THE SENATE
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 3007

JAN 23 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CULTURE AND ARTS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that preserving and promoting culture and the arts is a critical state function. To fulfill this duty, the legislature established the state foundation on culture and the arts in 1965.

The legislature further finds that an entity dedicated to improving the creative value of government projects and services would support the State in fulfilling its duties.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish the office of creative innovation to execute innovative legislative and executive projects and develop creative value for public facilities, services, and communities.

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

"PART . OFFICE OF CREATIVE INNOVATION

§9-A Definitions. As used in this part:

"Office" means the office of creative innovation established pursuant to section 9-B.

"Executive director" means the executive director of the office of creative innovation, appointed pursuant to section 9-B(b).

§9-B Office of creative innovation; established; executive director. (a) There is established an office of creative innovation within the foundation for administrative purposes only.

(b) The office shall be headed by an executive director who shall be appointed by the governor without regard to chapter 76. Notwithstanding section 76-16(b)(17), this exemption from chapter 76 shall not expire.

(c) The executive director may employ staff for the office without regard to chapters 76 and 89; provided that the staff shall be members of the state employees' retirement system and shall be eligible to receive the benefits of any state employee benefit program generally applicable to officers and employees of the State. Notwithstanding section 76-16(b)(17), the exemption from chapter 76 shall not expire.

(d) Department heads may assign additional employees from existing positions within their departments to the office; provided that the employees shall represent their respective department's needs, assist other departments, or otherwise support the needs of the office during the course of their assignment with the office.

§9-C Office of creative innovation; functions and duties. The office shall:

(1) Execute projects and programs as directed by the governor and legislature;

(2) Support and assist all state departments and agencies with creative and innovative improvements to their projects and programs;

(3) Develop creative and innovative projects and programs to expand overall value and quality of life to the public, pilot new approaches, and pursue alternative or nontraditional measures; and

(4) Identify creative and innovative best practices used by other jurisdictions.

§9-D Annual report. The office shall submit an annual report summarizing its activities during the preceding year to

the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session. The report shall include:

(1) Actions taken to address issues, unmet needs, and challenges relating to wellness and resilience;

(2) Funds received for the activities of the office from federal, state, private, and philanthropic sources;

(3) The office's engagement with community entities and other stakeholders; and

(4) Any other findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation."

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY: _____

S.B. NO. 3007

Report Title:
Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Office of Creative Innovation; Establishment; Reports

Description:
Establishes the Office of Creative Innovation within the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts for administrative purposes only. Requires annual reports to the Legislature.

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