

**SB**

**1334**

**EDT/TSM**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



**LATE**

RUSS K. SAITO  
Comptroller

BARBARA A. ANNIS  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING  
AND GENERAL SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 119  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119**

TESTIMONY  
OF  
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEES  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY  
AND  
TOURISM  
ON  
February 11, 2009

S.B. 1334

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE

Chair Fukunaga, Chair Nishihara, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 1334.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) opposes S.B. 1334 because, if implemented, it will reduce the funding available for State CIP projects. DAGS understands that Act 230, SLH 2007, created the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance Committee which conducted a study and provided a report to the Legislature in January 2009 recommending that the State proceed with the construction of the museum.

DAGS does not take issue with the recommendation to build a museum. However, the effort between DAGS, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and the community at large will cost about \$2 million, or so much thereof, as may be necessary in FY 2010 to finance the design and environmental assessment, and \$27 million, or so much thereof, as may be necessary in FY 2010. DAGS believes that the

**LATE**

TESTIMONY OF  
LORI V. THOMAS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND TECHNOLOGY AND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM  
ON  
February 11, 2009

S. B. 1334

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE

Chair Fukunaga, Chair Nishihara and members of the committees, I am Lori Thomas, chairperson of the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and I am testifying today as an individual. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on S. B. 1334, which I support.

The purpose of this measure is to continue the work of Act 230, SLH 2007, which created the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance Committee to conduct a study and provide recommendations to the Legislature on the feasibility of establishing and maintaining a Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance. The report of the committee was submitted in January 2009 and has since been forwarded to the Legislature for review. The report recommended the state to proceed with the construction of the museum, identified a preferred site, and addressed related considerations.

This measure enables the work to continue as a collaborative effort between the Department of Accounting and General Services, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the community at large. Per the recommendation in the final report of the Museum of Hawaiian

**LATE**

TESTIMONY OF  
RONALD K. YAMAKAWA

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND TECHNOLOGY AND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM  
ON  
February 11, 2009

S. B. 1334

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE

Chair Fukunaga, Chair Nishihara and members of the committees,  
I am Ronald Yamakawa, chairperson of the Museum of Hawaiian Music  
and Dance Committee appointed by the Legislature to conduct the  
feasibility study for the museum. Thank you for the opportunity to testify  
before you on S. B. 1334, which the committee supports.

The Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance Committee provided  
recommendations to the Legislature on the feasibility of establishing and  
maintaining a Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance in January 2009,  
after an exhaustive and enriching year of research, dialog and discussion.  
The report recommended the state to proceed with the construction of the  
museum, identified a preferred site in Kakaako, and addressed related  
considerations.

While we are experiencing tough economic times, an  
appropriation to finance the design and environmental assessment will  
launch a worthy investment into the proud and noble history of Hawaii's  
music and dance. Building a museum to celebrate the culture of Hawaii

would manifest a timeless tribute to artforms that are a part of all of us  
and more importantly, an integral part of Hawaii's future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 12, 2009 9:39 AM  
**To:** EDTTestimony  
**Cc:** johnaeto@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1334 on 2/16/2009 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDT/TSM 2/16/2009 1:15:00 PM SB1334

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: John K S Aeto  
Organization: Hawaii Academy of Recording Arts  
Address: 1406 Kealia Drive Honolulu, Hi  
Phone: 808-216-2386  
E-mail: [johnaeto@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:johnaeto@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2009

Comments:  
In support of the bill.



**SB 1334, ESTABLISHES THE MUSEUM FOR HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE.  
APPROPRIATES MONEYS FOR GO BONDS**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

February 11, 2009

1:15 p.m.

Room: 016

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Aloha Chairs Fukunaga and Nishihara, Vice Chairs Baker and Galuteria and members of the committees.

My name is Crystal Kua and I am the Director of Communications with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. I am also OHA's representative to The Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance Committee.

**OHA SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 1334, which establishes the museum and appropriates funding.

It was an honor for me to have served on this committee alongside the who's who of Hawai'i's music, dance, recording, museum, business and Hawaiian cultural community. I am also grateful to the Legislature for having the vision to develop this idea through legislation.

OHA's support for this measure is rooted partly in the purpose of the museum as set forth in the committee report transmitted to the Legislature: "The purpose of the Museum of Hawaiian Music and Dance is to provide a center for the perpetuation and preservation of Hawaiian culture through its music and dance through education, practice and performance."

During the past year alone, our community has lost an array of iconic figures in the world of Hawaiian music and dance: Nona Beamer, Raymond Kāne, Genoa Keawe, Tony Lindsey, John Keola Lake and Kindy Sproat, to name a few.

With the passing of kūpuna and other cultural practitioners, it is important to establish a place where Hawaiian traditions through mele, oli and hula will live on and thrive. A Museum for Hawaiian Music and Dance as being proposed in SB 1334 would be such a place. This "living" museum would be a site where the past could be celebrated, studied and preserved while the Hawaiian music, chant and dance of today could be enjoyed by keiki and kūpuna, kama'aina and malihini, Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian.

As part of the museum committee's deliberations, we have put together, what I believe to be, a solid plan for a culturally-centered, economically-viable and financially-sound attraction for both local residents and visitors.

Committee members are keenly aware of the state's current financial situation but I believe a museum like this could be viewed as a wise investment toward helping to shore up Hawai'i's economic base through jobs and tourists while also perpetuating Hawaiian cultural traditions.

On behalf of OHA, we ask the committees to respond favorably to SB 1334. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

**From:** The Schmidts [mailto:raeannegreg00@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2009 2:58 PM  
**To:** EDTTestimony  
**Cc:** LMDNM@aol.com  
**Subject:** SB 1334 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE

SB 1334 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN MUSIC AND DANCE  
Hearing Date: 1:15 PM, Wednesday, February 11, 2009  
Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Committee on Economic Development and Technology  
Chair: Senator Carol Fukunaga  
Vice Chair: Rosalyn Baker

Committee on Tourism  
Chair Clarence Nishihara  
Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria

We must preserve what we have for the future of Hawaii while stimulating economic diversity and new business development to create jobs with adequate wages to live in Hawaii. This means that we need to protect, improve and preserve the reasons that people vacation and visit the Hawaiian Islands. I support the long overdue museum of Hawaiian music and dance as proposed in the report because it would finally recognize and nurture these unique native art forms so important to our culture, our history and our economy. It would be enjoyed both by visitors and residents alike and create jobs and opportunities for so many of our talented young! It is one of the things that truly makes Hawaii different from any other...and so special.

Regards,  
Greg Schmidt  
Hawaii kai