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**Testimony of KAREN EWALD, Executive Director
State Foundation on Culture and the Arts
Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Wednesday , February 26, 2025 Conference Room 211 at 10:03AM
SENATE BILL 1581
RELATING TO HAWAII-JAPAN PACIFIC PEACE MONUMENT**

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee,

the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is pleased to offer

SUPPORT of S.B.1581 which **Establishes a Hawaii-Japan Pacific Peace**

Monument to be developed by the State Foundation on Culture and appropriate stakeholders representing Hawaii and Japan and appropriates funds from the Works of Art Special Fund.

If it is the desire of the Legislature, the SFCA will form an Art Advisory Committee (AAC) following the SFCA's collection management policy for all new works of art including representatives as described in the bill. AAC's assist with the selection of location, defining the medium and theme of the work of art, recommending and artist , and review of design proposals.

SFCA supports the appropriation from the Works of Art Special fund to create a Hawaii-Japan Pacific Peace Monument, provided the fund is used exclusively for capital expenditures per 103-8.5 HRS as its source is bond revenue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

SB-1581

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 8:27:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

This proposed peace monument is appropriate. We live in a contested time with global unrest and conflict. Even simple reminders of peace such as this monument can remind us what's important and what can be.

I urge the Committee to SUPPORT this bill!

SB-1581

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:30:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in support of SB1581. Japan has been treated far too badly by our islands and the U.S. without the Japanese immigrants our plantations wouldn't have prospered with the agricultural skills of China in prior decades. The Chinese and Japanese enriched our Hawaiian Islands and had stronger leadership far more than any other cultural group that arrived in our islands for their own prosperity! Mahalo for this bill for our sister country of Japan!