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Website www.hawaii.gov/sfca TESTIMONY OF THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS TO THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS March 21, 2016 H.C.R.82/H.R.44

ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO PLAN AND COORDINATE THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAWAII STATE CAPITOL

Chair Ito and members of the Committee, I am Jonathan Johnson,

Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), and I

am pleased to testify in support of HCR82/HR44.

Recognizing the significant role culture and the arts play in the identity

of Hawai'i, art has been integrated into Hawai'i public buildings since the origin

of our Hawaii State Capitol. Our civic planners laid the foundation for

incorporating works of art in state buildings by creating a state Capitol, uniquely

designed to reflect our island state.

The Capitol building itself, with its rotunda open to Hawaii's brilliant blue skies, its statuesque palm-like columns, the volcanic shaped chambers, and stunning mosaic mural by Tadashi Sato, chamber chandeliers by Otto Piene and exquisite tapestries by Ruthadell Anderson is referred to as a "modernist expression of civic ideals."

With the passing of time, it is important to celebrate and commemorate endeavors of significance to inform future generations of this great state legacy. This task force has the opportunity to encourage public appreciation of the unique qualities of the Hawai'i State Capitol, and through that appreciation, the heritage and character of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Re: HCR82 and HR44

ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO PLAN AND COORDINATE THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAWAII STATE CAPITOL

For hearing on Monday, March 21, 2016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT, WITH PROPOSED ADDITION

Dear legislators, it's wonderful to plan for celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Hawaii state Capitol in 2019.

But of course there would be no state Capitol unless there were a State of Hawaii.

And as it happens, 2019 will also be the 60th anniversary of Hawaii statehood.

Therefore please amend this resolution to broaden it to include planning for celebration of both the 50th anniversary of the Capitol and the 60th anniversary of Hawaii Statehood. Why not have both celebrations combined into a single event? Save money and appeal to a wider audience.