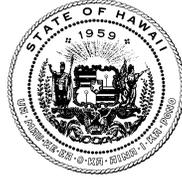


JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



STACEY A. ALDRICH  
STATE LIBRARIAN  
Ke Po'o Hale Waihona Puke Moku'āina

STATE OF HAWAII  
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM  
'OIHANA HALE WAIHONA PUKE AUPUNI O KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN  
44 MERCHANT STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
(808) 586-3704

**House Committee on Finance  
March 5, 2026, 2:00 pm  
State Capitol, Room 308**

**HB 1764 HD1 – Relating to the Music Accessibility Pilot Program**

To: Rep. Chris Todd, Chair  
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

The Hawai'i State Public Library System (HSPLS) **supports** HB 1764 HD1 to establish a music accessibility pilot program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System to expand access to public concerts and musical education throughout the State to residents in the counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui.

Music is a form of storytelling that inspires the mind and brings people together. Our public libraries are community hubs that offer a variety of music programs from learning how to play instruments to opportunities to hear live music.

Attendance statistics show that our communities want more opportunities to hear live music and learn. Last year, we had over 200 people attend a jazz program in Kailua, and when Uncle Wayne does his music program for children and families, more than 100 people show up for his program.

Respectfully, we request adding language and funding that allows for the use of funding for instruments and resources to support the musical performances at the libraries.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1764 HD1 and your continued support of our communities and the Hawai'i State Public Library System.



HAWAI'I  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

DANE LAM | MUSIC AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawai'i  
Regular Session of 2026  
House Committee on Finance  
Testimony by Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra  
March 5, 2026

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1764 HD1 – RELATING TO  
THE MUSIC ACCESSIBILITY PILOT PROGRAM**

**Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, members of the Committee,**

As Music and Artistic Director and President and CEO, respectively, of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, we thank you and request your support of **HB1764 HD1**, which establishes a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System to expand access to public concerts and musical education across our islands. This bill represents an important investment in cultural equity, local arts, and statewide community well-being.

HB1764 directly addresses long-standing gaps in access to live music for residents of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui counties by funding public concerts and educational opportunities in communities that often lack them. The program ensures that high-quality musical experiences that are more available on O'ahu can be shared broadly across the state.

The bill also strengthens Hawai'i's creative economy by providing resources for travel costs and payment to musicians, ensuring that **local artists are fairly compensated** for sharing their expertise statewide. This type of investment directly supports Hawai'i's working musicians and helps sustain our cultural workforce.

Importantly, HB1764 encourages collaboration with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra (HSO) and other organizations **to deliver concerts and educational programming** through the library system. As the state's leading professional orchestra, HSO is uniquely positioned to bring high-quality, culturally relevant performances to communities throughout the islands. This partnership aligns with the orchestra's mission to serve all of Hawai'i and to provide programming "shaped by and for Hawai'i."

Beyond performance access, the bill supports the creation of **new musical works that reflect Hawai'i's heritage**, contributing to the development of repertoire that honors our local culture and stories.

This pilot program is a smart, focused investment that will yield significant cultural, educational, and economic returns **for Hawai'i's residents, regardless of where they live.**

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to pass HB1764 HD1. This bill uplifts local artists, strengthens access to arts education, and fosters a more connected, culturally vibrant Hawai'i.

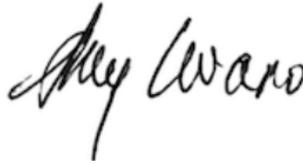
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dane Lam". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail.

Dane Lam

Music and Artistic Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Iwano". The signature is cursive and elegant, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail.

Amy Iwano

President and CEO

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 8:00:34 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana Rokosny	Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Music education saves lives. It builds community, and it builds engaged critical thinking citizens. In my opinion, music education is the foundation to sustainable and positive citizen engagement. We all need this more than ever.

03 March 2026

*Testimony in **Strong Support of HB 1764 HD1** — Music Accessibility Pilot Program*

**Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and FIN Committee Members:**

As you know, Hawai'i Youth Symphony believes in equitable access to music for all communities. Any exposure to music piques youths' curiosity, stimulates joyfulness, and inspires learning.

It is commonly accepted and yet, frequently researched, how music is instrumental to the brain: to its stimulation and neuroplasticity, but also to its resilience, focus, and calm. I attended a recent talk by Mary Anne Carter, chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts, in which she reaffirmed her agency's resolve towards music and healthy communities.

In Hawai'i, we are fortunate to have an incredible public library system. Ours functions as a crucial, safe, "third space" where children and their parents or caregivers congregate to begin their journeys together towards lifelong learning. When we combine safe spaces with music, we are also building communities where music lives, where it is restorative, and where it is valued.

**The Hawai'i State Public Library System is the perfect place for keiki to kupuna to experience instrumental music, be it by the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra, or by the many other organizations and musicians who already perform in libraries statewide.**

Over just the past year, HYS has performed public library concerts that feature our youth, our collegiate Orchestral Learning Alliance teaching fellows, and our chamber music faculty from Chamber Music Hawai'i and the Honolulu Chamber Music Series (many of whom are also members of the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra). We are grateful to our librarian colleagues and the Friends of the Hawai'i Libraries for already opening their doors to music, and are hopeful that with the passing of this Bill that even more libraries statewide can take part in the language & literacy of music.

Here are a few photos of the ways that we have already brought music to libraries; definitive proof that this project can be done!



HYS Orchestral Learning Alliance teaching fellows at Hilo Public Library, 2/2026



HYS Youth Symphony I string quartet at Waikiki-Kapahulu Public Library, 4/2025



HYS Youth Symphony I brass quintet at Salt Lake-Moanalua Public Library, 12/2025



& PACIFIC MUSIC INSTITUTE  
1350 S. King Street, Suite 201 • Honolulu, HI • 96814



HYS Youth Symphony I wind quintet at  
Salt-Lake Moanalua Public Library, 3/2025



HYS x Chamber Music Hawaii Honolulu Brass Quintet Side-by-Side,  
Salt Lake-Moanalua Public Library, 3/2025



HYS x Chamber Music Hawaii Galliard String Quartet Side-by-Side,  
Kaimuki Public Library, 11/2025

Thank you for considering our testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 1764 HD1.**

You are helping to advance the roles that music plays in our respective communities, and for supporting literacy and public libraries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Randy Wong'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Randy Wong  
President & CEO, Hawai'i Youth Symphony



TESTIMONY OF DAVE ERDMAN  
INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAI‘I

MARCH 5, 2026

**IN SUPPORT OF HB 1764 HD1 – RELATING TO THE MUSIC ACCESSIBILITY  
PILOT PROGRAM**

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dave Erdman, and I am the Interim President and CEO of Retail Merchants of Hawai‘i (RMH), a statewide nonprofit trade association representing retailers, shopping centers, dining establishments in retail and shopping centers, and allied businesses across Hawai‘i.

Retail Merchants of Hawai‘i supports HB 1764 HD1, which establishes the Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System to expand access to public concerts and music education across the State.

The arts and music play an important role in strengthening communities, supporting educational enrichment, and celebrating Hawai‘i’s cultural identity. Expanding opportunities for residents and students on Hawai‘i Island, Kaua‘i, and Maui to experience live music and educational programming helps ensure that these cultural opportunities are accessible statewide.

The Hawai‘i State Public Library System provides a natural platform for this pilot program. Libraries already serve as trusted community hubs where families and students gather, making them well-suited to host programs that bring music and arts education directly into local communities.

Community-based concerts and cultural events also create positive ripple effects for surrounding neighborhoods, bringing residents into nearby restaurants, shops, and small businesses while supporting local musicians and creative professionals.

**For these reasons, Retail Merchants of Hawai‘i respectfully urges the Committee to pass HB 1764 HD1.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Dave Erdman Interim President and CEO, Retail Merchants of Hawai‘i





ABC Stores  
766 Pohukaina Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5391  
www.abcstores.com

Telephone: (808) 591-2550  
Fax: (808) 591-2039  
E-mail: mail@abcstores.com

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February 3, 2026

To:  
Chair Chris Todd  
Vice Chair Jenna Takenouchi  
House Committee Members on Finance

**Testimony in Support of HB1764 HD1 - Relating to the Music Accessibility Pilot Program**

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the committee,

My name is Paul Kosasa, and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of ABC Stores, a locally owned Hawai'i business that has proudly served our communities for more than seventy years. I also have the honor of serving as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Symphony, a role I have held for the past fifteen years. I am writing to express my strong support for HB1764 HD1, relating to the Music Accessibility Pilot Program.

Music and the arts are foundational to Hawai'i's cultural identity and play an essential role in education, community connection, and personal development. Programs that expand access to music—particularly for students and individuals who may face financial or systemic barriers—help foster creativity, confidence, and lifelong learning, while strengthening the social fabric of our communities.

As a long-standing Hawai'i employer, ABC Stores recognizes that investments in arts and education have meaningful downstream benefits for our state. Access to music education supports youth development, workforce readiness, and overall community well-being. The Music Accessibility Pilot Program reflects a thoughtful approach to broadening opportunity while ensuring that public resources are directed toward inclusive and impactful outcomes.

From a fiscal perspective, HB1764 HD1 represents a prudent investment in Hawai'i's future—supporting access, equity, and cultural enrichment while allowing the State to evaluate the program's effectiveness through a pilot framework. Initiatives such as this help ensure that the benefits of arts education are more widely shared and sustainably supported.

We commend the Legislature for its continued commitment to programs that enhance quality of life, strengthen cultural institutions, and invest in the next generation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony and for your consideration of HB1764 HD1. We respectfully urge your support for this measure.

Mahalo,

Paul Kosasa  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
ABC Stores



*The  
Store  
With  
Aloha*

ABC Stores  
766 Pohukaina Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5391  
[www.abcstores.com](http://www.abcstores.com)

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E-mail: [mail@abcstores.com](mailto:mail@abcstores.com)

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**SERVCO PACIFIC INC.**  
2850 PUKOLOA ST. STE. 300  
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**O. 808.564.1300**  
**F. 808.564.1393**

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Representative Chris Todd, Chair  
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance

RE: **HB 1764 HD1 - Relating to the Music Accessibility Pilot Program – In Support**  
Thursday, March 5, 2026; 2:00 PM  
Conference room 308

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and members of the committee:

As a Board of Director of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra (HSO) and on-behalf of Servco Pacific, Inc., I am writing in **support** of HB 1764 HD1, which establishes the Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawaii State Public Library System to expand access to public concerts and musical education throughout the State, and appropriate funds.

This bill aligns with HSO's mission to serve all of Hawaii. It expands access to residents of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui, who often have fewer opportunities for live orchestral events, to gain greater access to concerts and music education. The current draft has an unspecified appropriation amount. We ask for your consideration in providing funding to help cover travel costs for musicians, ensuring music professionals can sustainably participate in statewide cultural programming.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. We ask for your favorable consideration in passing HB 1764 HD1 as it would help the orchestra reach more residents, enhance community well-being, expand cultural equity statewide, and bring orchestral music to places it normally cannot reach due to logistics and cost.

Peter Dames  
President & CEO



**HAWAII**  
STATE FOUNDATION on  
CULTURE and the ARTS

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

Governor  
Josh Green, M.D.

Comptroller  
Keith A. Regan

Chairperson  
Konrad Ng

Commissioners  
Susan Browne  
Sean Connelly  
Randall Francisco  
Randall Fujiki  
Jill Kuramoto  
Michael Marshall  
Marcia Roberts-  
Deustch  
Janet Sato

Ex-Officio  
Chris Lee  
Jeanne Kapela

Executive Director  
Karen A. Ewald

Telephone  
808.586.0300

Fax  
808.586.0308

Website  
sfca.hawaii.gov

**Testimony of KAREN EWALD, Executive Director  
State Foundation on Culture and the Arts**

**Before the  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2026 Conference Room 308 at 2:00PM**

**HOUSE BILL 1764\_HD1  
RELATING TO  
THE MUSIC ACCESSIBILITY PILOT PROGRAM**

Dear Chair Todd and members of the Committee,

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is dedicated to the promotion, perpetuation, and preservation of culture and the arts in Hawai'i.

SFCA **SUPPORTS** H.B. 1764\_HD1, which establishes the Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawaii State Public Library System to expand access to public concerts and musical education throughout the State. Appropriates funds.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts supports programs such as the proposed music accessibility program that will provide a thriving arts experience to all participating residents.

The SFCA currently administers a similar program, the Outreach Initiative Program, which is supported by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts. The program supports statewide touring and outreach activities that increase opportunities for individuals to experience different forms of artistic and cultural expression and engagement.

The touring program prioritizes underserved communities, including rural areas, socio-economically and geographically disadvantaged populations, disadvantaged youth, Native or immigrant groups, and individuals with varying abilities. Activities must be accessible, held in person at public venues such as senior centers, libraries, and public housing, or offered in a hybrid online format, and must serve at least three islands.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts encourages the administrator of the proposed program in the measure to follow similar criteria.

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

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/5/2026 9:06:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Angela Young	CARES   Community Advocacy Research Education Services	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Support

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:06:07 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lorna Holmes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Music is so important and basic to our keiki in their education and their lives. Please support this bill to establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra, and expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Dr. Lorna Holmes, Mo'ili'ili 96826

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:07:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Leah Morse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everyone should have access to top quality music, and music education, and really, arts education in general, is so vital. I am an amateur violinist and cellist, and my experiences playing music with others has given so much to me and made me the person I am today, and I simply cannot imagine my life without music.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:08:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colleen Milbury	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Support of HB1764 – Music Accessibility Pilot Program**

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB1764, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra.

The Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra is one of the most valuable cultural institutions in our state. Their performances bring world-class music to our community while also serving as a powerful educational and cultural resource for residents of all ages.

What makes this proposal particularly meaningful is its focus on accessibility. Not everyone has had the opportunity to experience live orchestral music, yet the impact of hearing a symphony in person can be profound. Programs that bring music into public spaces like libraries remove barriers and allow more people across Hawai‘i to engage with the arts.

Music education and exposure to the arts are strongly linked to creativity, cognitive development, and community connection. Expanding access through this partnership would help ensure that students, families, and residents throughout the islands have opportunities to experience the inspiration and joy that live music provides.

The Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra has already demonstrated its commitment to community engagement and educational programming. This pilot program would allow those efforts to reach even more people in meaningful ways.

I strongly encourage the Legislature to support HB1764 and invest in making music and the arts more accessible across our state.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Colleen Milbury  
Honolulu, Hawai‘i



**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:12:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elaine serizawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I hereby support this bill so that more people will be able to have the ability to enjoy music.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:13:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gena Whitten	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii has a rich history of music in the island. I support access to all kinds of music for our citizens.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:15:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Matsuura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the opportunities HB1764 would give to students and all interested in music. Public Concerts, music education and community programming should be accessible to all. I urge you to pass HB1764.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:16:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Betsy Connors	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in support of HB 1764.

Music is the universal language and needs to be taught, learned and experienced in all ways. It's a necessary enrichment for the human soul.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:19:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith Cucco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please approve this bill.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:23:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rebecca J. Carlson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support HB1764! Music is an invaluable part of culture, education, and community.

Mahalo,

Rebecca J. Carlson

Laie, HI

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Thirty-Third Legislature, Regular Session of 2026

Hearing Date and Time: March 5, 2026 at 2 PM

Re: **HB 1764, HD1 RELATING TO THE MUSIC ACCESSIBILITY PILOT PROGRAM**

Written Testimony Only (In Support)

CHAIR TODD, VICE CHAIR TAKENOUCI, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lloyd Lim and I am testifying in my individual capacity in support of HB 1764, HD1 establishing the music accessibility pilot program.

Music teachers in our community help to raise our kids. Music education isn't just about making kids happy or helping them fit into more rarefied workplaces; it is about brain development, giving kids a head start, a competitive advantage.

But you don't have to take my word for it. *Columbia Magazine* (Spring/Summer 2015) noted that Columbia Medical School considers a music background in admissions because it can assist both diagnosis skills and the motor control needed for surgery. Also, *The Great Courses* class Music and the Brain taught by Professor Anniruddh D. Patel noted that music training also has a significant overlapping effect on the development of verbal skills.

Teaching music is not something one does to get rich. Unlike some professionals, there is a true limit to what music teachers can charge to teach students given all the other costs that parents must bear. For parents with kids interested in music, it isn't pleasant to have to say "no" because of money issues. For adults who wanted to play an instrument but whose parents didn't have the money to support that, this can be the source of lasting regret because it is better to start early.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony, and for your favorable consideration.

*Lloyd Lim* 1525 Wilder Ave #1008, Honolulu, HI 96822

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:28:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Darryl Nordstrom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing to support HB1764. Music has been a powerful positive part of my life, many others and I am sure most of you have also experienced the positive and powerful effects music has on the human spirit. Music and art touches humans in many different ways at many different times in our lives. I support this bill in hopes that music will continue to be a powerful and positive influence on our community.

Mahalo,

Darryl Nordstrom

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:32:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tom Galli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I write in support of H.B. 1764, which establishes a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawaii State Public Library System.

This proposal represents a thoughtful investment in the cultural and educational life of our state. By expanding access to public concerts and musical education—particularly for residents on Hawaii Island, Maui, and Kauai—the program helps ensure that opportunities for artistic engagement are not limited by geography.

Music is not only entertainment; it is an educational tool, a cultural bridge, and a means by which communities share and preserve their stories. Programs that support local musicians, encourage collaboration, and commission new works reflecting Hawaii’s heritage strengthen both our cultural ecosystem and the creative economy.

Libraries have long served as centers of learning and community life. Expanding their role to include live musical programming and education is a natural extension of their mission to make knowledge and culture accessible to all residents.

For these reasons, I strongly support the Music Accessibility Pilot Program and encourage the legislature to fund and implement it.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:35:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara J. Service	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takeuchi and committee members.

Please pass HB1764 which will expand music accessibility to public concerts and musical education throughout the state.

Music has been shown to enhance mood and well-being, reduce stress, boost cognitive function and memory retention, foster social connection and even help with insomnia. No matter what someone's tastes are, they can benefit from listening to music.

Please pass this bill.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify.

Barbara J. Service MSW

Child Welfare Supervisor (ret.)

Passionate Kupuna advocate

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:37:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynn Murakami Akatsuka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1764, HD 1 for passage this legislative session. The **Hawai'i State Public Library System**, in partnership with the **Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra's** bill would provide funding to expand access to **public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming** across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 1764, HD 1.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:44:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ember Brock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Music is a core part of our cultures throughout the Pacific, and an essential part of our lives here in Hawai‘i. From birth, most children are exposed to music through their families; karaoke, ukulele, guitar, and drums. Music is how we tell stories, share history, and connect with each other.

The Music Accessibility Program helps to ensure that all families, regardless of personal resources, are able to continue to share music with their families. This helps build connections between people and their community. This allows children to be away from screens and to learn in meaningful ways. This program is a great resource for everyone.

Teachers who may not have the background or funding for a program themselves are also able to utilize the Library and share that with their families, their students, and their community. It is important that these incredibly valuable resources are available. Schools may not be able to provide or fund experiences like the Library can, or share the schedule that the public libraries can. This program works outside of other systems to benefit as many people as possible.

I wish to close by sharing a personal statement and a plea: As a music teacher who has been cut from the schools due to funding, cut from my position and placed in a homeroom because the state wants test scores, this program fills that gap the state itself is creating. I am not able to work with my music education degree in my chosen field because test scores seem to be more important than culture or whole child well-being. I ask that you provide funding and access to the libraries to correct this loss.

Thank you.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:46:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nina Bozeman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HB1764 – Music Accessibility Pilot Program

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB1764, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra.

Access to music education and live performance opportunities plays an important role in the intellectual, cultural, and emotional development of young people and families across Hawai‘i. Expanding access through our public libraries would allow more students—especially those who may not otherwise have the opportunity—to experience high-quality musical programming, concerts, and educational activities within their own communities.

Libraries are already trusted community spaces for learning and enrichment. Partnering them with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra creates a meaningful pathway for students and families to engage with music, explore creativity, and develop lifelong appreciation for the arts. Programs like this can also help inspire young musicians and support the broader arts ecosystem in our state.

As a parent in Hawai‘i, I value initiatives that broaden educational and cultural opportunities for our keiki. Increasing access to music education and performances through community-based programs will help ensure that more families across the islands can benefit from the arts.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to support and pass HB1764.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Nina

Kapolei, Hawai‘i

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:47:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ann S Freed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong Support. Music unites and heals.

Mahalo, Ann S Freed, Community Advocate,

Mililani

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:59:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maggie Anne Engebretson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Maggie Engebretson. As a resident of Honolulu and a parent, I strongly support HB1764 to establish a music pilot program expanding access to music education opportunities and public concerts benefiting the community and providing keiki opportunities to engage with music and the arts that they may be unable to access elsewhere.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:01:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Margaret ANN Renick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support passage of this bill. Any way we can keep our symphony connected to the community is a boon to everyone.

aloha and mahalo

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:01:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Turner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everything that HB 1764 provides is of value to the public.

Enthusiastically support.

**Testimony in Support of HB1764 HD1, Relating to the Music Accessibility Pilot Program  
House Committee on Finance**

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026, 2:00 pm

Honorable Chair and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen in strong support of HB1764 HD1, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra.

Born and raised here in Hawai'i and a graduate of Kaimukī High School, I have experienced firsthand how access to the arts can shape a person's life. As a student in Hawai'i's public school system, exposure to the arts opened doors for me that extended well beyond the stage or concert hall. That kind of access is not something every family can provide on their own, and that is precisely why institutions like our Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra and public libraries matter so deeply.

Libraries have always represented something greater than the sum of their shelves. At their core, they are community anchors, places where curiosity is welcomed, learning is free, and opportunity is not determined by a family's income or zip code. Expanding that mission to include music education and live performance programming is not a departure from what libraries do. It is a natural and powerful extension of it.

HB1764 HD1 would bring that opportunity to communities throughout our state, in partnership with one of Hawai'i's most treasured cultural institutions. I urge the committee to support this bill and help ensure that kama'āina of all ages and backgrounds have access to the transformative power of music.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brandy Shimabukuro

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:07:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
LAURA CLIZBE	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, having attended many HSO school programs, I've witnessed the positive impact music exposure has on students. Not all elementary schools have music programs and this enables them to view a future with new possibilities. The sharing of multiple instruments opens their eyes to a whole new world. The impact to exceptional children is unmeasurable as many cannot express themselves with ease, yet music becomes a route to convey their feelings. Music transforms the audience to a new welcoming experience.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:18:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Samantha Lara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Music is so important for community. This effort to expand funding would provide more opportunities for our community members to partake in an activity that is genuinely good for their development.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:20:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rebecca Covert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge the Legislature pass HB 1764 HD 1 to create and fund the Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System, in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra. This bill would provide funding to expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state. With so much influence from social media and AI, this program becomes even more important to improve our quality of life.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:26:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeffrey S Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Many of us in the community have grown to appreciate the growth and accomplishments of the HSO over the last several years. They represent a significant cultural asset to the state. And yet it is usually true that most people in the community do not make use of their talents and contributions that are offered throughout the year. In part, and maybe a significant part, this is the result of a lack of exposure to the musical arts they offer. This Bill is trying to change that lack by attacking the issue at a fundamental stage, early school access. Please give this a chance. The exposure of our children to these arts early is the path to personal and community enrichment.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:36:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lois Magnussen Ed.D. APRN	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe in introducing people to the of beautiful music!

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:56:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcelo Hanza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for HB1764, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra.

Music is a cornerstone of culture, community, and human development — yet access to live music and music education remains deeply unequal across our state. Too often, the cost of concert tickets, instrument lessons, and music programming places these enriching experiences out of reach for working families, rural communities, and underserved populations. HB1764 is a meaningful step toward changing that.

By leveraging the reach of the Hawai‘i State Public Library System — one of the most trusted and accessible public institutions in our state — this bill would bring world-class musical experiences and educational programming directly into communities that need it most. Public libraries already serve as vital hubs for learning, connection, and opportunity. Partnering them with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra creates a powerful combination: professional artistic excellence united with community-centered service.

The benefits of this program extend well beyond entertainment. Research consistently shows that music education supports cognitive development, improves academic performance, fosters social-emotional growth, and strengthens community ties. By expanding access to concerts and music education opportunities statewide, HB1764 invests in the whole person — child and adult alike — and in the social fabric of Hawai‘i’s diverse communities.

This pilot program also reflects sound policy design. By starting with a pilot, the legislature can evaluate impact, gather data, and refine programming before any broader expansion — a fiscally responsible approach that maximizes the public benefit of every dollar invested.

The Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra has demonstrated a deep commitment to community engagement and educational outreach. Pairing their expertise and talent with the infrastructure of our public library system will produce meaningful, lasting results for residents across every island.

I respectfully urge the Committee to advance HB1764 and support this investment in music access, education, and community for all of Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for your time and your service to our state.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:58:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Amanda Suzanne Lippert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Music education is fundamental. Opportunities for symphony musicians to perform and interact is critically important.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:11:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrea Snyder	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill to bring more live symphonic music to library patrons at their local libraries. The Hawai`i Symphony Orchestra is a state treasure, and the music it performs, ranging from classical to film, from celebrating historic events including the Hokule`a, and the instrument ensembles of the orchestra can be experienced up close by all ages, in the comfort of their libraries.

Thank you for considering my testimony,

Andrea Snyder, 1288 Ala Moana #24, Honolulu 96814

(Residing in Rep. District 25 ; Senate Dist. 12)

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:11:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeff Juett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1764.

As a season ticket holder, the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra has been incredibly enriching to my life. I cannot imagine our community without their contributions, and I believe they deserve all possible support to continue their work within our musical community. I urge you to support the passage of this bill to ensure these cultural and educational opportunities are accessible to all residents.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration of this important program.

Currently scheduled for its third hearing. This bill would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra, providing essential funding to expand access to public concerts, music education, and community programming across the state.

Best regards,

Jeff Juett

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:18:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stacy Sinclair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am new to living in Hawaii, coming from Los Angeles where I was a huge supporter of the local arts. Since I arrived, I've attended a few of the events put on by the Hawaii Symphony and designed for learners of all ages. I continue to be impressed by the quality of the programming, the ability to bring so many from the community together and how the Symphony leverages itself with other organizations to make their gathering a truly unique event. Partnering with schools, bringing in local culture, blending music, theater, dance, visual art, health and science is a very real way to build appreciation while teaching about music and its power to bring people together, to feel and to rejoice. I hope the legislature will pass HB1764 for the benefit of all in the community and our children.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:25:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Nikcevich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I endorse HB1764 HD1. The HSO is a valuable entity in Hawaii. Their out-reach to the community is so important. They lift the community and make us all better for their work. They expand opportunities for children and their musical future.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:29:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu

March 3, 2026

Dear House Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for HB 1764 HD1: Relating to the Music Accessibility Pilot Program.

The Hawaii Symphony fulfills a vital role in our community by providing access to live orchestral music performed by professional musicians. My father, Floyd Uchima, was bassoon principal with the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra during a period in the 1960s and was also a University of Hawaii professor of music. My brothers (Gordon and Burt) and I were fortunate to have attended many symphony concerts featuring world class musicians during our formative years. As senior citizens, we continue to be active as teachers, performers, and creators of music. I believe that our early exposure to high quality orchestral music played by a live orchestra, contributed to our sense of valuing music.

In these economically challenging times for professional orchestras, it is vital that organizations like the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra receive governmental support to expand the reach of its performances and programs throughout the state. Our Hawaii Symphony Orchestra is valuable as a cultural institution committed to presenting high quality music performances that perpetuate the art of music in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Eileen Uchima

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:38:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kesha Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii State Leaders,

Please support Bill HB 1764 to make music more accessible to our community. Music is an important part. It is an important thread of every community if we can expand the knowledge and experience of music through the Hawaii public library system we could touch so many lives. Please support this pilot program. This program would allow Hawaii Symphony Orchestra to become more mainstream and potentially reach communities that are unable to go to concerts or may not be aware of the wonderful work of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 6:43:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jane Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Arts affect our community at the highest level ! Please support this bill to assist those working so hard to create these opportunities for the Hawaii community or we risk losing these very organizations that are so meaningful and have so much impact on both the young and the old.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:03:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tom Wallace	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB1764.

Making music available is so important!

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:04:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Deborah Wallace	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful symphony. Orchestra. It is so important that as many people as possible get to experience this wonderful art and Library are an excellent way to expose people to the symphony. We should do whatever we can on our island to promote the arts and make them available to all.

thank you for your consideration

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:15:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Beppie Shapiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1764 HD1. I have always lived on Oahu and in a career which took me to neighbor islands, I realized how lucky I was to have our symphony available to me, my family and friends. The Symphony has done its best to spread these opportunities, but it needs this kind of sponsorship to provide for schools and communities the opportunities we've been able to rely on, on Oahu.

Please pass this bill.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:20:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Arynn Ishikawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today to give testimony in support of HB1764 to expand music access across the state of Hawai‘i. Music has been a large part of my life. For as long as I remember I have had access to music in a variety of forms like radio, live music, various instruments at school and at home. I fully support music education and the efforts of the Hawai‘i State Public Library System (HSPLS) and the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra (HSO) to make music more accessible across our State. We have great programs on O‘ahu and so many opportunities to expose people of all ages to a variety of music. Without music, life would be so dull. As an adult I continue to support both the HSPLS and HSO as they continue to provide programs for the community.

Thank you,

Arynn Ishikawa

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:21:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bruce L Hultgren	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly urge all members to support this bill. the opportunity for more of our youth to be influenced by great music should not be missed.

Thank you,

Bruce L Hultgren MD

Kailua

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:25:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard E. Duggan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra is a great program idea that has the power to introduce a new audience to the stirring music of the ages.

While the orchestra has conducted public concerts, music education opportunities and community programming across the state, this bill will provide funding to expand access for more opportunities to advance the arts statewide.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:31:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Margaret Murchie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to support the symphony and libraries.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:37:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JOANNE PARKER	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill.

Music is critical for learning.

Mahalo

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:51:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
April Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, As a mother of two children who play violin in school, I support this bill. Now more than ever, our children need exposure to art and the ability to participate in making music, which uses both sides of the brain and gives us humans an outlet for emotional expression. My children have greatly benefited from the public concerts that HSO has put on in the community. We have not been able to afford for all of us to attend HSO concerts, but as our community orchestra, the music and performances of the HSO have been available to us. We have been inspired and enlightened by this art. Please support further expansion of community programs. Mahalo.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:56:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristin Sherwood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of the Music Accessibility Pilot Program. As a musician and a teacher, I know how powerfully the arts can enrich a person's life! I've also experienced how lack of funding can limit opportunities for musicians to share their craft. This program would do so much good for the people of Maui.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 8:06:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erik Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support expanding access and education for music and the arts.

Our country needs this now more than ever. Mahalo

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 8:15:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lauren mekeel bohl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill supports music in learning and culture. this will benefit our families, children and future generations.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 8:17:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ted Meehan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Music is such a vital part of our culture here in Hawaii. Thank you.

Ted Meehan

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 8:18:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jill White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My adult son with sever non-verbal autism has very few places in the community that he can go. Concerts are his life! Please keep the arts accessable to all.

Mahalo

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:07:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
carol bodnar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in Waikiki.I urge to to support this bill that allows the State to provide funding to expand access to **public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming** across the state.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:00:34 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dila Asimova	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a grandmother of 4 grandchildren I really wish that this bill will give the opportunity to educate children about the importance of variety of music, especially it is in public places and libraries, where children go often .

Mahalo

Dila Asimova

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:15:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
CRISTINE NATIVIDAD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1764 - Music Accessibility Pilot Program which will expand musical access to concerts and music education throughout the state. Music is such a fundamental part of our lives. Music can help, and heal. It can improve cognitive development and bring people together. There are so many positives that music can bring. Please help provide access to all residents of Hawaii.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:23:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lindsey Heathcock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. My family loves taking advantage of public symphony events and would relish more opportunities. I support this bill to provide more families with beautiful music and important education.

Lindsey Heathcock

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:25:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cassandra Senner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the concept of public concerts & musical education. The state library system and it's many programs are an incredible resource for the public at large. There are many people who may not otherwise have access to music programs. It has been shown many times that music has far reaching educational benfits & elevates other learning subjects. People need music in their lives to have well rounded balance in education, thoughts, experiences. Mahalo for this opportunity to contribute my thoughts on a public program of important value to the community.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:25:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cassandra Senner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the concept of public concerts & musical education. The state library system and it's many programs are an incredible resource for the public at large. There are many people who may not otherwise have access to music programs. It has been shown many times that music has far reaching educational benfits & elevates other learning subjects. People need music in their lives to have well rounded balance in education, thoughts, experiences. Mahalo for this opportunity to contribute my thoughts on a public program of important value to the community.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:26:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sarah Burns	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am so thrilled that an important educational project like this is motion. It deserves our full support. I attended a Hawaii Symphony Orchestra concert with some visiting family just this past weekend and it got us all talking about the important part that music played in our childhood memories, whether it was learning to play an instrument through programs at our schools or attending community sponsored concerts as families together. Music has so many benefits, I am in full support of this initiative and look forward to watching it's implementation.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 11:02:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sonia Blackiston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice-Chair and Committe members,

Please support HB 1764 which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra. Music and the arts are critical components to have in our communities for people of all ages to learn and enjoy. Please support this important measure.

Mahalo,

Sonia Blackiston

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 9:25:31 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruth Foster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Novel learning experiences prepare children for the world they will inherit when they grow older. The symphony gives the children in Hawai'i a chance to expand their minds in ways that no other experience can. Classical music is more than just vibes -- it is a deep design, a long-range strategy, a cleverness. Classical music presents abstract concepts in real ways that can be felt by the heart. It teaches people to go inward and examine things like philosophy, ethics, underlying aesthetics, why we have the feelings we have. In a world where AI and recoded music is taking over what we consume, we need musicians to counter the madness. These practitioners spent their lives going deep, gaining insight and skill the same way doctors and lawyers study and come back to the islands and contribute meaningfully. If we cannot keep this resource thriving, especially a time of disconnectedness through social media and as AI takes over, we will do irreparable damage to the fabric of our community. All the violin, clarinet, horn -- you name the instrument -- teachers, if not in the islands, will drain a spirit from us we will only perceive in their absence. The Hawai'i Symphony brings beauty to the community in ways we may take for granted, if we are not really looking. I am saying this as someone who has had access to classical music education as a teenager, and it has woven value into everything I have contributed back to the community, whether it was my work in journalism, tech and now as a full-time music educator and performer. I beg this body of lawmaking leaders to recognize the very time we are in and choose the make this thing of great valuable.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 11:51:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrea Jepson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of this measure

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 9:20:04 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kolleen Roessig	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the passing of the 1764 HB RELATING TO THE MUSIC ACCESSIBILITY PILOT PROGRAM bill. Giving HSO the opprotunity to expand more into the community and teach more children would be quite beneficial. I support the HB1764 bill.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:16:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Kato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am grateful to have had a public school education rich in the creative arts. I remember fondly my time performing in band and as a member of the Hawaii Youth Symphony. Increasing accessibility to live classical music through community programming and music education opportunities would be a great benefit to the people of Hawaii. I strongly support this measure in my individual capacity.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 9:12:50 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
carole richelieu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

provide funding to expand access to **public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming** across the state.

Hawaii Kai voter

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:27:33 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara F Burati	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of approving funds and resources for this bill. Music is an essential part of education. Community and library music programs reach people beyond traditional school settings. It helps to broaden one's viewpoint, and, in the case of the State of Hawai'i, can help to preserve the richness of the Hawai'ian culture.

I am in favor of passing this bill.

Barbara Burati

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:58:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rosemary Adam-Terem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill. Music and music education are essential to any community. Hawaii is fortunate to have a talented symphony orchestra. Let's keep these wonderful musicians here and improve community access to quality performing arts. Mahalo!

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 2:03:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Margaret Peary	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and mahalo for being given an opportunity to submit testimony on this very important bill HB-1764.

Giving Hawaii residents access to all that the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra has to offer through the Library system is such a necessary opportunity to those who might not be able to do so.

All too often, the first thing to get cut from school budgets is music which harms our keiki. Why? Because they no longer have an opportunity to learn an instrument or about the composers who wrote the beautiful musical pieces that enrich our lives.

If this bill passes, Hawaii residents who live on other islands and may not have access to a symphony orchestra or the financial means to travel to Hawaii to sit in Symphony Hall and listen to the pre-concert talks followed by glorious performance by our great Hawaii Symphony Orchestra and guest artists would benefit in such a meaningful way.

Wouldn't you agree that access to culture help enrich the lives of every human being? After all, music is the 'universal language' and musicians who may not speak one another's language can sit down together and create the most beautiful sound because the notes on the sheet music don't change ... all know what each note represents on their instrument.

In closing, just the way music is appreciated in one accord by those who treasure it, may this bill strike a chord with you as vote to bring the bill out of committee and onto the floor for a full vote.



**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:45:44 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JOYCE MITSUNAGA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1764 to have the Honolulu Symphony share music to our community through the State Library system. It not only brings music to our communities, families, children but also encourages use of our libraries. Build community and build democracy.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 3:26:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Representative Todd, Vice Chair Representative Takenouchi and Members of the Committee on Finance.

Please support HB 1764 HD 1 which would be beneficial to the people of Hawaii in allowing for more access to public concerts and musical education.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki and life long resident of Oahu

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 4:23:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elisabeth Browning	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1764.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:20:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcia Kemble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings Committee Members,

I am writing in support of HB 1764, which would expand access to public concerts and musical education throughout the State through the State Library System. This is a wonderful way to expose more members of the public to quality music programs.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Marcia Kemble

Makiki

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 6:19:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Shattuck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Dear Legislators,

I am in full support of HB1764 which will establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System, in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra. This bill would expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state and all parties involved will benefit from this program.

Thank you for your gracious time and consideration of this matter and for the opportunity for me to voice my support.

James Shattuck, Honolulu

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 6:19:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Shattuck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Dear Legislators,

I am in full support of HB1764 which will establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System, in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra. This bill would expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state and all parties involved will benefit from this program.

Thank you for your gracious time and consideration of this matter and for the opportunity for me to voice my support.

James Shattuck, Honolulu

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 6:23:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
GWEN YOUNG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a resident, I strongly support this program to make the symphony pilot program accessible via the library and community systems.

This will benefit all residents by enriching our access, cultural growth, and opportunities for all residents from keiki to kupuna.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:08:48 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Knorek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our community is enriched and children benefit academically when exposed to music. The symphony provides a great source of pride for our state and enjoys the professional leadership of a CEO and the magnificence of a fantastic engaging conductor. Please support this measure as a small way to have a big impact for the growth of our Keiki and enjoyment of our citizens.

John Knorek

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 7:39:03 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha... I am reiterating my previous support for this measure. It may seem like a blinding flash of the obvious, but our community and world at large is desperately in need of more truth, beauty, light, and indeed timeless music. The HSO is a wonderful resource and the musicians and organization are so giving to our community. I think the least we can do is lend them our support through this bill and it's passage. Thank you for your consideration. Aloha and may the music rise and elevate us all!

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 7:45:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonnylyn Willing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of Bill HB 1764. Music is important for children. It creates connections in the brain that help them with learning other topics. It's fun. Kids love it! And music is a big part of Hawaii

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 7:46:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elle Cook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We subitt our support (HB1764) once more to help move this effort forward to **provide funding** to expand access to **public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming** across the state..

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 7:57:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Chun-Ming Salmon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Music is a conveyor of ideas, history, and culture. It is a universal voice that requires no specific language knowledge. It is therefore the perfect medium to teach, communicate, create community, express ideas, create joy. Why would we not want to support such an amazing tool? Especially in this era when words and videos can be so divisive and misinterpreted.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 9:46:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Hamayelian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1764. Access to music and music education is important to our culture and it promotes community and individual health. This is important to so many of us on Maui!

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 10:40:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
taryn alejado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB1764, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra.

I grew up in Waipahu and had the privilege of participating in the Waipahu Intermediate School band program. Through music education, I gained more than technical skills — I gained confidence, discipline, and a deeper appreciation for language, culture, and diverse creative expression. Music opened doors for me to explore different perspectives and develop a broader worldview.

Without those early opportunities, I would not have experienced the same growth or connection to culture and community. Expanding access to concerts, music education, and community programming across our state will ensure that more keiki have the same transformative opportunities that I did.

Mahalo for your consideration and support of HB1764.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:20:44 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lee Putnam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for giving this measure your full support. The combined efforts of two of our most precious institutions --- the symphony and public libraries --- will benefit our communities greatly.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:12:05 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Galea-Philpott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my strong support for HB1764 and the establishment of a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra.

Music is deeply therapeutic, healing, and grounding—especially for our keiki. In the classroom, music has a unique way of bringing children together in harmony. It fosters connection, cooperation, and a shared sense of purpose. When students sing, listen, or create music together, they are not only learning artistic skills, they are building empathy, confidence, and community.

Research continues to show that music can boost endorphins and serotonin, helping children feel happier, calmer, and more emotionally balanced. In a time when many young people are navigating stress and uncertainty, access to music is not just enrichment, it is essential support for their well-being. The joy and sense of belonging that music creates can be transformative.

Expanding access to live concerts, music education, and community programming across our state would ensure that more families and children can experience these positive benefits. Partnering with our public libraries makes this opportunity even more accessible and inclusive, reaching communities that might not otherwise have exposure to high-quality musical experiences.

Overall, this program represents a powerful investment in the health, unity, and cultural vibrancy of our communities. Music uplifts, connects, heals ... and every child in Hawai‘i deserves access to that experience!

Mahalo for your leadership and for championing this important effort.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth Galea-Philpott

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:35:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Autumn Woods	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha -

I am writing in strong support of HB1764, which establishes the Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System. As Director of Advancement at the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra (HSO), I believe deeply in the mission of this bill to expand access to public concerts, support local musicians, and ensure statewide cultural engagement through music.

Over the past year, I have seen the powerful impact of bringing live symphonic music directly into schools, neighborhoods, and unexpected community spaces. HB1764 furthers this vision by making music and musical education more accessible, especially in Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui counties, and by encouraging the creation of new works that reflect our islands' diverse heritage.

The opportunity for HSO and other organizations to collaborate with the State Library System through this pilot program is both practical and inspiring. With proper support and funding, this initiative can strengthen our cultural infrastructure and ensure that the transformative power of music reaches every corner of our state.

Mahalo for your consideration of this important bill.

**Sincerely,**  
Autumn Woods  
Director of Advancement  
Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 12:50:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julenne Mounts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Julenne Mounts. I am a 25-year resident of upcountry Maui and a parent of two teenaged musicians who have thrived through robust music education opportunities in their schools. I am submitting this testimony in **support of HB1764**, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program to expand access to public concerts and musical education throughout Hawai‘i.

As a parent, I have seen firsthand the transformative impact that music education can have on young people — academically, socially, and emotionally. My children have developed confidence, discipline, teamwork skills, and cultural awareness through music programs that would otherwise have been unavailable to them. Many students in Hawai‘i public schools are not as fortunate; music programs have been cut or reduced due to budget constraints, limiting access to an art form that enriches lives and strengthens communities.

Music should not be an accessibility issue where only families who can afford private lessons or extracurricular opportunities benefit. All students — regardless of zip code or socioeconomic status — deserve the opportunity to participate in music education. HB1764 represents a meaningful step toward expanding cultural engagement and ensuring that music is available to all residents through public institutions like the Hawai‘i State Public Library System.

This pilot program would help create innovative pathways for music education beyond traditional classrooms, supporting local musicians and encouraging new works that celebrate Hawai‘i’s unique cultural heritage. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **support and pass HB1764**.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Julenne Mounts

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:01:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edith Harada	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support that funding be provided to expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state. Establishing a Music Accessibility Pilot program within the Hawaii State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra would be a means to provide exposure to music for such a purpose.

VR,

Edith Harada

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:08:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Weissman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1764, and feel access to music education is very important to a fully informed civic constituency!

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 12:50:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julenne Mounts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Julenne Mounts. I am a 25-year resident of upcountry Maui and a parent of two teenaged musicians who have thrived through robust music education opportunities in their schools. I am submitting this testimony in **support of HB1764**, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program to expand access to public concerts and musical education throughout Hawai‘i.

As a parent, I have seen firsthand the transformative impact that music education can have on young people — academically, socially, and emotionally. My children have developed confidence, discipline, teamwork skills, and cultural awareness through music programs that would otherwise have been unavailable to them. Many students in Hawai‘i public schools are not as fortunate; music programs have been cut or reduced due to budget constraints, limiting access to an art form that enriches lives and strengthens communities.

Music should not be an accessibility issue where only families who can afford private lessons or extracurricular opportunities benefit. All students — regardless of zip code or socioeconomic status — deserve the opportunity to participate in music education. HB1764 represents a meaningful step toward expanding cultural engagement and ensuring that music is available to all residents through public institutions like the Hawai‘i State Public Library System.

This pilot program would help create innovative pathways for music education beyond traditional classrooms, supporting local musicians and encouraging new works that celebrate Hawai‘i’s unique cultural heritage. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **support and pass HB1764**.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Julenne Mounts

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:32:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Claire T Rausch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I want to see that the establishment of a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System, in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra happens. I think that passing this bill to provide funding to expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state is needed and would benefit citizen of the state, young and old, and fully support the passing of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Claire Rausch

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:32:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Claire T Rausch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I want to see that the establishment of a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai'i State Public Library System, in partnership with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra happens. I think that passing this bill to provide funding to expand access to public concerts, music education opportunities, and community programming across the state is needed and would benefit citizen of the state, young and old, and fully support the passing of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Claire Rausch

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 1:58:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kylie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill and its positive impact it will have on our music and arts community in Hawaii.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 2:00:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Norm Foster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I strongly support HB1764.

As a resident of Hawaii for 40 years, I know how important the HSO has been and will continue to be for the entire state, not only as a world class arts organization but also as an economic benefit to the city and state.

The recognition of this when this bill passes will help greatly with fund raising and marketing of the orchestra. The long term stability of the HSO is at stake and there's no good argument against that.

As a member of the HSO for four decades, I hope you will consider my views.  
thank you

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 2:45:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pauli Tashima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because many Hawai'i keiki do not have the opportunity to enjoy the offerings of HSO. Attending HSO concerts is out of reach for many families. Taking a whole family out to a single evening HSO concert costs a few hundred dollars, even when purchasing seats in the lowest-priced categories. Improving accessibility would increase the chances for families to enjoy HSO concerts more often. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:33:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Yvonne Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB1764, which would establish a Music Accessibility Pilot Program within the Hawai‘i State Public Library System in partnership with the Hawai‘i Symphony Orchestra.

As a mother and a lifelong musician, this bill is deeply meaningful to me. I played the violin for 15 years, and the lessons I learned extended far beyond music. Through orchestra and chamber music, I learned discipline, perseverance, teamwork, listening, leadership, and the courage to perform under pressure. Music shaped not only my skills, but my character.

I have since watched my own children walk a similar path. They played violin and cello, performed in orchestras, and participated in chamber music. Through these experiences, they developed confidence, collaboration skills, time management, and a deep appreciation for beauty and excellence. Music challenged them academically and emotionally. It gave them a community. It gave them purpose.

Not every child in Hawai‘i has access to these transformative opportunities. Geography, cost, and limited programming can create barriers for many families. HB1764 is an important step toward ensuring that more keiki across our islands can experience live symphonic music, receive music education opportunities, and engage in meaningful community programming through trusted public spaces like our libraries.

Libraries are centers of learning, connection, and equity. Partnering with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra to expand access to concerts and educational programming is an innovative and impactful way to bring the arts directly into communities statewide.

Music is not a luxury. It strengthens cognitive development, supports social-emotional growth, builds community, and connects us to one another. Investing in music accessibility is investing in the well-being and future of Hawai'i's children.

I respectfully urge you to support HB1764 and help bring high-quality music experiences to communities throughout our state.

Mahalo for your consideration and for your commitment to Hawai'i's keiki.

Respectfully,

Yvonne Chan

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/5/2026 10:49:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kelsea Armstrong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Kelsea Armstrong. I work at Hawai'i Public Radio, I'm a former legislative aide from the office of Senator Chris Lee, and I am a professional musician and union card holder of the Musicians' Association of Hawai'i.

I am providing written testimony in strong support of HB 1764 to establish a Pilot Music Accessibility Program through the Hawai'i State Public Library System. In the past, I have worked for programs that made music education and performance accessible because of public funding.

Not only have I seen this work as a critical point of community engagement for the sake of the arts, but it deeply strengthens the relationship between community members and public institutions like the state library and state museums. When people see their interests represented and accessible through social programs like the one in this bill, it encourages them to care and civically invest in these public places.

Today, it is crucial to nurture the trust between such public programs/institutions and the people they serve. Since the loss of CPB funding, I have seen an outpour of interest and support for our public radio station from the Hawai'i community. I believe that this bill would encourage a similar effect while coalition-building with local arts practitioners who face a similar plight.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Mahalo,

Kelsea Armstrong

**HB-1764-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/5/2026 12:31:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Allison Pettersson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB1764 HD1.

I was born and raised on Kaua'i and know that there is very limited access to many types of music there including classical. One of the highlights we looked forward to during my school years was when the Honolulu Symphony for Youth came to the island and all the schools would have a field trip to enjoy the concert. This was the only experience we had with live classical or symphonic music.

This bill would ensure that the residents of the outer islands can continue to have access to this experience.

Please pass this bill to musically nourish ALL our residents, but especially the keiki.

Mahalo,

Allison Pettersson