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STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION
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January 31, 2011

TO: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

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

SUBJECT: Testimony on H.B. No. 259, Relating to Campaign Spending¹

Tuesday, February 1, 2011
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") supports this bill and urges the Committee to pass the bill.

This bill would prohibit a candidate from using contributions to pursue nomination and election to another state or county office without the contributor's written consent. The Commission believes that a contributor makes a contribution to a candidate with the expectation that the contribution will be spent on a particular race; the contribution should be used as intended by the contributor. This amendment would prevent a candidate from spending a contribution without the contributor's consent in another election against another candidate supported by that contributor.

This bill would take effect upon approval.

¹ This bill is a single referral to this Committee. The companion bill (S.B. No. 988, Relating to Campaign Spending) was referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor.



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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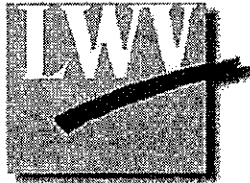
TO: Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

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

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 259 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN SPENDING

Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii supports the intent of this bill—to ensure that contributors to one campaign are not assumed to support the candidate in a run for another office. However, we have some concerns about how this would be administered. Some politicians receive a great number of donations, but spend much of their money on the original campaign. Would they have to contact all of their donors? Or only the most recent donors up to the amount of left-over funds?

Assuming that the Campaign Spending Commission has ideas for implementation, we ask you to support this bill.



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY ON HB 259 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN SPENDING

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Tuesday, February 1, 2011
2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325

Testifier: JoAnn Maruoka

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, members of the Judiciary Committee,

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii sees HB 259 as the closing-of-a-loophole. The bill prohibits a candidate from using contributions to pursue nomination and election to another state or county office without the contributor's written consent. It would seem that good sense would dictate that no candidate would do otherwise, but as we've seen over time, good sense isn't common. Therefore, it seems correct to spell out this prohibition. It may also discourage the building up of excessively large campaign funds.

We support passage of HB 259 to add this clarification to Chapter 11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.