



HAWAII

STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

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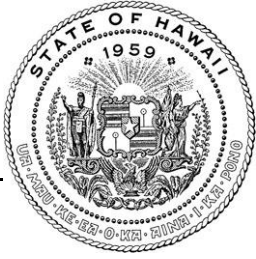
**TESTIMONY OF
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Wednesday, March 23, 2022/Conference Rm 329 via Videoconference
10:40am
H.C.R. 161/H.R. 161**

Chair Gates and members of the Committee, I am Jonathan Johnson, Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), and we are grateful for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of H.C.R. 161/HR161.

As a member of the Creative Resurgence Task Force, the SFCA supports the request to continue “to examine and determine measures and establish policies and programs to build and foster creativity and innovation through the arts, culture, and humanities in the State, as specified in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 242, H.D. 1 (2021)”.

Hawaii’s creative arts workforce of culture and arts organizations, individual artists and cultural practitioners are an important and unique resource of the State’s economy and community. The Creative Resurgence Task Force will provide meaningful insight to the creative sector and the ways in which they can be best supported during the period of recovery, and helping to build thriving arts and culture community in Hawaii.

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



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 23, 2022
10:40 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

In consideration of
HCR 161 / HR 161
**REQUESTING THAT THE CREATIVE RESURGENCE TASK FORCE CONTINUE TO
EXAMINE AND DETERMINE MEASURES AND ESTABLISH POLICIES AND
PROGRAMS TO BUILD AND FOSTER CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION THROUGH
THE ARTS, CULTURE, AND HUMANITIES IN THE STATE.**

Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports HCR 161 / HR 161 which requests the continuation of SCR 242, SLH 2021, to convene a creative resurgence task force required to examine and determine measures, including recommendations to establish policies and programs which foster creativity and innovation through the arts, culture, and humanities in the state.

DBEDT's Creative Industries Division (CID) was founded in 2003 on the premise that collectively Hawai'i's arts, culture, performing and visual arts, literary arts, film, media, music, and design are the foundation of a strong creative economy.

The department will join sister agencies in convening of the Creative Resurgence Task Force with stakeholder leaders. DBEDT underscores the importance of focusing on this area of our economy as our creative sectors, particularly performing and visual arts, cultural arts, and music, have been adversely impacted due to the impacts of COVID-19.

Hawai'i's vibrant ecosystem of creatives representing 54,071 jobs or 6.1% of the state total civilian jobs and \$4.2 billion (GDP) as noted in the most recent DBEDT [Creative Industries Report¹](#) and [Emerging Industries Report](#), including self-employed entrepreneurs and gig workers.

The June 2020 report by Brookings Institute, [The LOST ART: MEASURING COVID-19's DEVASTATING IMPACT ON AMERICAS CREATIVE ECONOMY](#) states "The creative economy is one of the sectors most at risk from the COVID-19 crisis. Arts, culture, and creativity are noted as one of three key sectors (along with science and technology as well as business and management) that drive regional economies." The report further identifies the State of Hawai'i as one of the top 5 States that have job losses in this sector greater than the national average of 30.3%.

A creative economy strategic plan with input from all stakeholders is paramount to contextualizing the value of the creative economy to the state's economic recovery.

DBEDT welcomes the opportunity to convene, collaborate and provide a report with recommendations to advance policy objectives to further realize the value of these sectors in Hawai'i's economic development strategy for recovery and resiliency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ Source: READ Creative Industries Report

HCR-161

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 10:03:24 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We really shouldn't need to create all of these extra departments, working groups, and policies if elected officials actually represent their moku. 100% of the people are being micro-governed by a single demographic of corporate-minded control freaks who only represent 20% of the population. Additionally, the existing departments within the state of Hawai'i must be cleaned out, audited, and reduced. The State of Hawai'i is cluttered with a lot of people who abuse powers and ignore the people. You'd be better off, asking for more audits that will save the people and the State a lot of finances in the long run, to clean slate to reverse the patterns of micromanaging the people for the benefit of corporate benevolence, and making it so that the State actually represents the people, and not all of the lobbyist groups with special interests, or the corporations themselves.

HCR-161

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 11:52:49 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teri L Skillman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Creative Reserugence Hui member, I stand in support of extending the Creative Resurgence Task Force so that work on the Creative Economy may be collected.

Mahalo nui,
Teri Skillman

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HCR161

Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair

Rep. Adriana K. Tam, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

10:40 AM Conference Room 329

IN STRONG SUPPORT HCR161

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Adriana Muñoz, and I am an undergraduate Art History student at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. I am testifying in favor of House Concurrent Resolution No. 161, requesting that the Creative Resurgence Task Force continue to examine and determine measures and establish policies and programs to build and foster creativity and innovation through the arts, culture, and humanities in the state.

As a student and an individual who appreciates the arts, I strongly support this bill to further promote and sustain the arts in the state. As a high school student interested in art, I was urged repeatedly by advisors, teachers, and friends and family to apply to out of state universities to pursue my goals in this field. However, despite these warnings, I remained in the state and am now attending the University of Hawai‘i where I have further cultivated my love and passion for art and art history. The arts have allowed me to explore my identity and culture, and helped me stay grounded and connected during the COVID-19 crisis.

As a student I also witnessed first-hand the devastation of the coronavirus pandemic had and continues to have on creative programs in educational institutions and industries. In the Fall of 2020, I remember looking at the course availability and noticing the Art Department had been cut in half. I was dismayed and disappointed that my options for courses were severely limited. Despite the state moving back to a semblance of “normalcy,” the Art and Art History Department at UH Mānoa still does not receive the funding and support it deserves.

Now as I near graduation, I am still concerned about the limited job opportunities here. I believe that it is not only important to provide sufficient funding and opportunities in art education, but it is equally, if not more important, to have a sustainable job market. Hawai‘i has tremendous potential to be a site of global art recognition, seen by the works of my classmates, community artists, and the success of the Hawai‘i Biennial and Triennials. However, if there is little support from the State, Hawai‘i will continue to experience a detrimental brain drain.

Thus, I strongly support HCR161 and the Creative Resurgence Task Force in embracing and supporting the endeavors of creative education, industries, and communities.

Mahalo,

Adriana Muñoz

Art History Student at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa