

## DENNIS KAMAKAHI PRODUCTIONS / NAUKILO PUBLISHING COMPANY / NA 'OIWI PRODUCTIONS

Multiple Grammy Winner / Multiple Na Hoku Hanohano Winner / 2009 Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame Inductee / Hawaiiana Consultant / Slack Key Guitar Master /Composer / ASCAP / Screen Actors Guild (SAG) / MTNA (Music Teacher's National Association) / MENC (The National Association for Music Education)

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Date: March 16, 2011

From: The Reverend Dennis D.K. Kamakahi

Re: SB261- RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE.

Establishes the museum of Hawaiian music and dance design committee; authorizes the committee to invite developers to prepare plans, specifications, and designs for the construction of a museum, and to review for approval the proposed museum development plans submitted by developers; appropriates funds to finance the design and construction of a museum of Hawaiian music and dance. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

My name is the Reverend Dennis D.K. Kamakahi and I am writing to testify in favor of SB261.

I am a recipient of the SFCA 2006 Individual Artist Fellowship Award, a multiple Grammy winner, a multiple Na Hoku Hanohano Winner, a Hawaiian Composer and recording artist, a member of ASCAP, SAG, and MTNA (Music Teachers National Association), MENC (The National Association for Music Education) and an inductee into the Hawaiian Music Hall Of Fame. This is my 43<sup>rd</sup> year in professional music.

When the idea of a Hawaiian Music Museum was first mentioned to me some years ago I was strongly in favor of the idea. Having traveled to the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles, I was appalled that no information was available to the public that gave an indept history and documentation of Hawaiian Music here in Hawaii. As a composer and musician, I believe that others before me and including myself and my peers have introduced Hawaiian Music around the world. I firmly believe that Hawaii should be the focal point and authorative of our cultural music indigenous to these islands.

Please support this bill.

1/ 11/2

Mahalo nui/qa.

Rev. Dennis Kamakahi