

KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 27, 2013



TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

SUBJECT: **Comments on H.B. No. 1481, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, Relating to Campaign Spending**

Thursday, March 28, 2013
9:05 a.m., Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") takes no position on this bill. However, the Commission offers the following comments.

Beginning on page 8 at line 15, proposed §11-E(a) provides, "Candidates seeking certification for public funding for the office of state representative shall submit an application for certification that contains at least two hundred printed qualifying names with addresses and signatures, of which at least two hundred and fifty shall be accompanied by a qualifying contribution of \$5, in the same name." The Commission believes that the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee intended to require three hundred qualifying signatures or some number more than the two hundred and fifty that shall be accompanied by the \$5 qualifying contribution.

Proposed §11-G, beginning on page 11 of the bill, increases dramatically¹ the maximum amount of public funds available to candidates for seats in the House of Representatives. Using expenditure data from the 2012 election, the maximum amount of public funds available for a candidate for the House, will be \$32,598.38. Assuming all fifty-one House districts have one candidate receiving public funding under this proposed amendment, the maximum amount of public funding available will be \$1,662,517.30. Assuming all fifty-one House districts have two candidates receiving public funding under this proposed amendment, the maximum amount of public funding available will be \$3,325,034.60. Considering that the balance of the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund was \$3,190,437.02 as of December 31, 2012, the proposed amendments will require an appropriation from the Legislature to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund to pay for the anticipated dramatic increase in public funding for certified candidates to the House. To be on the safe side, when deciding on the amount of the appropriation, this committee should assume that there will be at least one candidate seeking public funds under this measure in each of the 51 state House districts.

Proposed §11-F, beginning on page 9 of the measure, requires the Commission to verify that the required signatures and the qualifying contribution meet the requirements of law. The Commission would require an appropriation to properly staff its office to take on the enlarged duties imposed by the measure. The Commission roughly estimates that it would need one seasonal employee² if one candidate in each House district applied for certification for public funding and two seasonal employees if two candidates in each House district applied for certification for public funding. The Commission has learned that the Office of Elections pays its seasonal employees an hourly rate of \$11.25.

Finally, proposed §11-P, beginning on page 21 of the measure, requires that the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund (“HECF”) has a minimum balance of \$3,500,000 on

¹ In the 2012 election period, ten house candidates received public funding under the partial public financing program. The candidate that received the greatest amount of public funds received \$2,186. Of the ten candidates, two of them (one incumbent and one challenger) won election to office. In the 2010 election period, four house candidates received public funding under the partial public financing program. The candidate that received the greatest amount of public funds received \$2,613. Of the four candidates, one (an incumbent) won election to office. The Commission is certain that the significantly higher amount of public funding available under this measure will attract far more candidates to seek certification.

² The Commission estimates that the seasonal workers will be needed from January 25 through August 13, 2016. The first day that a candidate can file an application is February 1, 2016, so the January 25th start date allows for one week of training. The last day a candidate can file an application is July 14, 2016, so the August 13th end date allows for the processing of applications filed on or near the deadline.

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Comments on H.B. No. 1481, H.D. 2, S.D. 1
March 27, 2013
Page 3

September 1, 2015, to certify candidates during the 2016 elections and to provide comprehensive public funding for candidates in Senate and House races. As of December 31, 2012, the HECF's balance was \$3,190,437.02. Thus it is certain that unless the Legislature provides funding for this program and other Commission expenses, this proposed comprehensive public funding program will not be implemented in 2016.



Senate Ways and Means Committee
Chair David Ige, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani

Thursday 03/28/13 at 09:05AM in Room 211
HB1481 HD2 SD1– Relating to Campaign Spending

COMMENTS

Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB1481 HD2 SD1. This bill would create a public funding option for House candidates across Hawaii, giving political candidates (both new and incumbents) a choice to spend less time fundraising, and instead to spend that time working with constituents and solving problems. This plan would let political candidates break their dependence on big dollar contributors by providing them with enough public money to run competitive races for office.

Similar programs are in use in Arizona, Connecticut, and Maine and in a number of localities scattered across the country. An increasing number of Hawaii residents are familiar with this system's success in other states. Given their growing awareness of, and disappointment in money's influence in politics, Hawaii residents are becoming more vocal in their support of a publicly funded election system. Among the many “good government” issues Common Cause advocates for, Publicly Funded Elections has resonated longest with our 4,000 members and supporters.

Wealthy and corporate donors dominated Hawaii's 2012 elections. The more they spend, the more they expect in return. The public suffers from the results of the current pay-to-play system. According to a 2005 AARP survey, 86% of voting age residents in Hawaii think campaign contributions moderately or greatly influence policies supported by elected officials. The survey goes on to state: Realizing that politicians have to raise money for their election campaigns, almost half of all Hawai'i residents strongly agree, and over one-third somewhat agree, they become obligated to the people who contributed money to their campaign.⁽¹⁾ Money has a corrosive impact on the lawmaking arena – whether real or perceived.

The heart of Common Cause's mission is to create a robust democracy by and responsive to an engaged public. We believe that implementing a public funding option would reduce the perception of pay-to-play politics and by increasing competition, can reengage the citizenry in the democratic process.

We are encouraged by the movement of this bill, and ask you to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments in support of HB1481 HD2 SD1.

(1) AARP, “Campaign Finance Reform in Hawai'i: A Survey of Residents 18+” 2005.
<http://www.voterownedhawaii.org/uploads/AARPSurvey.pdf>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: arnoldkotler@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 7:45:22 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arnold Kotler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: barbiedalt@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 9:26:53 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Dalton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: iAmCarey.LT@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 9:45:26 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carey Lillis Tinsley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: clk5356@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 6:05:45 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn L Knoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need this bill!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: chanteep@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 4:57:33 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chantee Poepoe-Vigil	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Kumukahi77@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 7:43:33 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dea Rackley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: billgail.hi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 5:41:55 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gail Jackson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha House Representatives, Please pass HB1481. This bill is a good effort to help level the political "playing field." The big money involved in our elections makes "one man one vote" meaningless. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: ggzfranchini@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 5:45:44 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gina Franchini	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I applaud our Hawaii State House Reps for taking a step in the right direction by passing HB1481 and now we're counting on you to get it to the governor's desk.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: gemaspen@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 10:57:05 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Mebel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Thank you for hearing this issue. I support passage of this bill and hope you will too. Imagine if public servants could do the work they are gracious enough to do, and not have to beg for money half of every day as well? Wouldn't it be a better system if money didn't direct politics so deeply? HB 1481 is one of the best stabs Hawaii has considered, even if it just effects campaign fundraising. Please hear it and support it. Thank you for your service, Greg Mebel

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 5:00:26 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glenie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Campaign financing is the #1 issue our democracy faces. Please support this bill to keep the Public's voice in their democracy -- before it's too late. mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jenniferjangles@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 3:55:31 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Ruggles	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Ordinary citizens cannot afford to run for office. HB1481 levels the playing field between those who have access to large sums of money and those who do not. HB1481 is based on the idea that elections should be decided on the merits of the candidates and their ideas, not their fundraising abilities. Public funding makes sure that the time candidates used to spend on fundraising must now be spent listening to constituents and focusing on issues unique to their district. We applaud our Hawaii State House Reps for taking a step in the right direction by passing HB1481 and now we're counting on you to get it to the governor's desk. Thank you for your continued support of taking a step towards a cleaner, fairer, and better representative government.

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March 26, 2013

State of Hawaii House of Representatives
Ways and Means Committee
RE: H.B. 1481 Campaign Spending, Public Funding

To the Members of the Committee,

It is vitally important that a means for public funding of candidates at the state representative level be created in order to ensure economically equal access of citizens to the election process. The election process and a citizens right to enter into it are a cornerstone of a healthy and meaningful democracy. That right I believe extends into the citizens economic ability to do so, whereas if they are able and willing to submit themselves to be a public servant they should be supported.

As it is well known, the election process is highly dependent upon financing which dictates how well a candidate is able to introduce themselves to his or her constituents. Finances provide for various means, either signs and advertisements or other methods such as community gatherings. With public funding, a candidate can spend their time understanding community concerns and issues and better prepare them for office. Therefore, a citizens means to campaign effectively against well-established and/or well-financed candidates is crucial to their equality in the election process.

Public funding for the state house of representatives would allow and ensure citizens are able to freely exercise their right to campaign for office. The funds for this program are justifiable in that it reduces the influence of private money in politics and allows government to and it's "public servants" to rightful serve it's constituents, "We the People...".

Mahalo for hearing this bill and I urge you, on behalf of the people of our beautiful Hawai'i nei, to support and pass this legislation.

Me ka ha'aha'a,
Jesse Keone Potter
Kurtistown, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jbklyman@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 7:12:59 PM
Attachments: [HB 1481 support.txt](#)

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Klyman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Ordinary citizens cannot afford to run for office. HB1481 levels the playing field between those who have access to large sums of money and those who do not. HB1481 is based on the idea that elections should be decided on the merits of the candidates and their ideas, not their fundraising abilities.

Public funding makes sure that the time candidates used to spend on fundraising must now be spent listening to constituents. I can see no reason not to pass this bill. If I am missing something, please let me know.

I am expecting this bill will soon be on the governor's desk for signature.

Jim Klyman

From: [Kathleen Golden](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony HB 1481/ Thursday Committee Hearing
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 12:49:59 AM

Senate Ways and Means committee,

We support HB 1481 because we have strong concerns that private money has negative influence on elected officials and a corrosive effect on government. Fair elections addresses this problem by giving politicians the option to run on public money.

--

Aloha,
Kathleen and Peter

Kathleen & Peter Golden
Volcano Rainforest Retreat
Volcano, Hawaii, 96785
www.volcanoretreat.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: dragontree@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 7:19:31 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kent Olsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support efforts to strengthen public funding of election campaigns in Hawaii. I urge you to pass HB1481. mahalo, Kent Olsen

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lorrainekohn@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 4:55:43 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorraine Kohn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am so hopeful that with election reform, citizens will again believe that their vote counts, and participate more in our state government. If qualified people are willing to serve, why should they have to spend so much time fundraising to campaign? It's a conflict of interest. let's encourage statesmen and women to run for office! Thanks for seeing the possibilities, Lorraine Kohn

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 10:46:11 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjorie Erway	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please completely and 100% support this bill. It's important for the health of our elections. Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mark@marksheehan.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 8:19:48 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MARK SHEEHAN	Individual	Support	No

Comments: DEAR COMMITTEE CHAIR AND MEMBERS, WE VOTERS HAVE LOST FAITH IN POLITICS AND POLITICIANS BECAUSE WE SEE HOW TOXIC MONEY IS IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. WE CAN'T HAVE DEMOCRACY WHEN BIG MONEY OWNS SO MUCH ACCESS TO POLTICIANS. VOTER FINANCED ELECTIONS IS THE WAY FORWARD. ONCE AGAIN HAWAII CAN LEAD THE NATION IN PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION. IMUA! MARK SHEEHAN

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To Senate Ways & Mean Committeee

I'm testifying in SUPPORT OF HB 1481

Public funding will help bring democracy back to a broken system that is corrupted by special interests. Public funding will make it possible new talent and new vision to enter public office.

Please pass this bill.

Mary Spadaro

808-533-2172

Aloha,

I strongly support HB 1481. The public funding option for candidates on the Island of Hawaii has made it possible for some excellent people to run for office. I support extending the program to State House races also.

Mahalo,

Mary Marvin Porter
Island Eyes Video
Kea'au, Hawai'i

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mikemigrates@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 6:33:14 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael donenfeld	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HB 1481 will move us towards a return to our democratic values. This bill helps to lessen the impact rich and powerful well funded special interests have on our political system. Representing all people and not being too cozy to wealthy is an important issue.

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: foodsovereigntyknow@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 9:03:12 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Cc: MSMatson@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 5:33:32 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MS Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: rabbitdesign.nancy@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 6:40:18 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy hulbirt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Comments: Aloha Senators, please pass this bill. I am a supporter of free enterprise but free enterprise can't work when large corporations have power to influence policy through campaign donations. Mahalo for your service to the people of Hawaii. Nancy Hulbirt, 3304 Keahi St, Honolulu HI 06822

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Nfauklet@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 5:41:34 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Frazer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, Please do all you can to pass this bill. I believe it may be the most important bill to come before you this session. I am a great believer in the free market, but the free market cannot exist while large corporations have so much power to influence policy through campaign donations. Mahalo for your service to the people of Hawaii. Neil Frazer, PhD 112 Haokea Drive Kailua, HI 96734

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Cc: Patriciablair@msn.com
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Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is your duty to pass this resolution for clean election funding.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mcendree@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 7:40:38 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randal McEndree	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Democracy must be invented every day. Clean Elections are the best way I know of to help us re-invent democracy today. thank you!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: oahurandy@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 8:52:31 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Publicly funded elections is critical to saving our democracy. Private money (especially corporate money) has totally corrupted our system of government. The legislative agenda is now mostly a corporate agenda. The way to correct the imbalance is to make the legislators beholden only to the public. Currently, they are beholden to the folks who give them \$\$\$ for re-election. By passing HB 1481, we will allow legislators to attend to the needs of their funders, the public. Please pass HB1481 and save our democracy.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 1:00:13 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: davidsher@juno.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM*
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 10:50:11 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: sgd8@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 9:45:53 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Dursin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Ways and Means Committee: I am testifying in support of HB1481, which would allow candidates for State House to receive comprehensive public funding. When candidates do not have to focus on raising large amounts of money, they are free of obligations to their major donors. Even when those obligations are not openly stated and are, for the most part, subconscious, they do exist. Public funding allows candidates who might not otherwise have the personal wealth or contacts to run for office. The wider the spectrum of candidates available to the voter, the stronger our system will be. Public funding allows incumbents to focus more on meeting their constituents and hearing their concerns, rather than on organizing and attending fund raising events. It also allows incumbents to concentrate on their jobs. The Hawai'i County comprehensive public funding pilot program has shown that candidates can run and be elected using public funding. Having conducted interviews with all Hawai'i County Council candidates who took the funding -- both those who were elected and those who were not -- I can assure you that they were all strongly supportive of the program. The public views the program very favorably. This measure is a very positive move toward separating ourselves from the problems associated with large private donations. Hawai'i has led the way with other forward-thinking programs. Please support HB1481 to make a strong statement for public campaign funding. Thank you for the opportunity to present my ideas.

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Cc: salmpalm@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 10:15:46 AM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Salm	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Let's return to democracy. With corporations and individuals being able to pour substantial amounts of money into politician's campaign funds, votes are strongly influenced by the donor. It's time to put democracy back in the pockets of Americans and have votes made on our behalf. Please support this bill.

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Cc: hawaiianews@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 11:58:22 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Toni Auld Yardley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: NOW - IS THE TIME - TO CLEAN OUT THE OLD WAY OF DOING POLITICS AND TO REMEMBER - GOVERNMENT IS A CIVIC DUTY FOR THE PEOPLE. PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO MAKE THIS CHANGE "POSSIBLE". FIND THE SOURCE TO FINANCE THIS "FIRST STEP FORWARD" FOR THE BETTERMENT OF HAWAI`I NEI. THE PEOPLE ARE - NO LONGER IDLE - AND NEITHER SHOULD YOU BE. CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS "CAN" BE FOUND, IF WE REALLY WANT TO MAKE A GOOD "TURNAROUND" - FOR A "NEW DAWN". Mahalo. I MUA KAKOU.

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Cc: sundownertoni@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1481 on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM
Date: Monday, March 25, 2013 7:08:51 PM

HB1481

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Toni Withington	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support voter owned Hawaii. This is the single most important bill you can pass this session. Give the elections back to the people.

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