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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ARTS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that participation in the  
2 arts supports health and well-being by improving emotional  
3 regulation, communication, confidence, and social connection.  
4 The legislature further finds that specialized arts programs and  
5 therapeutic arts interventions can provide meaningful academic,  
6 social, and emotional benefits for individuals with autism,  
7 attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and other  
8 neurodivergent conditions, particularly in underserved  
9 communities where access to supportive services may be limited.

10           Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds  
11 to the state foundation on culture and the arts to:

- 12           (1) Continue and scale arts and health programming for  
13           underserved and neurodiverse populations; and  
14           (2) Establish a position within the state foundation on  
15           culture and the arts to support the implementation,  
16           coordination, and sustainability of these programs  
17           statewide.



1 SECTION 2. The state foundation on culture and the arts  
 2 shall establish one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to  
 3 support implementation and coordination of specialized arts  
 4 programs and therapeutic arts interventions for underserved and  
 5 neurodiverse populations.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
 7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 as  
 9 follows:

10 (1) \$ to continue and scale specialized arts  
 11 programs and therapeutic arts interventions tailored  
 12 to the needs of individuals with autism, attention-  
 13 deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and other  
 14 neurodivergent conditions; and

15 (2) \$ for the position established in section 2  
 16 of this Act.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the state  
 18 foundation on culture and the arts for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Arts and Health; State Foundation on Culture and the Arts;  
Specialized Arts Programs; Therapeutic Arts Interventions;  
Underserved and Neurodiverse Populations; Position;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a position within the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to support implementation and coordination of specialized arts programs and therapeutic arts interventions for underserved and neurodiverse populations. Appropriates funds for the position, programs, and interventions. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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