





City Council  
City and County of Honolulu  
Agenda  
Special Meeting

Committee on the Budget  
Ann H. Kobayashi, Chair  
Joey Manahan, Vice Chair

Committee Meeting Room  
Wednesday, April 8, 2015  
9:00 a.m.

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2015 APR -7 PM 8:23

Aloha Chair Kobayashi, Vice-Chair Manahan and Members of the Committee:

We are Brenda Ching, Executive Director of SAG-AFTRA Hawaii and Henry Fordham, Business Agent for I.A.T.S.E., Local 665 and we represent over 1500 plus performers and crews that work in Hawaii's film, television and new media industry. We want to take this opportunity to thank the Council for its long-standing support of Hawaii's film industry.

We are submitting testimony in opposition to a specific portion of Bill 13 (2015) – Executive Operating Budget and Program that is proposing to drastically cut the Honolulu Film Office Budget. The amendment alleges that the Oahu (Honolulu) Film Office provides duplicate services, which are assumed to be provided by the Hawaii State Film Office. This is not the case.

The Honolulu film office provides different services to local and out of state productions while filming on the island of Oahu which may not be apparent to those who are not working in the industry. The State Film Office is responsible for administering the Hawaii Production Tax Credit as well as permitting for state lands and dealing with statewide issues such as child labor laws.

The Honolulu Film Office is the on-the-ground person for incoming crews including creating comprehensive bids to help bring projects to Oahu, and working with crews while they are on the island and facilitates with city departments for permits necessary to shoot on Oahu.

It is vital that the Honolulu Film Office continue to provide these necessary services as it affects current productions, future productions and jobs. We ask that you seriously consider withdrawing this Amendment.

Thank you again for your support of the film industry and the opportunity to provide testimony.