

SB2508

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STATE OF HAWAII
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January 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 *kei*
Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: **Testimony on S.B. No. 2508, Relating to Campaign Reporting Laws**

Thursday, February 2, 2012
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 016

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

Section 1 of the bill amends §11-334(a)(1)(A), Hawaii Revised Statutes, by changing the due date of the 1st Preliminary Primary Report from "July 31 of the election year" to "thirty calendar days prior to a primary election." Act 126, Sess. Laws Haw. 2010, advanced the date of the primary election from the last Saturday in September to the second Saturday in August. Thus, if the due date for the 1st Preliminary Primary Report is not also advanced, in election years such as this year, candidates will have back-to-back reporting deadlines of July 31st and August 1st to file the 1st Preliminary Primary Report and the 2nd Preliminary Primary Report, respectively.

Section 1 of the bill also amends §11-334(a)(4), to more clearly align the law with present practice. Presently, every candidate files the Supplemental Report that is due on January 31st every year and not just on January 31st of an election year. This bill would delete "after an election year" from the statutory provision.

This bill has a companion bill in the House of Representatives, H.B. No. 1927. That companion bill was passed unamended by the House Committee on Judiciary on January 24, 2012.