

LATE TESTIMONY

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Representative Joey Manahan, Chair  
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair

**Monday, March 16, 2009  
8:30 AM Hearing, Conference Room 312**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1334, SD2  
Relating to Hawaiian Music and Dance**

Aloha Chair Manahan, Vice Chair Tokioka and Committee Members:

I am a member of the Kaka 'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) presently affiliated with the Hawaii Community Development Corporation in accordance with HCR 30, 2006. I support the intent of Senate Bill 1334. This individual testimony is presented as an informational update on the CPAC's adoption of the Vision and Guiding Principles for any future plans for the development of Kaka'ako Makai.

Senate Bill 1334 is consistent with the Vision and Guiding Principles for Kaka'ako Makai. The leading Guiding Principles stress that Kaka'ako Makai will be a community cultural gathering place, with emphasis on the Hawaiian culture and perpetuation of the values of the ahupua'a. Among these cultural values, and an important public value reflected in local planning policy documents, is the significance of Kaka'ako Makai's panoramic mauka and makai open view planes from the mountains to the sea. The Guiding Principles also call for preservation and protection of coastal and marine resources, and an expanded park open space that will be essential for the growing island population.

Coupled with these priorities is the consensus concept of significant cultural facilities that contribute to the quality of life and cultural enrichment of residents and visitors alike. These would be facilities that blend compatibly with the shoreline open space, perhaps with both indoor and outdoor venues that encourage the teaching, practicing and presentation of hula and chants expressing the culture and legends of Hawai'i, and museums that communicate Hawai'i's cultural history. A Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance would be an important part of this comprehensive plan for Kaka'ako Makai.

Further, §206E-34(d)(5), relating to the plan for Kaka'ako Makai, provides for contemplation of "museums or other educational facilities focusing on the history and cultures of the various ethnic groups within Hawaii, including Hawaiian history." Regardless of the statute in which this may be placed or the agency overseeing it, a Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance would clearly be compatible with the needs, wishes and desires of the larger community in the greater public interest.

Sincerely,

Michelle S, Matson

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**Amy Luke**

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LATE TESTIMONY

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2009 6:52 PM  
**To:** TCItestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB1334, SD 2 before TCI in room 312 on Monday, 3/16 at 0830

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1334, SD 1**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**  
Monday, 3/16, 2009 at 0830 in room 312

Chair and respected members of the committee,

My name is Reg White. For the past thirty five years I have worked in our visitor industry. Particularly the ocean tourism portion, and mainly based from Kewalo Basin. This bill seeks to make the attraction of the cultural areas being planned in Kakaako Makai come to fruition. The CPAC and the HCDA have been working towards a plan for this area that promotes Hawaiian culture presentations along with a fine Hawaiian sense of place for the entire neighborhood. This is why people from all over the world come to visit Hawaii. Its' to come into contact with our local culture, arts and customs. This bill will help to promote the building of this fine attraction that will help to prolong and increase our appeal as a tourist destination. Please pass this bill.

Respectfully,

Reg White

[REDACTED]  
Honolulu, HI 96826-1919  
[REDACTED]

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Amy Luke

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 6:51 AM  
**To:** TCItestimony  
**Subject:** Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance

LATE TESTIMONY

**DATE:** Monday, March 16, 2009  
**TIME:** 8:30 AM  
**PLACE:** Conference Room 312  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS Rep. Joey Manahan, Chair Rep. James  
Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair  
Rep. Lyla B. Berg Rep. Clift Tsuji  
Rep. Isaac W. Choy Rep. Glenn Wakai  
Rep. Cindy Evans Rep. Jessica Wooley  
Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey Rep. Barbara C. Marumoto

Aloha Chair Manahan and Committee Members:

The following is testimony on the benefits of SB1334, SD2 Relating to Hawaiian Music and  
Dance and why I support its passage.

Mahalo, Danielle Legere

A Museum of Hawaiian music and dance would be very beneficial to the State of Hawaii. The music and dance of Hawaii is unique and those who experience it are in awe of its beauty, simply put it adds another layer to the beauty of the islands. It is something that residents & visitors carry with them when they leave the islands & it's something that summons them back when they've left. Sharing this gift of music and dance with visitors to the islands would give them a unique experience that is truly the spirit of aloha. There are many beautiful beaches & oceans around the world that people enjoy visiting, but tourists now a days require more than just an incredible beach. What they long for is the complete experience of paradise, for Hawaii this includes not only the beach, ocean and scenery but the music and dance of the islands. I've been living in California now for sometime, but when I am feeling too far away & homesick, it's the music I return to, to comfort me. When I'm excited about returning to the islands, it's the music I listen to and when I've just left the islands but still have the touch of color on my skin from the Hawaiian sun, it's the music of the islands that keeps me there. This is a gift, uniquely Hawaiian that can be shared with those who visit the islands, it will expand their stay from a visit to an experience & it will call them to revisit.

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**SB 1334, SD2 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE.  
ESTABLISHES THE MUSEUM FOR HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE.  
APPROPRIATES AN UNSPECIFIED SUM FOR THE DESIGN OF AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE MUSEUM. EFFECTIVE  
07/01/90.**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

March 16, 2009

8:30 a.m.

Room: 312

Aloha Chair Manahan, Vice Chair Tokioka, and members of the committee.

My name is Crystal Kua and I am the Director of Communications with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. I am also OHA's representative to The Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance Committee.

OHA **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 1334, SD2, which establishes the museum and appropriates an unspecified amount of funding.

It was an honor for me to have served on this committee alongside the who's who of Hawai'i's music, dance, recording, museum, business and Hawaiian cultural community. I am also grateful to the Legislature for having the vision to develop this idea through legislation.

OHA's support for this measure is rooted partly in the purpose of the museum as set forth in the committee report transmitted to the Legislature: "The purpose of the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance is to provide a center for the perpetuation and preservation of Hawaiian culture through its music and dance through education, practice and performance."

Within the past 18 months alone, our community has lost an array of iconic figures in the world of Hawaiian music and dance: Nona Beamer, Raymond Käne, Genoa Keawe, Tony Lindsey, John Keola Lake and Kindy Sproat, to name a few.

With the passing of kùpuna and other cultural practitioners, it is important to establish a place where

Hawaiian traditions through mele, oli and hula will live on and thrive. A Museum for Hawaiian Music and Dance as being proposed in SB 1334 would be such a place. This "living" museum would be a site where the past could be celebrated, studied and preserved while the Hawaiian music, chant and dance of today could be enjoyed by keiki and kupauna, kama'aina and malihini, Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian.

As part of the museum committee's deliberations, we have put together, what I believe to be, a solid plan for a culturally-centered, economically-viable and financially-sound attraction for both local residents and visitors.

Committee members are keenly aware of the state's current financial situation but I believe a museum like this could be viewed as a wise investment toward helping to shore up Hawai'i's economic base through jobs and tourists while also perpetuating Hawaiian cultural traditions.

On behalf of OHA, we ask the committee to respond favorably to SB 1334, SD2. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

# THE HAWAIIAN MUSIC HALL OF FAME

Operated by the Hawaiian Music Foundation  
P.O. Box 4717  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812-4717  
Phone: (808) 259-2610  
Fax: (808) 545-4015  
hawaiimusicmuseum.org

LIVE TESTIMONY

March 16, 2009

Re: SB1334 SD2

State of Hawaii, House of Representatives  
Hearing Date: March 16, 2009  
Time: 8:30 am

Aloha Chairperson and Members:

On behalf of the Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame ("HMHF"), I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1334 SD1, Relating to Hawaiian Music and Dance.

This legislation was heard by the Senate committees on Economic Development and Technology ("EDT") and Tourism ("TSM") on February 11, 2009 where it received broad based and enthusiastic support. Based on the bill's merits and the testimony in support, your EDT and TSM colleagues found that,

"... the people of Hawaii deserve to have music, dance and art that is representative of their culture, background, and heritage be preserved for generations of people to observe and appreciate."

We wholeheartedly agree. Notwithstanding the enthusiastic support SB 1334 has received, the obvious question is whether the State of Hawaii can or should support a relatively small investment now for design and environmental studies. The answer is a resounding yes.

SB 1334 originally provided for a modest \$2,000,000 appropriation for design and environmental studies. However, SB 1334 SD1 deleted any specific monetary appropriation. The appropriate level of funding can and should be resolved in conference by members who are better able to determine the proper level of funding vis-à-vis all of the other priorities competing for the State's attention this session.

For our part, the HMHF sees a museum of Hawaiian music and dance as a smart investment and critical component in an overall strategy to strengthen Hawaii as a world-class destination. Visitors can choose many other places to visit if their only considerations are warm

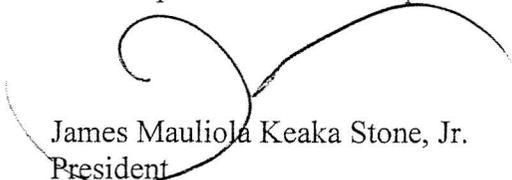
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weather or pretty scenery. What makes us different is our host Hawaiian culture. Aloha, as practiced by Hawaiians for generations, distinguishes us from the typical tourist experience. The most efficient and compelling expression of our host culture is Hawaiian music and hula.

Hawaiian music ignores language barriers and goes straight into one's heart in a way that is compelling and beautiful. Hula, which interprets Hawaiian music, has captured the imagination and hearts of enthusiasts worldwide and by doing so, created real jobs and business opportunities for thousands of our citizens. Frankly, without Hawaiian music and hula, Hawaii risks losing its enviable market position to destinations that are closer or cheaper for the average visitor.

Yes, your constituents deserve and to have their music and dance encouraged and supported. Please pass out SB 1334 SD1. Future generations will applaud your decision to support a museum of Hawaiian music and dance as amongst the wisest investments you can make this year.

Mahalo piha a me ke aloha pumehana,



James Mauiola Keaka Stone, Jr.  
President

Hawaii Music and Dance Foundation dba  
The Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame