

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye & members of the Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

Thank you for this opportunity.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB1807 HD2.

Introduced by Representative Kyle Yamashita (Maui), HB1807 HD2's amendments continue to harm the future of Hawai'i.

Austerity politics and policies will have many negative consequences for the future of our society on EVERY ISLAND when we cut back on public services to balance the budget and do not value the positive impact that the culture and arts bring through a sense of knowing the self in practice, spirituality, and pride for the place and mental and emotional well-being. Culture and arts stimulate circular economic impact that improves many industries. ***Without it, you, as political leaders, can paint a future that invites more dysfunction and crime.*** We need more healing and circular economic vitality and innovation now more than ever before to ***create economic diversity.***

*Consequently, this bill would **ERADICATE** the Art in Public Places Program. It would also end support for Professional Development for ALL DOE teachers, 13 art centers, and 8 organizations that offer Native Hawaiian Arts-based programs that impact 124 public and charter schools on all major islands, along with outreach programs. This bill would impact over 10,000 kids, our next generation, ON EVERY ISLAND. It would also take away much-needed staff fees, creating a catastrophic domino effect.*

ERADICATES public art support, especially for our marginalized outer island communities that grossly lack culture and art representation within our public community spaces. Culture and arts heal the people and the land while providing a sense of understanding and purpose and stimulating circular economic pathways. It can give us a deep sense of pride and a sense of place. Culture & Arts have always stimulated economic growth across a variety of industries like cultural programming, cultural blessings, real estate, design, architecture, fashion, performance arts, food, and tourism. ***It is simply the soul expression of humanity.***

THE HAWAII STATE ART MUSEUM - ALL EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

WILL END IMMEDIATELY

The next page lists the ripple effect this bill has if it should continue to pass under defiant ears and after over 500 testimonies OPPOSING this bill since the beginning of the legislative season.

***SUPPORT FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND LOCAL ARTISTS, GALLERIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Galleries and Orgs Affected:

Hawaii Island
Donkey Mill Arts Center
East Hawaii Culture Center
Kahilu Theatre
Wailoa Center
Maui
Hui Noe'au
Lahaina Plein Air Painters Association
Maui Arts and Culture Center
Viewpoints Gallery
Kauai
Kauai Society of Artists
Oahu
Downtown Art Center
Arts and Letters
Fishcake
University of Hawaii Galleries
Arts at Marks Garage

ORGANIZATIONS

Pu'uhonua Society
Hawaii Contemporary
Hawaii Watercolor Society
Honolulu Printmakers
Honolulu Theatre for Youth
Hawaii Handweavers Hui
Hula Preservation Society
NOTAE

Artists in the Schools arts education program serving 124 public and charter schools statewide.

Professional Development for DOE Teachers

**The Hawaii State Art Museum - Capitol Modern exhibitions and programming
Scholastic Art Exhibition and Ceremony
Young Artists of Hawaii Exhibition and Ceremony**

Hawaii Arts Alliance support

OUTREACH PROGRAMS:

Kahauiki Village
Institute for Human Services
RYSE Residential Youth Services and Empowerment
LGBTQ Legacy Foundation
Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center

Thank you for your time and please deeply consider this ramification here.

[FULL NAME]

[TOWN, ISLAND, ZIP CODE]