

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'AINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWÉ LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE COMMITTEE ON

TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURAL AND THE ARTS

FEBRUARY 15, 2024, 3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 2710

RELATING TO CULTURE AND THE ARTS.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 2710.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) **supports** S.B. 2710 which establishes a Hawaii Leadership Awards Program. We would also suggest to the committee that more is needed to honor this individual to ensure that their considerable and outstanding contributions to Hawaii are never forgotten. We would suggest that in addition to displaying their story for a period of one year, that a true archives of their works and achievements should be formally established within the State Archives so that their deeds will be readily accessible in a centralized location for generations to come. Such an archives would include photographs, videos, oral histories, documents, writings, and examples of their work to ensure that their good

deeds never fade from public memory. Too often individuals who are recognized for their sacrifices fade into the obscurity of time once those who directly knew them and their deeds depart this Earth. If we are to truly honor these individuals, it is proper that we emblazon their deeds upon the public memory in an indelible and easily accessible way, overseen by trained, trusted professionals, in a repository properly designed to provide the finest protection for irreplaceable documentary heritage materials. An archives that serves everyone equally, and encourages the public to explore the past to shape a better future. Please consider providing appropriate funding and staffing to the State Archives so that they may collect, arrange, preserve, and make accessible the permanent record of these most deserving individuals.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our comments on this measure and appreciate the opportunity to address any concerns our testimony raises.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKAI

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Thursday, February 15, 2024
3:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room #224

In consideration of
SB 2710
RELATING TO CULTURE AND ARTS.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports SB 2710, that establishes the Hawai'i leadership awards program to honor Hawai'i individuals who made considerable and outstanding contributions to the state in their respective fields and serve as inspirations to others. The program is to be managed by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA).

Recognition by the State's lawmakers of entities and individuals that have made considerable contributions to the advancement of the local economy through industry, cultural enrichment and other fields as noted, would be a welcome source of community pride.

As no appropriation amounts are included currently, there appears to be no monetary support to manage the program. This would include procurement of the physical awards, funding this continuing recognition beyond FY25 for costs associated with an annual award ceremony.

The department agrees that this program would be most appropriate for the SFCA to oversee and manage. We pledge to support their efforts as needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Testimony of KAREN EWALD, Executive Director
State Foundation on Culture and the Arts
Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 Conference Room 224 at 3:00PM

SENTATE BILL 2710
RELATING TO CULTURE AND ARTS

Dear Chair Lee and members of the Committee,

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) **SUPPORTS** S.B. 2710 which establishes the Hawai'i Leadership Awards Program to honor individuals who have made considerable and outstanding contributions to Hawai'i and inspire others.

The SFCA has a long history of recognizing outstanding individuals in Hawaii with awards. From 1970 to 2019, the SFCA issued 118 awards in the categories of State of Hawai'i Order of Distinction for Cultural Leadership, Governor's Award for Distinguished Achievement in Culture, Arts and Humanities, Hawai'i Award for Literature, Individual Artist Fellowships and the Hawaiian Architectural Award. Introducing the Leadership Award as described in SB2710 would fall within the purview of the SFCA.

In 2009, State funding to the SFCA to support the staff coordinator position and the awards was abolished. Until that time, awards were regularly given from 1970 through 2008. Consistent appropriation from the legislature in support of recognizing leadership in our community will benefit the State's overall economy. When we celebrate Hawaii's achievements, we invest in the economic stability of Hawai'i.

The SFCA's awards process is outlined in our establishing legislation under HRS Chapter 9. SFCA review panels are selected per [Hawaii Administrative Rules](#) and composed of members of the community at large who are knowledgeable and experienced in the subject matter of the panel on which they serve. All panel members serve without compensation.

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

SB-2710

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 12:16:32 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/15/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean-Joseph T.K. Choo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Senators, TCA committee members,

I love this so much. Wholeheartedly support it. Mahalo for all you work and creating this to honor and highlight our leaders in our community.

Peace,

Sean