

SB-733

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 12:24:51 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill that Requires the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to establish and maintain Hawaiian cultural centers within the State. Requires the Office to submit reports to the Legislature regarding the Office's compliance with this Act. Appropriate moneys for the planning and design of the first Hawaiian cultural center. Adding to it that these cultural centers should be more than a place to share to the visitors, it should be a living breathing place for people on every island to gather and learn .

SB-733

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 7:08:55 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.	Testifying for Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. Hawaii has "cultural centers" focusing on displays and activities of particular ethnic groups: In Honolulu the Japanese Cultural Center and Filipino Cultural Center, for example. Their buildings were paid for primarily by fundraisers and community groups working together, and their ongoing operating expenses are covered in the same way. From time to time they get grants from the legislature, but those are small portions of their budgets. This bill proposes to establish "Hawaiian" cultural centers, referring to the ethnic group "Native Hawaiian". OHA is mandated to manage conceptualization, construction, and operation of these "Hawaiian Cultural Centers" using government money they have already been given; and now this bill proposes that the legislature must "Appropriate moneys for the planning and design of the first Hawaiian cultural center" and then presumably all the other ones to follow on every island, as will undoubtedly be called for in future legislation. That's grossly unfair to Hawaii's people. According to OHA's financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, OHA had \$823 Million in assets. In 2022 the legislature appropriated tens of millions more "in arrears" and also raised OHA's annual payment of ceded land revenues by tens of millions per year in the future. What does OHA plan to do with all that money? Make OHA pay for these new "cultural centers." Do NOT appropriate extra money for them. Too much already!

SB-733

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 11:28:44 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keomailani Hanapi Hirata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB733, because the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is not the organization to malama kuleana to establish and maintain a hawaiian Cultural Center.