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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
Tuesday , February 11, 2025 Conference Room 224 at 3:01PM
SENATE BILL 1581
RELATING TO HAWAII-JAPAN PACIFIC PEACE MONUMENT**

Chair Lee and members of the Committee,
the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is pleased to offer
**SUPPORT of S.B.1581 which Establishes a Hawaii-Japan Pacific Peace
Monument** to be developed by the State Foundation on Culture and appropriate
stakeholders representing Hawaii and Japan and appropriates funds from the
Works of Art Special Fund.

If it is the desire of the Legislature, the SFCA will form an Art Advisory Committee
(AAC) following the SFCA's collection management policy for all new works of art
including representatives as described in the bill. AAC's assist with the selection
of location, defining the medium and theme of the work of art, recommending
and artist , and review of design proposals.

SFCA supports the appropriation from the Works of Art Special fund to create a
Hawaii-Japan Pacific Peace Monument, provided doing so does not replace or
adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive budget.

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

SB-1581

Submitted on: 2/7/2025 6:09:17 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/11/2025 3:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

This proposed peace monument seems like a worthy endeavor to value the peace and prosperity we've enjoyed over the last 80 years. I urge this Committee to SUPPORT this bill!

SB-1581

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 11:01:48 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/11/2025 3:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in strong support of SB1581 for a Hawaii-Japan Peace Memorial. The Japanese people were contracted by the Hawaiian Kingdom to work our pineapple and sugar cane fields, as the Chinese had been contracted and shared their knowledge with the islands from their early arrival in the 1400s when Marco Polo traveled around the world in 1405 and 1435 with them. These Asian groups had the know how and the work attitude that is still well known today, before the Caucasian plantation managers brought in the unionized Filipino migrants after they saved them in the Spanish American War in the Philippines. But the laws were created by the Americans that knew the two groups could soon own land and be able to vote once Hawaii became part of the U.S. Thus our Senators Daniel Inouye and Hiram Fong as Democrats although Mrs. Farrington had already promised the U.S. President Eisenhower? that Hawaii would be a Republican state in 1953, as our Governor was already.

The Japanese have been called "the good soldiers", because they carry out their duty until it's completed, such as the Kamikaze pilots! But they are always blamed for Pearl Harbor, although the discrimination was created by the colonizers who invaded with their diseases, religion, gambling, liquor, dethroned our Queen in 1893, and stole our future thinking they could steal our lands from the local Native Hawaiians. I felt the strong discrimination as church members even in 1967 in Utah, when I traveled across the continent in a tour bus, because my mother was nisei from Japan.

These colonizers tried to do a Eugenics Study in Molokai in 1920, trying to prove that the white race was superior, as portrayed by the Louis Sullivan Collection found at the Bishop Museum and was on exhibit a couple of years ago. They probably found out that the Asian mind was superior then. Some say this study was the basis of Germany's Hitler reign, when Japan was their ally and Hawaii already had created treaties with many European countries as well as, Japan and China and was covered by the Magna Carta of the 1490s?. These U.S. Citizens stole the wealth gathered by our Hawaiian Kingdom and taught the youth in schools that we were a state in 1959. But when we went home to tell our parents, they laughed at us and had their own secrets. Bishop's conspirator, Samuel Damon, made the comment to obliterate the Hawaiian culture by teaching in the schools. This was started when the Mr. and Mrs. Abel Cook taught the School for Children of the Alii, which is where the State Capitol now stands. They knew Pauahi was the smartest student and arranged for her to marry Charles Bishop without the consent of her parents, Pahi and Konia. Bishop as explained in the Judiciary Tour, arrived with our first lawyer, William Little Lee, who was headed for Oregon, but got shipwrecked here in Hawaii. Pahi's home was at what is now Tamarind Park across Bishop's Bank. All Pauahi wanted was to have

children but it was difficult if your husband never came home, thus Kamehameha Schools was created for the native youth along with the wealth inherited to her from Princess Ruth Keelikolani. Keelikolani's palace, although she never got to live in it, had a grand luau with all the dignitaries was what was called Central Intermediate School, when it was made of lava rock.

The Japanese were always humble and called us their sister country since their widow Empress was never conquered by the Mongols in the 1400s, like Queen Liliuokalani, but because we were also a part of the 7 Sister Star Constellation of the 6 indigenous groups around the Pacific Rim and includes Hawaii. Unlike other countries who donated statues of their own leaders, Japan gave us statues of our Hawaiian monarchy, like King Kalakaua at the beginning of Waikiki.

Please Support SB1581!