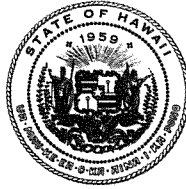


HB2174,HD1

KRISTIN IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PHONE: (808) 586-0285
FAX: (808) 586-0288
www.hawaii.gov/campaign

STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 30, 2012

TO: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director *Kai*
Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 2174, H.D. 1, Relating to Campaign Spending**

Monday, April 2, 2012
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 016

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission (“Commission”) supports the intent of this bill because the bill enhances transparency in campaign spending. The Commission, however, has strong reservations and practical concerns about implementing the bill considering that this is an election year.

The Commission is in agreement with the testimony submitted by the Attorney General on this bill to the House Committee on Finance for the hearing in that committee on February 24, 2012. The Commission offers the following additional comments.

Section 3 of the bill amends HRS §11-314 concerning the duties of the Commission. In H.B. No. 1756, H.D.1, the Commission seeks to amend the last sentence of paragraph (5) by add replacing “section” with “sections 11-340 and.” We would like to see this amendment in this bill too.

Section 4 of the bill requires the Commission to create a “searchable database” for all reports required to be filed with the Commission. “Searchable database” is defined, in part, as one that allows any person on the Commission’s website to search any report by any identifying element required in the report and ascertain through a single search the total amount of contributions or expenditures for a person, party, candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee for the applicable reporting period. Pursuant to

Section 12 of this bill, the Commission would have to make this searchable database available to the public within 360 days of the effective date of the Act.

The Commission has concerns about its ability to timely implement these sections as well as sections 5, 6, and 7 as they require significant modifications to the Commission's electronic filing systems.¹ Commission staff has discussed this bill with the Information and Communication Services Division ("ICSD") of the Department of Accounting and General Services, the agency that developed our electronic filing systems and would be responsible for making the necessary changes to the system that this bill would require. Our discussions with them revealed that an entirely new function or system would need to be developed in order to perform ad hoc queries and reports on data spanning reporting periods, election periods, and different electronic filing systems. They explained that the candidate, noncandidate, and corporate electronic filing systems were developed as a static reporting system and that this type of functionality was not built in. As such, extensive analysis would need to be performed and requirements gathered to determine what is needed to successfully create this new function or system as well as consideration of procuring additional software tools. ICSD further noted that they would also need to consider the impact of a searchable database on the performance of the existing electronic filing systems, especially during the filing of reports, which may require procuring additional hardware to minimize the load on the existing systems. Based on the aforementioned and in consideration of current resource assignments, ICSD did not believe that they are in a position to successfully complete this project within 360 days of the effective date of the Act (assuming the effective date would be in July 2012).

Section 9 of the bill, on page 16, lines 1-3, refers to "an electioneering communication report." That reference should instead be to "an electioneering communication statement of information" because that is the name of the filing required by HRS §11-341 for electioneering communications. If passed, this section would require the Commission to add and seek more information than is currently on the electioneering communication statement of information.

¹ Section 5 of the bill promotes transparency in campaign spending by enhancing the reporting of expenditures and independent expenditures made by noncandidate committees. Section 6 of the bill enhances the reporting of expenditures made by both candidate and noncandidate committees by requiring the reporting, in a late expenditures report, of any expenditure that is to be rendered during the last three days of an election period. Section 7 of the bill promotes more disclosure by requiring entities, other than candidates or candidate committees, to file a late report disclosing contributions or independent expenditures made between fourteen and four calendar days before an election on the third calendar day before the election. This section would also require that a new report be filed with the Commission and thus modifications to the Commission's electronic filing systems would have to be made.

Hon. Clayton Hee, Chair
Hon. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
March 30, 2012
Page 3

Section 10 of the bill requires that advertisements identify the top donors for the purpose of the advertisement or top donors for the entity paying for the advertisement. For the latter, page 19, lines 3-6, we suggest replacing “during the election cycle” with “as of the date the advertisement was purchased” because the top donors during an election period (or cycle) can only be determined after the election period has ended. At the very least “election cycle” should be replaced by “election period,” since the former term is not used in the state campaign spending law. We are otherwise in support of sections 9 and 10 which promote transparency in campaign spending.

Section 11 of the bill, which completely repeals HRS §11-332, would in effect eliminate the Corporate Electronic Filing System that the Commission and ICSD built and launched just recently in March 2011. The Commission continues to work with corporations in getting full compliance with §11-332.

Accordingly, the Commission respectfully requests that that the committee put language in the bill that will allow the Commission more time to implement the sections of the bill requiring the implementation of a searchable database and the enhanced reporting requirements that require modification of the Commission’s Candidate and Noncandidate Electronic Filing Systems. At the very least, the effective date must be after the completion of the 2012 elections. Otherwise, the significant changes to the campaign finance law mandated by this bill will undoubtedly cause confusion to candidate committees, noncandidate committees, and corporations that are required to register and file disclosure reports with the Commission, and will furthermore, create significant resources issues with the Commission to inform and educate committees of the new rules, enforce new laws, and ensure compliance.



Senate JDL Committee
Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro

Monday 4/2/12 at 10:00AM in Room 016
HB2174 HD1 – Campaign Spending

TESTIMONY

Nikki Love, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

Common Cause Hawaii strongly supports HB2174 HD1. This bill is an important measure to improve transparency and disclosure for campaign finance, especially with respect to independent expenditures.

BACKGROUND

Transparency for independent expenditures is a particularly timely issue, as *Citizens United v. FEC* and other court decisions paved the way for unlimited spending by corporations and unions to influence elections. New Super PACs and other entities are popping up at the federal and state levels to take advantage of these new pathways for campaign money.

The public's understanding of this issue has grown over the past two years, and the concern about campaign finance is becoming more widespread. This is even leading to a growing movement nationwide for a U.S. Constitutional Amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and rein in campaign spending by corporations. A recent Civil Beat poll showed that an overwhelming majority of Hawaii voters support that idea.

In this context, other states are beefing up their disclosure requirements, and Hawaii is falling behind. According to the National Institute on Money in State Politics, Hawaii has ranked in the bottom half of the nation with respect to disclosure for independent expenditures. This bill includes important elements to improve this situation.

IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN HB 2174 HD 1

There are several important elements included this bill:

- **Database** – This bill requires creation of a robust searchable database of all campaign report information. This will make the information more user-friendly for ordinary

(continued on next page...)

citizens. Without a better database, the information is difficult for citizens to understand and interpret.

- **Noncandidate Committee Reporting** – This bill requires noncandidate committees to report additional information including the name of the candidate targeted in any advertisements. Also, for independent-expenditure-only committees (“SuperPACs”), the bill requires certification that independent expenditures are not coordinated with the candidate.
- **Late Expenditures** – The current law already requires reporting of *late contributions* – donations given just before an election. Now that independent expenditures are gaining prominence, this bill would require noncandidate committees and other entities to report *late expenditures* as well.
- **Electioneering Communications** – This bill requires more details to be reported in electioneering communication reports, and directs the Campaign Spending Commission to create rules to require all persons to file electioneering communication reports (currently, noncandidate committees do not file these reports).
- **Disclosures on Advertisements** – Advertisements are currently required to include a message disclosing who has paid for the ad, but the names of PACs may not give any real information to the viewers, listeners, or readers. This bill improves the disclosures on advertisements by requiring a listing of their top donors. This reform is included in various pending legislation in other states as well as the proposed DISCLOSE Act in Congress.

Note: This bill deletes the current HRS 11-332, regarding the corporate reporting system. It is our understanding that corporations (and any person, other than individuals) will still be required to file noncandidate committee reports if they make donations or expenditures aggregating \$1,000 or more in a two-year election period.

We believe this bill provides many strong improvements to our disclosure laws and we urge you to pass this bill.

Mahalo for your attention to this important issue, and for the opportunity to submit testimony.



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

Guy Archer, President
Juliet Begley, Vice-President
Fritz Fritschel, Treasurer
Chuck Huxel, Secretary

DIRECTORS

John Bickel
Karin Gill
Tom Horton
Nancy Bey Little

Jan Lubin
Stephen O'Harrow
Barbara Polk,
George Simson

Bart Dame (Alt)
Josh Frost (Alt)
Marsha Schweitzer (Alt)

MAILING ADDRESS

PO. Box 617
Honolulu
Hawai'i 96822

March 30, 2012

TO: Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii
Barbara Polk, Legislative Chair

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 2174 HD 1 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN SPENDING

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important bill. Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii is in strong support of HB 2174. The changes in our political culture brought about by the US Supreme Court's decision in the Citizens United vs. the Federal Election Commission, as well as other court decisions, have resulted in a great influx of money into the Presidential race and threaten to do so for state races as well. Although there is no way the State can stem this flow of money, what can be done is to improve reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures, allowing voters to learn the sources of campaign messages they receive.

Other states have been making changes in their laws to increase transparency, especially for independent expenditures—those expenditures made by individuals, organization, or corporations that are not coordinated with a candidate or a candidate's campaign. HB 2174 would increase the transparency in election campaign expenditures in a variety of ways.

We have reviewed previous testimony by the Campaign Spending Commission and the Attorney General's Office on HB 2174 HD1 are in support of their recommended amendments, with the exceptions below.

We understand the problems the CSC faces with implementation of Sections 3, 4, 5, and 12 within 360 days following a possible July 1, 2012 effective date. However, we urge the committee to retain these sections of the bill, extending the timelines to no later than January 2014, to ensure that CSC and ICSD place priority on the importance of the availability of public information on campaign spending prior to the 2014 elections.

Second, rather than making the effective date of the entire bill November 7, 2012, as recommended by the AG, we suggest making two sections effective immediately, so that they would serve the public interest during the 2012 elections:

(1) Changes in the electioneering communications reports (statement of information) required by Section 9, since it would not require computer reprogramming, but only a change in an on-line form that is now submitted electronically or in hard copy and appears to the public on-line in pdf format and notification of those affected by the change.

(2) Implementation of the requirement in Section 12 that the names of donors be disclosed on advertisements. This provision would only require notification of those affected by the change.

We strongly encourage the committee to pass this bill, with the suggested amendments.



League of Women Voters of Hawaii

49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813

www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwv-hawaii.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
CLAYTON HEE, CHAIR, MAILE S.L.SHIMABUKURO, VICE CHAIR

APRIL 2, 10 A.M. CONF. ROOM. 016

HB2174 HD1—RE: CAMPAIGN SPENDING

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chairman Hee, Vice Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB2174 HD1, which is intended to allow public access to information about spending on political election campaigns by broadening the definition of entities whose campaign spending is monitored by the Campaign Spending Commission, and giving the Commission new and clearer responsibilities for collecting information and making this information available to the public .

The League believes that an effective democracy is based on the involvement of informed citizens in political decisions – especially, of course, in elections. HB2174 HD1 will greatly improve the access of the public to information about the source of election funding, enabling citizens to judge for themselves the trustworthiness of information in campaign related materials.

Please support HB2174 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Beppie Shapiro, President
League of Women Voters of Hawaii



League of Women Voters of Hawaii

49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813

www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwv-hawaii.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
CLAYTON HEE, CHAIR, MAILE S.L.SHIMABUKURO, VICE CHAIR

APRIL 2, 10 A.M. CONF. ROOM. 016

HB2174 HD1—RE: CAMPAIGN SPENDING

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chairman Hee, Vice Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB2174 HD1, which is intended to allow public access to information about spending on political election campaigns by broadening the definition of entities whose campaign spending is monitored by the Campaign Spending Commission, and giving the Commission new and clearer responsibilities for collecting information and making this information available to the public .

The League believes that an effective democracy is based on the involvement of informed citizens in political decisions – especially, of course, in elections. HB2174 HD1 will greatly improve the access of the public to information about the source of election funding, enabling citizens to judge for themselves the trustworthiness of information in campaign related materials.

Please support HB2174 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Beppie Shapiro, President
League of Women Voters of Hawaii

From: aniko65@live.com
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 10:07:12 AM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Avi Okin
64-5267 Puanuanu Place
Kamuela, HI 96743-8232

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 10:43:19 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: B.A. McClintock
Organization: Individual
E-mail: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:
TRANSPARENCY! Enough said! Please SUPPORT this bill!

From: bestb002@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 9:09:08 AM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara and Bill Best
280 Hauoli
280 Hauoli St
Wailuku, HI 96793-9553

**TESTIMONY SUPPORTING HB2174,HD1
PRESENTED TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, LABOR
BY PROFESSOR EMERITA BEVERLY ANN DEEPE KEEVER
ON APRIL 2, 2012, 10 A.M. CAPITOL ROOM 016**

I thank the Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members for hearing this bill. I urge you to change its effective date and to pass it. This bill is vital to strengthen Hawaii's state policy on transparency in government operations and to broaden the public's access to campaign contribution records in this computer age.

"Follow the money" became a household motto after two young *Washington Post* reporters located an explosive campaign contribution check just 40 years ago. That check undeniably linked President Nixon's Re-election Campaign to the burglars of the Democratic National Campaign headquarters in Washington, D. C.

After the reporter turned in his expose, his editor to exclaimed: "We've never had a story like this. Just never."¹ That check linking that that illegal burglary and bugging to Nixon's fund-raisers sparked the Watergate scandal that led to the nation's first resignation of a president seeking to escape impeachment.

In Hawaii that scandal also led to citizen disgust and legislative action. The state enacted in 1975 the "Sunshine

Law," premised on the truism that "sunlight is the best disinfectant" against corrupt and illegal governmental practices. That law declared:

In a democracy, the people are vested with the ultimate decision-making power. Government agencies exist to aid the people in the formation and conduct of public policy. Opening up the processes to public scrutiny and participation is the only viable and reasonable method of protecting the public's interest. Therefore, the legislature declares that it is the policy of this State that the formation and conduct of public policy—the discussions, deliberations, decisions, and actions of government agencies—shall be conducted as openly as possible.²

In order for Hawaii's people to exercise more fully their ultimate decision-making power, they need to be empowered under this bill to "follow the money" through a wider net of campaign donors and to do so by studying user-friendly government databases of public records.

Please change the effective date of this bill and pass it so that it is on the Governor's desk shortly after this legislative session.

Thank you for permitting me to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Ann Deepe Kever, MSJ, MLIS, Ph.D
Professor Emerita
School of Communications
University of Hawaii at Manoa

¹ Post reporter Carl Bernstein flew to Miami where the state's attorney for Dade County showed him checks and other records that had been

subpoenaed to determine whether Florida law had been broken by Cuban exiles alleged to be among the Watergate burglars. Bernstein photocopied Check No. 131138 made out to Kenneth H. Dahlberg for \$25,000. Dahlberg told the *Post* he had collected the \$25,000 as Midwest finance chairman for the Nixon's re-election campaign and then turned the campaign contribution over to Nixon's top fundraising officials in Washington. For a play-by-play of this detective story, see the best-seller, *All the President's Men* by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1974.) or see the thriller movie of the same name based on the book.

² Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 92, Section 92-1. Declaration of policy and intent; <http://www.state.hi.us/oip/sunshinelaw.html>

From: [Brodie Lockard](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB 2174 HD1
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 5:00:54 PM

To: Senate JDL Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members
Re: Monday 4/2/12 meeting at 10AM in Room 016

[HB2174 HD1](#) is a big step to improve transparency after Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions. The bill would create a searchable database of Hawaii campaign data, improve reporting by PACs and SuperPACs, require reporting of late expenditures, and require disclosure of donors for campaign advertisements. This bill provides a critical update to Hawaii's campaign finance laws and ensures voters will be able to find out who is spending to influence our elections. I strongly support this bill.

Brodie Lockard
Kailua

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: clk5356@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 8:07:06 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carolyn L Knoll
Organization: Individual
E-mail: clk5356@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

The bill would create a searchable database of Hawaii campaign data, improve reporting by PACs and SuperPACs, require reporting of late expenditures, and require disclosure of donors for campaign advertisements. This bill provides a critical update to Hawaii's campaign finance laws and helps voters find out who is spending big money to influence our elections.

We need this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: mh@interpac.net
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 8:45:13 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cory Harden
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mh@interpac.net
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

Help us know who's pulling the strings! Please offset the disastrous Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions. Support a searchable database of Hawaii campaign data, improved reporting by PACs and SuperPACs, required reporting of late expenditures, and required disclosure of donors for campaign advertisements. Mahalo!

From: paul.mckimmy@gmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 6:31:08 PM

March 31, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul McKimmy
2736 Puuhonua St.
Honolulu, HI 96822-1762

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: inunyabus@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 9:59:47 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: E. Dunbar
Organization: Individual
E-mail: inunyabus@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:
HB2174

Aloha Chair and Members,

HB2174

Please support. Every legislator should vote to support this bill.
Some changes should be made though. One is that the public has immediate access to this information as soon as it entered into the data base, not 360 days after.
Also amend according to suggested changes from Common Cause.

From: fmnhawaii@gmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 10:43:35 AM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

I strongly support HB2174, which provides needed transparency regarding campaign contributions. Until the day the damaging effects of the Citizens' United decision are reversed, there is critical need for the voters and the media to know who are the contributors to political candidates receiving large donations. The Citizens' United case, besides opening the floodgates for unlimited contributions to political actions committees and giving the wealthy and the lobbyists unfair influence over national elections, failed to provide sufficient transparency to allow voters to identify who are trying to influence elections in favor or against particular candidates and issues. HB 2174 is a vital, albeit small step, toward ameliorating the harmful effects of Citizens' United, at least in the State of Hawaii. Our State can again lead the nation toward democratizing our political system, which has barely weathered the right-wing onslaught to deprive citizens of the right to vote and to give inordinate advantage to the wealthy and major corporations. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the average voter.

Sincerely,

Francis Nakamoto
1829 Ala Noe Place
Honolulu, HI 96819-1418

From: mauicrowe@gmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 12:36:49 PM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

You are to be commended for bringing this subject into the light, as you are doing. This is the right time to act on this bill.

I urge passage of this bill to promote transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James K. Crowe
30 Alanui Pl
Kula, HI 96790-8112

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: jmccay@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 9:20:39 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James McCay
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jmccay@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

FOR: Senate JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016, Support for HB 2174 HD1.

Dear JDL Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro, and Committee members,

Without full transparency of the motivations behind supporting a bill, we do not have a democratic process. This bill addresses this need and the creation of the proposed database is a great step forward to the progress of our state.

Thank you for your support of this bill.

Much Aloha,
James McCay
2957 Kalakaua Avenue #216,
Honolulu, HI 96815-4650
808 6752347

From: jimmerritt@hotmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 10:21:11 AM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James Merritt
1722 Makiki Street, PH-2
PH-2
Honolulu, HI 96822-4490

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 10:44:46 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Javier Mendez-Alvarez
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 3/31/2012

Comments:

From: jenniferjangles@gmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 7:24:59 PM

March 31, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ruggles
P.O. Box 794
mt. view, HI 96771-0794

From: joancsj@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 3:53:37 PM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joan Goulden
1735 Ala Aolani Street
Honolulu, HI 96819-1413

From: lottj001@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 5:02:18 PM

April 1, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. This is testimony I submit IN SUPPORT.

Let the sun shine in, please.

Mahalo,
Jon Lott, concerned (and voting) citizen
Waikiki

Sincerely,

Jonathan W. Lott
#716
2345 ALA WAI BLVD, #716
HONOLULU, HI 96815

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: doctor.katalina@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 10:58:36 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: K McGlone
Organization: Individual
E-mail: doctor.katalina@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I support this bill to improve transparency, so that we can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending.

Mahalo for your consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: karen@redwoodgames.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 8:23:45 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Karen Chun
Organization: Individual
E-mail: karen@redwoodgames.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

Dear Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro, and Committee members,

Please pass this bill which will shine a little light on campaign donations...a small step in undoing the massive damage the Citizen's United ruling did to our democracy.

Mahalo
Karen Chun
Paia, Maui

From: golden.kathleen@gmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 4:54:05 PM

March 31, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Golden
Po Box 957
Volcano, HI 96785-0957

From: kshimata@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 9:34:51 AM

March 31, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

I have never felt so cynical about politics. Everywhere I look I see huge amounts of money being donated. At least let us see who is supporting whom. It's a step in the right direction.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy Shimata
3453 Pawaina St
Honolulu, HI 96822-1356

From: kencook@hawaii.edu
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 11:23:17 AM

April 1, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ken Cook
1343 Auwaiku St.
Kailua, HI 96734-4106

From: ltrojan@clearwire.net
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 7:57:14 PM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

L. J. Trojan
24 Sand Island Acc. Rd. #7
Honolulu, HI 96819-2297

From: [lbc](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: HB2174
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 3:24:12 PM

Senate JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 @ 10AM, Room 016

Aloha JDL Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Simabukuro and committee members,

I support HB2174 HD1. This bill provides more transparency in the reporting of contributions from an "entity", which is more clearly defined in this new version of the Bill. Also it would create a searchable database of Hawaii campaign data and require reporting of late expenditures. The public needs to know if there are special interests supporting a candidate and influencing elections.

Lois Crozer
Kailua

From: haleluana@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 11:12:02 PM

March 31, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha pumehana,

Louise Simrell
PO Box 888
Waialua, HI 96791-0888

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: mfsleh@ulukanu.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 8:41:27 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michal Stover
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mfsleh@ulukanu.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

In order to be informed voters, we need to know who is paying for political advertising. Thank you.

From: ndavlantes@aol.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2174 HD1
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 4:03:05 PM

Senate JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016

Aloha, Chairman Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

This bill is a big step to improve transparency after Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions. The bill would create a searchable database of Hawaii campaign data, improve reporting by PACs and SuperPACs, require reporting of late expenditures, and require disclosure of donors for campaign advertisements. This bill provides a critical update to Hawaii's campaign finance laws and ensures voters will be able to find out who is spending to influence our elections.

Everyday we read or hear about the excessive and heretofore unthinkable amounts of cash pouring into political campaigns--anything we can do here to give citizens of Hawaii the information they need to make important voting decisions must be done.

Thank you for the opportunity to again submit testimony on this bill.

Nancy Davlantes
Kaneohe

From: noelie@hawaii.edu
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 11:25:07 AM

April 1, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

This bill is CRITICAL! The future of democracy itself is at issue -- for the Big Island, for the State of Hawaii and for our nation. The combination of the Big PACs, Citizens United and Koch brother types have changed everything. These recent changes may make American elections more like auctions. PLEASE do the right thing and stand up for a democratic future-- Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Noelie Rodriguez, Ph. D.
P. O. Bpx 5
or - 32-832 Old Mamalahoa Hwy
Ninole, HI 96773

From: patriciablair@msn.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 9:06:19 AM

March 30, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patricia Blair
25 Aulike St
Kailua, HI 96734-2746

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: phylfrus@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2174 on 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 10:41:42 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2174

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Phyllis Frus
Organization: Individual
E-mail: phylfrus@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

HB2174 HD1 is a big step to improve transparency after Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions. This bill would create a searchable database of Hawaii campaign data, improve reporting by PACs and SuperPACs, require reporting of late expenditures, and require disclosure of donors for campaign advertisements. This bill provides a critical update to Hawaii's campaign finance laws and helps voters find out who is spending big money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and shine the light on big donors!

Sincerely,
Phyllis Frus

March 30, 2012

Re: HB 2174, H.D. 1, Relating to Campaign Spending
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: April 2, 2012, 10:00 AM
Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Judiciary Committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding HB 2174, HD 1.

The Open Law Alliance strongly **supports** this bill.

Transparency regarding money in politics has always been important, but this is especially true since the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*, 130 S.Ct. 876, and related decisions by the Supreme Court. All states, including Hawai'i, need to do their best to make sure that their disclosure laws are effective in a new world of elections practice where spending restrictions have been removed.

Even in *Citizens United*, the Court affirmed the value of disclosure laws, to fully inform the electorate about who is "speaking" and to avoid confusion. And the constitutionality of state disclosure laws has repeatedly been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court (*viz. Doe v. Reed*, 130 S. Ct. 2811(2010); *Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co.*, 129 S.Ct. 2252 (2009).).

HB 2174 will help to make it possible for Hawai'i voters to identify entities (whether traditional or not) that are spending money to influence elections through independent expenditures or electioneering communications. This is of tremendous benefit for an informed public, and it's the least we can do to help protect the integrity of our democratic process.

Please pass HB 2174, and please permit it to take effect as soon as possible.

Congratulations and Mahalo for your work on this legislation.

R. Elton Johnson, III
Open Law Alliance

From: paladin@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 11:39:05 AM

April 1, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

The more information known results in better judgement by voters. Do not allow a situation where the best liar wins!

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rick Stanley
4038C Keanu St.
Honolulu, HI 96816-4235

From: whitmo17@msu.edu
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 7:18:04 AM

April 1, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ron Whitmore
113 Alae St.
Hilo, HI 96720-2504

From: tizard8@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing Monday 4/2/12 10AM Rm 016 - HB2174
Date: Friday, March 30, 2012 10:09:21 PM

March 31, 2012
HI Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear HI Senate Judiciary Committee,

Testimony to JDL Committee, Monday 4/2/12 at 10AM in Room 016 - Support for HB2174

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for hearing HB2174. I am testifying in support of the bill.

This bill is an important step to improve transparency, especially regarding independent expenditures by PACs and SuperPACs. Following Citizens United v. FEC and other court decisions, it's critical that we act now to improve our disclosure laws, so that we the voters can see who is spending money to influence our elections.

Please pass this bill and ensure transparency and accountability for campaign spending in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas Tizard
564 Uluhala St.
Kailua, HI 96734-4415