museum of modern Hawaii history. The SFCA supports the recommendation to form an Advisory Committee where members may include, but not be limited to, those identified in SB1504 S.D.2.

Museums in society have played an integral role in the preservation of history and place through exhibitions and collections care. However, as communities are increasingly engaged through evolving forms of media and are more reactive to globalization, the responsibilities of museums have the opportunity to expand.

The SFCA views this opportunity for a museum of modern Hawaii history to be more than an institution with exhibits that explore the significant role Hawaii has played contributing to national and global events and progress. The museum can be developed as a gathering space, which would provide an active civic center of dialogue. The space can be an education center with debate and civil discourse, and idea-sharing and creative output to not only honor past accomplishments of the State of Hawaii, but to shape its future efforts for the people who reside there.

The National Constitution Center and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights provide good examples of how institutions can work to activate its community in social interaction and civic engagement:

<https://constitutioncenter.org/>

<https://www.civilandhumanrights.org/>

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

SB-1504-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 4:06:53 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/15/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shawn Yacavone	Ukulele Friend, LLC.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs,

My name is Shawn Yacavone and I am a small business owner of “Ukulele Friend”, a company that specializes in historical ‘ukulele that date back to the first generation of instruments handcrafted in Hawaii during the Hawaiian Kingdom period. I am writing on this occasion in strong support of funding SB1504 and thank you in advance for your sincere consideration on this matter.

The importance of establishing a Museum of Modern Hawaii History is critical to ensuring that Hawaii’s unique music culture will continue to thrive for future generations to come. Currently, we do not have a designated space by which Hawaiian music history, music composition, or musician’s techniques in playing Hawaiian slack key guitar or the ‘uke‘ke, for example, can be shared and learned. We do not have an ‘ukulele museum by which we can share on the history of the ‘ukulele and train up the next generation of ‘ukulele luthiers or players in Hawaii in spite of the ‘ukulele being the official State instrument of Hawaii. We do not have a space by which people can learn how to handcraft ipu heke, pu‘ili‘ili, or uliuli as well to support our hula and music traditions. By investing in the creation of a Museum of Modern Hawaii History and advocating for educational partnerships across the State, private, non-profits, and community members, we will be able to ensure a strong tradition of future music composers, researchers, musicians, and instrument makers in Hawaii for generations to come.

I strongly support the creation of a Museum of Modern Hawaii History and humbly ask that you pass bill SB1504.

Sincerely,

Shawn Yacavone

SB-1504-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:27:20 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/15/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill.

SB-1504-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 10:14:22 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/15/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Such a museum could fill an important and missing primary role in collecting, managing, creating and displaying materials that bring life and understanding to Hawai'i's contemporary histories, outputs, and ongoing challenges. In addition to showcasing the incredible contributions and leading efforts that Hawai'i has offered to the world, this museum can be a place to host difficult conversations about the challenges that face our communities, and how communities can thrive into the future. This focus on the recent past, present, and our shared future can help both residents and visitors alike further understandings, recognize challenges, build relationships, and nurture a kuleana to care for this island home. Mahalo