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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the mission of the  
2 state foundation on culture and the arts is to promote,  
3 perpetuate, preserve, and encourage culture and the arts as  
4 central to the quality of life and people of Hawaii. One of the  
5 foundation's strategic priorities includes increasing public  
6 accessibility to arts and culture.

7           The foundation administers the state art museum and the art  
8 in public places and relocatable works of art programs, using  
9 the works of art special fund created pursuant to  
10 section 103-8.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and also issues grants  
11 through its foundation grants program. The museum and these  
12 programs aim to support, promote, and recognize the excellence  
13 of the State's diverse artists; create, display, and maintain in  
14 public places and the state art museum a collection of works of  
15 art that represent the diversity and excellence of the State's  
16 artistic expression; and provide the fullest possible access to



1 the highest quality aesthetic and educational experiences  
2 available to all the citizens of the State.

3       The legislature further finds that the performing arts also  
4 represent various mediums that express creativity through  
5 singing, dancing, theatre, and musical performances. To ensure  
6 a wide range of artistic creativity and expression in the State,  
7 performing arts should also be recognized as a medium to provide  
8 Hawaii's people with creative, educational, and aesthetic  
9 performances that tell meaningful stories and provide engaging  
10 experiences.

11       The purpose of this Act is to further the foundation's  
12 endeavors by:

13       (1) Establishing the performing arts grants program, under  
14       the foundation's existing foundation grant program, to  
15       support performing arts in the State;

16       (2) Clarifying the scope of the state foundation on  
17       culture and the arts' responsibilities to include the  
18       coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and  
19       execution of performing arts events; and

20       (3) Appropriating funds to provide grants under the  
21       performing arts grants program.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§9- Performing arts grants program. (a) There is  
5 established a performing arts grants program, to be placed in  
6 the foundation for administrative purposes, to provide grants  
7 for the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and  
8 execution of performing arts events.

9 (b) The foundation shall administer the performing arts  
10 grants program in accordance with this part.

11 (c) The foundation shall submit an annual report of  
12 performing arts grants awarded and the outcomes of each  
13 performing arts event that received a grant to the legislature  
14 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
15 session of 2026 and every regular session thereafter."

16 SECTION 3. Section 9-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended as follows:

18 1. By adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted  
19 and to read:



1       "Performing arts" includes arts or skills that are  
2 intended to be performed before an audience, including dance,  
3 singing, musical performances, and theatre."

4       2. By amending the definition of "arts" to read:

5       "Arts" includes music, dance, painting, drawing,  
6 sculpture, architecture, drama, poetry, prose, crafts,  
7 industrial design, interior design, fashion design, photography,  
8 television, motion picture art, unique or decorative plants,  
9 landscaping, and all other performing arts and creative activity  
10 of imagination and beauty."

11       SECTION 4. Section 9-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13       "~~§~~**§9-21** **Purpose.** The foundation shall administer the  
14 art in public places and relocatable works of art programs,  
15 pursuant to section 103-8.5, and the state art museum to achieve  
16 the following purposes:

- 17       (1) Replace in public state buildings the natural beauty  
18 displaced in construction with works of art expressive  
19 of the State's cultural, creative, and traditional  
20 arts of its various ethnic groups;



1 (2) Support, promote, and recognize excellence of the  
2 State's diverse cultural, creative, and traditional  
3 artists; ~~and~~

4 (3) Create, display, and maintain in public places and the  
5 state art museum a collection of works of art, and  
6 coordinate, plan, promote, market, and execute  
7 performing arts events, that:

8 (A) [~~Represents~~] Represent the diversity and  
9 excellence of the State's artistic expression;  
10 and

11 (B) [~~Provides~~] Provide to all the citizens of the  
12 State the fullest possible access to the highest  
13 quality aesthetic and educational experiences  
14 available."

15 SECTION 5. Section 103-8.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended as follows:

17 1. By amending subsection (b) to read:

18 "(b) The works of art special fund shall be used solely  
19 for the following purposes:

20 (1) Costs related to the acquisition of works of art~~[r]~~  
21 and coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and



1           execution of performing arts events, including any  
2           consultant or staff services required to carry out the  
3           art in public places and relocatable works of art  
4           programs;

5           (2) Site modifications, display, and interpretive work  
6           necessary for the exhibition of works of art~~[7]~~ or for  
7           performing arts events;

8           (3) Upkeep services, including maintenance, repair, and  
9           restoration of works of art;

10          (4) Storing and transporting works of art."

11          2. By amending subsection (d) to read:

12           "(d) The comptroller and the state foundation on culture  
13           and the arts shall decide on the specific art objects to  
14           acquire~~[7]~~ and specific performing arts events to coordinate,  
15           plan, promote, market, and execute, giving first consideration  
16           to placing appropriate pieces of art at the locations of the  
17           original appropriation.

18           The selection of, commissioning artists for, reviewing of  
19           design, execution, [~~and~~] placement, coordination, planning,  
20           promotion, and marketing of, and the acceptance of works of art  
21           shall be the responsibility of the comptroller and the state



1 foundation on culture and the arts in consultation with the  
2 affected agency or department.

3 Expenditures from the works of art special fund shall be  
4 made by the comptroller."

5 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the  
8 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
9 2026-2027 to provide grants under the performing arts grants  
10 program.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the state  
12 foundation on culture and the arts for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

16

INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 1511

**Report Title:**

State Foundation of Culture and the Arts; Performing Arts Grants Program; Works of Art Special Fund; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Performing Arts Grants Program to support performing arts in the State. Clarifies the scope of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts' responsibilities to include the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and execution of performing arts events. Allows the use of moneys from the Works of Art Special Fund for performing arts. Appropriates funds to provide grants under the Performing Arts Grants Program.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

