



# CITY COUNCIL

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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### **COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: ALLOW PERFORMING ARTS TO TAP INTO CITY ARTS FUND**

Today, Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou introduced legislation to allow for funding of performing arts in the City art fund.

“1% of all City construction funds are set currently aside for the arts. With the construction of a \$6+ billion rail system, the City’s arts fund will grow tremendously over the next several years. With the coming dramatic increase in arts funding, it now makes sense to allow the performing arts to tap into the arts fund,” stated Councilmember Djou. “I support continued funding for the visual arts, but it doesn’t make sense for the arts fund to continue to exclude performing arts with such a large infusion of capital.”

Under ROH § 3-2.7, the City government sets aside 1% of all construction costs for arts. Currently, this arts fund is limited to only visual arts and much of the visual arts purchased by the taxpayers is often just warehoused. Many of the culturally important performing arts organizations in Honolulu are frequently strapped for funding. Djou’s bill would limit performing arts funding to no more than 50% of the arts fund in any year.

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