

EDB Committee

From: Karey Kapoi <info@kareykapoi.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 3:33 PM
To: EDB Committee
Cc: Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King
Subject: Economic Development and Budget Committee Meeting for 9/10/20 @ 4:30PM

Aloha Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Committee Co-Chair King and Council members:

I am writing today in support of using CARES Act funds for *E Kūpa'a Kākou*, a Hawaiian music and hula series honoring the strength of our community.

As you are all aware, our techs, performing artists, venues and hālau have been decimated by the pandemic - not only through the loss of tourism, gatherings and convention business, but equally by the limits placed on their travel, preventing them the opportunity to make up for loss revenue. Unlike many of the industries that enjoy traditional employer benefits and protections, this group of "gig workers" were left unprotected by the downturn and are often excluded in seeking some of the traditional protections and aid issued, leaving so many of them struggling through the uncertainty of the times.

This music series was not a permanent solution, but it did provide critical relief for a cherished and honored industry, and I hope it represents the start to greater support for this group of professionals who have always been there for all of us.

If there are any additional questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out directly.

Thank you,
Karey Kapoi

Karey Kapoi
(808) 870-5171
Sent with aloha & apologies for any typos.

"Compassion is the radicalism of our time." ~The Dalai Lama

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