
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A MODERN HAWAII HISTORY MUSEUM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has a rich
2 history captured for posterity by numerous institutions. Among
3 these are the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, also known as the
4 State Museum of Natural and Cultural History, which has a
5 primary focus on early Hawaiian history, navigation, and
6 science; Iolani Palace, which provides a primary focus on the
7 Hawaiian monarchy and overthrow era, the King Kamehameha
8 Judiciary History Center, which has a primary focus on educating
9 the public on the judicial process and Hawaii's legal history;
10 and the State Archives, which has a vast catalogue of historical
11 artifacts and history such as copies of the Hawaii State
12 Constitution and moon rocks, but no meaningful place to properly
13 exhibit them and tell their story.

14 The legislature further finds that through the territorial
15 period and statehood to present day, Hawaii played a significant
16 role contributing to national and global events and progress.
17 This includes growing as a model of social integration as the



1 nation's first majority-minority state, which the Reverend
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. called, "a place where we see the
3 glowing daybreak of freedom and dignity and racial justice". It
4 includes the local and national contributions of Hawaii's
5 greatest generation of leaders growing out of the World War II
6 era, who broke conventional norms and influenced the course of
7 the nation; achieving world renowned modern discoveries in ocean
8 science and astronomy, and developing a modern renaissance in
9 music and arts that has influenced the world; and Hawaii's role
10 frequently driving political progress in the United States as
11 the birthplace of Title IX, legal abortion, widely accessible
12 health care, same sex marriage, and most recently leadership on
13 climate change, including groundbreaking one hundred percent
14 clean energy and carbon negative economy policies now being
15 replicated around the country.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 17 (1) Establish a museum of modern Hawaii history;
- 18 (2) Convene a task force to further develop plans for the
19 establishment, construction, and operation of a museum
20 of modern Hawaii history; and
- 21 (3) Appropriate funds for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "PART . . . MUSEUM OF MODERN HAWAII HISTORY:

5 §9- . . . Museum of modern Hawaii history; established. (a)

6 There is established within the foundation the museum of modern
7 Hawaii history.

8 (b) The museum of modern Hawaii history shall:

9 (1) Primarily focus on the territorial and statehood eras
10 of the Hawaii's history, and serve as a compliment to
11 other institutions;

12 (2) Chronicle Hawaii's significant milestones and events
13 in its history as well as the leadership that the
14 State has demonstrated with respect to many
15 significant issues facing the nation and the world;

16 (3) Provide a window into current events and issues; and

17 (4) Partner with other institutions in Hawaii and abroad
18 to share relevant narratives.

19 (c) The foundation may establish a nonprofit group or
20 select a nonprofit group with the demonstrated qualifications to
21 manage and operate the museum of modern Hawaii history, its



1 concessions, or other for-profit business enterprises in a
2 manner that is self-sustaining."

3 SECTION 3. (a) There is established a museum of modern
4 Hawaii history task force within the state foundation on culture
5 and the arts for administrative purposes to develop plans for
6 the establishment, construction, and operations of a museum of
7 modern Hawaii history, and explore partnerships, collaborations,
8 or incorporating efforts with other local institutions with
9 different missions that may have some overlap, such as the state
10 archives and King Kamehameha V judiciary history center.

11 (b) The working group shall consist of the following
12 members:

- 13 (1) The executive director of the state foundation on
14 culture and the arts or their designee, who shall
15 serve as the chair;
- 16 (2) The president and chief executive officer of the
17 Hawaii tourism authority or their designee;
- 18 (3) The state archivist or their designee;
- 19 (4) A representative of the University of Hawaii;
- 20 (5) The chairs of the standing committees of the senate
21 and house of representatives with subject matter



1 jurisdiction over culture and the arts or their
2 designees;

3 (6) The chief justice, or their designee, representing the
4 King Kamehameha V judiciary history center; and

5 (7) Other relevant stakeholders as recommended by the
6 chairperson.

7 Members of the task force may recommend additional members with
8 appropriate special expertise to the task force, for approval by
9 the chair.

10 (c) The working group shall submit an annual report of its
11 progress, findings and recommendations, including any proposed
12 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
13 to the convening of each regular session.

14 (d) The members of the task force shall serve without
15 compensation shall be reimbursed for expenses, including travel
16 expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

17 (e) No member of the working group shall be subject to
18 chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of the
19 member's participation in the task force.

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
2 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
3 year 2024-2025 for the administration of the museum of modern
4 Hawaii history task force to carry out its duties.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the state
6 foundation on culture and the arts for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.



Report Title:

Museum of Modern Hawaii History; Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Task Force; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a Museum of Modern Hawaii History. Establishes a task force to develop plans for the establishment, construction, and operation of a Museum of Modern Hawaii History. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

