



HAWAII

STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

No. 1 Capitol District Building
250 South Hotel Street
Second Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Governor
Josh B. Green

Comptroller
Keith A. Regan

Commissioners
Susan Browne
Nalani Brun
Randall Fujiki
Jill Kuramoto
Michael Marshall
Ronald Michioka

Acting Executive Director
Karen A. Ewald

Telephone
808.586.0300

Fax
808.586.0308

Website
sfca.hawaii.gov

**TESTIMONY OF THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**April 5, 2023 Conference Room 211 & Videoconference at 10:00AM H.B. 473 H.D.1
RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
(CREATIVE WORKFORCE)**

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is pleased to offer testimony in **SUPPORT** of H.B. 473 H.D.1.

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. SFCA recognizes the importance of the creative workforce and provides support through granting programs, as funding permits. An appropriation for Creative Workforce grants through the SFCA can have a significant impact on individuals in the creative workforce.

Creative workforce grants will provide support towards a living wage in the regional labor market where the work is performed by the creative worker. Grants to support creative workers in communities who face barriers to participation and employment in creative work as a result of a low level of public and private investment in the arts, limited exposure to art programming, or other social or economic barriers. The arts or culture organization employing the creative workers' mission/programming serves a population that is specifically impacted by poverty, are underserved, and/or neighboring islands. The work of the creative worker must support arts and culture projects/programming that is publicly available and accessible

In 2022, the State Legislature appropriated \$500,000 in Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Relief Funds to the SFCA for creative workforce grants. In response, the SFCA developed a creative workforce grant framework. However the grant was put hold when Governor Ige vetoed the funding. Consistent appropriation of general funds from the legislature such as H.B. 473 H.D.1. proposes in support of the creative arts community will benefit the State's overall economy. When we invest in our cultural economy, we invest in the economic stability of Hawaii'i.

An appropriation of General Funds towards the current framework of SFCA's Biennium Grants to organizations in the community already doing this important work would help grow the State's creative arts workforce.

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



HAWAI'I FOREST INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (HFIA)

P. O. Box 66 ❖ 'O'ōkala, HI
96774 Phone: 808-933-9411
Email: hfia@hawaiiiforest.org
Website: www.hawaiiiforest.org

Date: 04/01/2023

TO: WAM Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and WAM Committee Members

FROM: the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA)

SUBJECT: In Support of HB473 HD1 Relating to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Directors and members of the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA), please support HB473 HD1 Relating to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA).

For 30 years now, HFIA has proudly hosted Hawaii's Woodshow, in which local artisans,utilizing locally sourced woods, display their work in a juried show. This show offers artists an avenue to display and sell their work and expands the market for Hawai'i made wood products. HFIA has been fortunate enough to receive funding for the Woodshow, through the SFCA, and such grant programs make events such as ours possible.

Arts and culture enrich our communities and grant programs such as SFCA are vital in supporting arts and culture. HFIA requests your support for HB473 HD1 Relating to the State Foundation for Culture and the Arts.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Guy Cellier

Guy Cellier, Acting President

Hawaii Forest Industry Association

Established in 1989, HFIA's is a nonprofit organization founded by people committed to sustainable forest management. HFIA's mission is to promote healthy and productive forests and a sustainable forest industry through management, education, planning, information exchange, and advocacy. HFIA has over 120 members including woodworkers, landowners, sawyers, foundations, foresters, growers, educators, environmentalists, architects, millers, ranchers, and others interested in HFIA's mission and goals.

HFIA Board of Directors

Officers: Acting President/Vice-President Guy Cellier, Secretary Peter D. Simmons, Treasurer Wade Lee
Directors: Thomas Calhoun, Jeremy Campbell, Aaron Hammer, Nickolas Koch, Tai Lake, Michael Sowards, Irene Sprecher, Michael Tam, Jorma Winkler, Ron Wolfe, Aileen Yeh

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2023 11:23:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DANELLE WATSON	Testifying for Alexander Academy Performing Company	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in complete support of providing funds to support the living wage for creative workers. I see the reliability with creative artists, as they are extremely vulnerable therefore they show up prepared. These are highly intelligent people making a positive contribution to our community.

I believe our community would benefit with this financial support.

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2023 11:49:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Please ensure that the smaller nonprofits are given the proper amount of time and support to apply. Many nonprofits currently do not have paid staff. Hiring, setting up payroll and all associated costs takes time. As written this will benefit the larger nonprofits.

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2023 1:27:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,
I support this bill.
Mahalo nui,
Cards Pintor

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2023 7:07:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dae Han	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, my name is Dae Han and I'm writing a testimony in support of HB473, HD1. This proposed bill seems to be well thought out, with good intentions that really prioritize the arts and the members of the arts community. As a music educator, I've seen how funded music programs have positively shaped our community and brought us all together. With continued funding and more, our creative directors and arts community leaders will be able to allocate their resources towards more programs that would greatly benefit the youth in our community. I support this bill with humility and gratitude, for our voices have been heard and are hard work as artists have been seen. Thank you.

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 6:22:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurel Nakanishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Lawmakers,

I am writing to express my enthusiasm for HB473 HD1. As an artist and arts educator, I have seen the benefits that the arts have for students and communities. Yet, many Hawai'i artists are forced to move from the island because of a lack of careers in the arts. Those artists who do choose to stay, myself included, must cobble together multiple jobs to make ends meet.

Thus, I am in favor of HB 473, HD1 for the creation of a living wage for creative workers. With the support of creative workforce grants, Hawai'i could keep its talented young artists in the state while creating a powerful economic driver for a more diverse economy.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Mālama pono,
Laurel

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 7:41:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support all three bills: HB 478, HB475, and HB473.

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 8:55:34 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alejandro Salinas-Nakanishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Lawmakers,

I am writing to express my support for [HB 473, HD1](#). As a community college professor, I have seen many of my students face the difficult decision of moving away from Hawai'i because of a lack of employment opportunities here. Creating a living wage for creative workers will help many of my talented students stay in the islands. In the long view, HB 473, HD1 will help to diversify our economy, fuel innovation, and make Hawai'i a better place to live.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Alex

LATE

HB-473-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 2:47:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Weissman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 473.

Mahalo