



January 26, 2010

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HB 2004 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCING**

Thank you Chair Karamatsu and committee members. I am Gareth Sakakida, Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) with over 400 transportation related members throughout the state.

Hawaii Transportation Association strongly supports this bill.

An association has a duty to advance its members' viewpoints, especially in the legislative arena. An association and other entities should be permitted to expend resources that are necessary to accomplish this duty.

Legislators can understand there is little that can be done with \$1,000 per election period. Members themselves can make contributions, but many small business members lack the financial strength to participate to a great degree, thus they rely on their association's overall fiscal budgeting and prioritizing to serve the industry.

Thank you.