

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

February 18, 2014

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Members of the House Committee on Finance

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

SUBJECT: Testimony on H.B. No. 2533, H.D. 1, Relating to Campaign Finance

Wednesday, February 19, 2014
3:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the intent of this bill establishing comprehensive public funding for candidates for election to the House of Representatives, but offers the following strong concerns and comments about its implementation. Also, the Commission opposes the ability of certified candidates to raise “supplemental contributions” as currently provided for in the proposed draft of the measure.

In section 1, page 3, proposed §11-A of this bill permits a “qualifying contribution” to be made in the form of cash. The Commission, as in the past, suggests that qualifying contributions be only in the form of a personal check or money order, as provided for in the original version of this bill. We recognize that this bill attempts to allay our concern by also requiring the contributor’s signature affirming and acknowledging that the contribution was made from personal funds. However, we would like to point out that it is harder to verify that a contribution came from the personal funds of the contributor when the contribution is in the form of cash.

Proposed §11-E of this bill, beginning at page 5, allows a candidate seeking eligibility for comprehensive public funding to raise seed money to pay for expenditures necessary to determine whether the candidate has sufficient support to run for office as a publicly-funded candidate. The amount of seed money allowed to be raised is \$3,000. As currently drafted, it appears that just one individual could potentially contribute up to \$2,000 in seed money to the

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
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Page 2

candidate. The Commission suggests that individuals be limited to giving \$250, in the aggregate, in seed money contributions to a candidate. This is the same contribution limit for individuals contributing seed money to participating candidates in the Pilot Comprehensive Public Funding for Elections to the Hawaii County Council. §5 of Act 244, Sess. Laws Haw. (2008).

Proposed §11-F, at page 7, requires that candidates seeking certification for public funding obtain at least two hundred (200) qualifying signatures accompanied by \$5 qualifying contributions. Proposed §11-G, at page 9, requires the Commission, in coordination with the county clerks, to verify all of the signatures. The measure requires the Commission to issue a final decision to certify or deny certification of a candidate within ten (10) business days following receipt of the candidate's application. The Commission would require an appropriation in 2015 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 employee¹ 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 paid its seasonal employees an hourly rate of \$11.25 in 2012. The Commission notes that H.D. 1, in contrast to the original measure, does not contain appropriation language to support the full-time, seasonal position(s) to the Commission to carry out the duties of verifying the qualifying names and contributions. Further, we would advise that the county clerks and the Comptroller be consulted with respect to the time and manpower the counties would expend in verifying the qualifying names and with respect to the Comptroller, the turn-around time to distribute the public funds.

Proposed §11-H, beginning on page 10 of the bill, increases dramatically² 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

¹ The Commission estimates that the seasonal workers will be needed from July 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016. A candidate can collect qualifying names and contributions only after the candidate files a declaration of intent to seek public funding. The first day that a candidate can file a declaration of intent is July 1, 2015, so applications for certifications will come after that date. The July 1st start date allows for training of the seasonal hires before the applications for certification start to come in. The last day a candidate can file an application is December 31, 2015, so the January 31, 2016 end date allows for the processing of applications filed on or near the deadline.

² 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.

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
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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 \$2,810,057.69 as of December 31, 2013, the proposed amendments will require an appropriation from the Legislature in 2015 to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund to pay for the anticipated dramatic increase in public funding for certified candidates to the House in 2016, should this measure pass. 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. The Commission notes that H.D. 1, in contrast to the original measure, does not contain language for an appropriation into the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund.

Proposed §11-J, on page 14, allows certified candidates to accept “supplemental contributions” in an amount that does not exceed \$50 per person from individuals who reside in the State. The certified candidate can collect supplemental contributions upon certification for public funding until the general election. The Commission is opposed to supplemental contributions. The public funding available under this measure is **comprehensive**. That is, the funding amount is based upon the average amount winning House candidates in the 2012 elections spent. We seriously question whether a certified candidate should be allowed to raise more private funds. There is no triggering mechanism, or stated reason, to allow certified candidates to raise supplemental contributions from private funds. Also, because there is no maximum amount that a certified candidate may raise in supplemental funding, we believe that the purpose of comprehensive public funding would be undermined by allowing certified candidates to potentially stockpile private funds. Further, the Commission questions the necessity for supplemental contributions since the bill, in proposed §11-L, at page 18, already permits

a certified candidate who is elected to office to raise funds if the candidate’s surplus funds fall below \$4,000.

Proposed §11-R, beginning on page 22 of the measure, requires that the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund (“HECF”) has a minimum balance of \$3,500,000 on July 1 of each odd-numbered year before a general election, to certify candidates and to provide comprehensive public funding for candidates in House races. As of December 31, 2013, as mentioned above, the HECF’s balance was **\$2,810,057.69**. Thus, it is certain that unless the Legislature provides funding for this program and other Commission expenses such as proper staffing, this proposed comprehensive public funding program will not be implemented in 2016.

Finally, Section 4 through Section 6, on pages 24 to 27, of the measure, excludes candidates for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Senator, in addition to State Representative, from expenditure limits and participation in the Partial Public Financing Program. Although the Commission can see the rationale behind the exclusion of House candidates from the expenditure limits and the current partial public financing program, the Commission does not understand the need to exclude the other offices. If the exclusion is a cost-

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johnanson, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance
Page 4

saving measure, the Commission would like to point out that since the 2006 elections, the HECF has paid \$113,507.20 in public funds to certified candidates running for those excluded offices minus certified House candidates. Thus, the Commission does not view this proposal as a significant cost-saving measure.

This measure has a companion bill, S.B. No. 2972.



Voter Owned Hawaii
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Honolulu, HI 96816
808-457-8622
<http://voterownedhawaii.org>

February 10, 2014

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
 House Committee on Finance

 The Honorable Aaron Johanson, Vice Chair
 House Committee on Finance

 The Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
 House Committee on Finance

 Members of the House Finance Committee

FROM: Kory Payne, Executive Director
 Voter Owned Hawaii

Wednesday, February 19, 2014
3:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

Thank you for your consideration of this bill. We strongly support this legislation, and encourage two amendments.

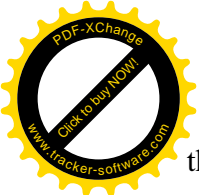
First, we suggest adding a provision that would change payroll and administrative costs for the Campaign Spending Commission from the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund to the General Fund. In fiscal year 2012, this was approximately \$580,000.

Second, we suggest a one-time infusion into the Election Fund of \$1 million to help get the program off the ground. There is currently a provision that requires the Election Fund to have \$3.5 million in order to run the citizen-funded elections program. This one time infusion would bring the fund from its current ~\$2.9 million balance to ~\$3.9 million.

Popular Support for this bill

Last spring, Hawaii Elections Project contracted Lake Research Partners to conduct a poll in Hawaii, gauging public sentiment for this type of program; and by a 2-1 margin, voters expressed support for legislation that allows candidates to run for office by relying on a blend of small donations and limited public funds. These strong numbers in support of this legislation have remained consistent over the years.

During the 1978 Constitutional Convention, delegates fought hard to create the partial public funding program that we now have. Delegate Naomi Campbell said during that Convention: ". . . if we think



these tremendous sums being spent [on elections], these tremendous sums being contributed, are no sums for which we are going to ultimately pay because of poor government . . . and because of undue influence . . . we are fooling ourselves."

We have let the partial public funding program decay over the past 30 years, and along with it our best chance at a program that will encourage citizen-funded elections vs. special-interest-funded campaigns.

Good for the Economy

In short, providing a public funding option for House and Senate candidates is the deal of the century for taxpayers. Right now, monied, special interests have an unfair monopoly on access to the lawmaking arena, and this often ends up hurting taxpayers.

The proposed legislation would cost taxpayers an absolute maximum of \$.62 per taxpayer, per year (Figure 3). We are counting on you to break the cycle and save this program that delegates fought for in 1978.

This bill will do the following:

1. Adds a new subpart to Chapter 11, HRS, which creates a public funding option for the House of Representatives (SECTION 2). The qualification process would require House candidates to collect 250 signatures from registered voters in the district for which they're qualifying. In addition, each signature would need to be accompanied with a five dollar check or money order.

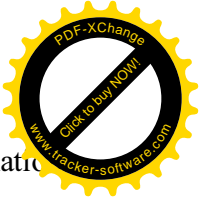
We support the current requirements for publicly funded candidates because they are challenging and therefore will attract grassroots-oriented candidates who can demonstrate trust and support in their communities.

The amounts given to House candidates would be based upon amounts spent in the previous election cycle. Basing these amounts on a formula instead of a fixed amount will help ensure the amounts do not become obsolete (as is the case with the current partial system).

The formula for determining amounts given to qualified candidates would be determined by removing the top three and bottom three spenders in the previous election period, for each chamber. After removing the top three and bottom three spenders, the amount given would be the average amount spent by the winning candidates (Figure 1).

For House races, for example, after subtracting the top three and bottom three spending races, the total amount spent out of 46 remaining districts is \$1,568,426. That amount divided by 46 districts equals an average of \$34,853 per district. This is the amount that would be given to a House candidate who is able to qualify.

2. Allows candidates to continue raising small donations after they've spent their allotment of money from the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund. After the base allotment is spent, candidates can continue to accept contributions of no more than \$50 from residents in the state. This provision helps make sure candidates can remain competitive while at the same time maintaining the fundamental principles of the



program; which are to enable candidates to run a competitive campaign through many small donations vs. few large donations.

Figure 1 -- Total spending in House Races by winning candidates, period 2012

TOTAL	\$1,880,078.25
TOTAL / 51 =	\$36,864.28
TOTAL (-TOP 3, BOT 3) / 45	\$34,853.92

Potential Cost

Figure 3 -- Maximum potential cost of running House & Senate races in a two-year cycle

	Base Allotment	Base Allotment x 51 House races	Base Allotment x 102 House
House (51 districts)	\$34,853.25	\$1,777,515	\$3,555,031 (\$.62 per taxpayer per year)



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PO. Box 23404
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February 18, 2014

TO: Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Aaron Johanson, Vice Chair Scott Nishimoto
Members of the House Committee on Finance

FROM: John Bickel, President
Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii'i

RE: Support and Comments on HB 2533 Relating to Campaign Finance

Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii supports HB 2533 For over a half century, Americans for Democratic Action has been advocating for public policies to pursue social justice. Much of the public is cynical about government however. A good deal of that cynicism is the perception that money is corrupting public policy. After the *Citizens United* decision came down from the Supreme Court, a Washington Post-ABC News poll showed 76 percent of Republicans and 85 percent of Democrats opposed the ruling. The opposition to the corrupting influence of money in politics is bipartisan. A nice step forward would be passing HB 2533 to provide public funding for state representative elections. That would indeed go far to restoring public confidence in good elected officials such as yourselves. The bill also has an important feature in improving the financing of the Campaign Spending Commission. I thank you for your attention to this bill and for your favorable consideration.

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 10:03 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: clim@commoncause.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM
Attachments: (FIN)HB2533 - Relating to Public Funding for Election Candidates - Testimony of support - Common Cause Hawaii.pdf

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmille Lim	Common Cause Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Progressive Democrats of Hawai‘i

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 3:00 pm
Conference Room 308

HB2533, RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE, in STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, members of the committee. My name is Bart Dame and I am testifying today on behalf of Progressive Democrats of Hawaii strong support of HB2533, which would establish the option of public financing for House campaigns.

We recognize the reality that the current election system forces candidates to seek campaign contributions in order to have a run a successful campaign, particularly in contested races. We are eager to support reforms which would offer an alternative means of financing elections for both candidates and incumbent office-holders, which would minimize the pressure of having to mold one's positions, or voting behavior in the Legislature, in order to maintain friendly relations with political funders or, at least, to avoid angering interests who may then route funding to political challengers.

We are also interested in reforms which would dampen the tendency towards evermore expensive campaigns, as well as avoid wasting public money on "vanity" campaigns, that would facilitate credible campaigns, without encouraging fringe candidates who lack support in their district. We think HB2533 does a good job of balancing these concerns. We believe the Big Island experiment with public financing of council races demonstrates this program can be designed to minimize abuse, spend public funds responsibly and provide more freedom for both incumbent office-holders and credible challengers to present to the voters their case for receiving their votes.

We strongly urge passage of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at 3:00 pm
Conference Room 308
HB2533 HD1 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE

TESTIMONY

Beppie Shapiro for the League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Luke Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, Members of the Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 2533 HD1, which would amend Hawai'i's campaign finance law to provide public funding for elections to the state House of Representatives, subject to qualifying collection of signatures and donations, and to other requirements. However, we think to ensure the success of this effort, provisions for adequate financing must be part of the bill.

Following recent SCOTUS rulings, particularly the Citizen's United decision allowing unlimited independent expenditures supporting candidates for election, Hawai'i like other states has experienced troubling increases in expenditures to influence voters' perception of candidates. I'm sure it did not escape your attention that a lot of money spent in the last election in Hawaii came from out of state, and also that wealthy individuals and "independent" committees made some eye-popping expenditures. We are not convinced that these expenditures were primarily motivated by the public interest of citizens of Hawaii as a whole.

Large private expenditures on elections also raise the cost of campaigning, threatening to prevent the election of ordinary citizens and requiring sitting legislators to spend excessive time and energy fund-raising for their next election rather than attending to the peoples' business.

Public funding has been recognized by the State of Hawaii (as well as a long-standing and well-supported position of the League of Women Voters), as a preferable way to pay for elections. That's why we have a tax check-off to support public funding of elections.



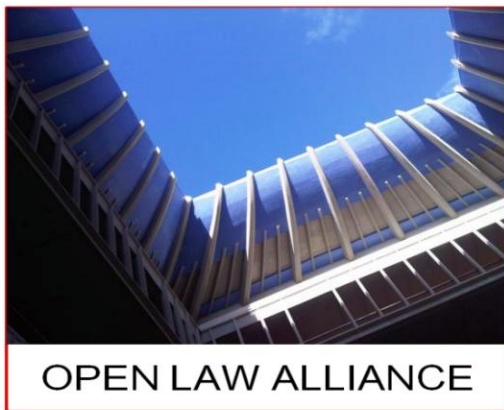
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However, as pointed out in an Editorial in the Honolulu StarAdvertiser dated 2/15/14, the funds needed to support this important reform, generated by a tax check-off, have dwindled, and the fund is also diminished by the operating expenses of the Campaign Spending Commission.

The work of the CSC is absolutely critical to ensuring that political campaigns conform to the law. The CSC has shown innovative and responsible management of its duties; it deserves a guarantee of adequate and stable funding for its important work in supporting democratic elections. These duties will be considerably increased by the passage of HB2533 HD1. For these reasons, we believe that the CSC's operating cost should be paid from the general fund each year, not from the tax checkoff which is subject to taxpayers' voluntary actions. An exemplary government office whose smooth functioning is so important to credible and fair elections, should not depend on such an unstable base. This change could be added as an amendment to HB2533 HD1. The League takes no position on Sections 4 and 5 which define maximum public funding for specific offices (Mayor, Governor etc.) because we have not studied this adequately to form an opinion.

The League wishes to call attention to the admirable performance of the Campaign Spending Commission in implementing the previous pilot of public funding for Hawaii County Council elections and to making campaign spending data widely available to the public in user-friendly format on the Commission's website .

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



Democracy Under the Rule of Law is Based on Public Access

February 18, 2014

House Finance Committee
Hawai'i State Legislature

Re: H.B. 2533, H.D. 1, Relating to Campaign Finance
Wednesday, February 19, 2014

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Finance Committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of H.B. 2533, H.D. 1.

Thank you for hearing H.B. 2533, H.D. 1, and thank you for the opportunity to testify. We strongly **support** this measure, as we believe that it will rehabilitate and further the public funding option established by Hawaii's 1978 Constitutional Convention.

We are encouraged by the support that this important bill has received at the Legislature during the last session. H.B. 2533 will help to further the public interest in our state, by simply making it possible for our representatives to be "dependent on the people alone," as James Madison put it. If they so wish, the people's representatives will be better able to focus on the needs of their constituents without spending a significant percentage of their time fundraising. This measure will help make it possible for the long-term public interest to prevail, circumventing the waste associated with uneven policies based on special interests.

In *The Federalist* No. 52, James Madison referred to the U.S. House of Representatives as "that branch of the federal government which ought to be dependent on the people alone." (The members of the U.S. Senate, too, have been elected directly by the people since the Seventeenth Amendment was adopted a century ago.) But at both the federal and the state level, for decades but especially during the past seven years since the confirmation of Justices Roberts and Alito to the Supreme Court, a different sort of dependence has developed for many of our candidates, a dependence upon money from the aggregated wealth of special interest entities.

The deregulation effected by the U.S. Supreme Court decisions in *Randall v. Sorrell*, *Davis v. FEC*, *Citizens United v. FEC*, *American Tradition Partnership v. Bullock*, and other cases, and the reverberations of these decisions in the states, has significantly exacerbated this culture of dependence upon special interest money. But as the dissent in *Citizens United* noted, "in a functioning democracy the public must have faith that its representatives owe their positions to the people, not to the corporations with the deepest pockets."

We need for our legislators to depend upon the people alone. H.B. 2533 would help. Please support this bill. Mahalo!

Mahalo,

R. Elton Johnson, III
Open Law Alliance

CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

P.O. Box 5
Ninole, HI 96773
Telephone: (808)963-6966
e-mail: chrisyuenz@hotmail.com

Feb. 18, 2014

Re: HB2533HD1

Dear Rep. Luke and Members of the House Finance Committee

Please support HB2533HD1 so that candidates for the State House of Representatives can run financially competitive campaigns without having to solicit funds from big money interests.

HB2533HD1 would replace the current partial public funding program for state house races. The current program, which began in 1980, isn't working. In 2012, only two state house candidates used the program and won. No winning state senate candidate used the program. The current program has an unrealistically low expenditure limit, and provides little public funding (a maximum of only 15% of the expenditure limit.) At the same time, because participating candidates can still accept large donations, it really doesn't address the problem of big money subverting democracy.

Under HB2533HD1, candidates would receive considerable public funding if they obtained large numbers of small donations from residents in their districts. This is similar to the comprehensive public funding pilot program for Hawai'i County council races, which was used by five of the nine councilmembers elected in 2012.

This comprehensive public funding program will cost money, but it will be an investment in ethical government that will repay itself many times over. The bill should be modified to include a specific appropriation, or a dedicated funding mechanism. In addition, the general operating expenditures of the Campaign Spending Commission should be funded by a direct appropriation rather than continuing to drain the election campaign fund. The Campaign Spending Commission's vital tasks of monitoring and reporting campaign contributions and expenses are no less worthy of general fund support than other basic regulatory functions of government.

The effort to make people more important than money in our democracy has unfortunately been crippled by recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions. The

approach of HB2533HD1—a voluntary comprehensive public funding option—remains one avenue open toward this goal. Let’s make it a reality.

Yours truly,

Chris Yuen

Noelie Rodriguez
P.O. Box 5
Ninole, HI 96773

Feb. 18, 2014

Re: HB2533 HD1

Dear Rep. Luke, Chair, and Members of the House Finance Committee:

Please support HB2533HD1, and amend it to add funding for the proposed public funding program and for the operating expenses of the Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission.

I am a professor of sociology at Hawai'i Community College. In 2008, I worked with other members of the Big Island community, including some of my students, to urge the Legislature to enact the pilot project for comprehensive public funding for Big Island council elections. This successful program was used by five of the nine councilmembers elected in 2012, who were able to compete for office without relying on big donations. HB2533HD1 would do the same for state house candidates.

Over the years we've collected thousands of petition signatures in favor of this type of campaign finance reform. Most recently, we delivered a petition with 1230 signatures gathered in the last few weeks. (It referred to last year's HB1481 because that was the vehicle still pending at the start of this year's legislative session.) Public support for this kind of reform is overwhelming.

Adequate funding must be provided for this initiative, along with funding for the Campaign Spending Commission's operating expenses. Otherwise, passage of this bill will be an empty gesture, because the current balance in the election campaign fund has already dropped below the \$3.5 million threshold to run the proposed program contained in this bill.

Passage of this law will be a huge achievement of the 2014 Legislature, that will win it the praise of advocates for good government throughout the state.

Yours truly,

Noelie Rodriguez

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:13 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kcoburn@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberley Coburn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hello! Thanks for reading my testimony. Most of what I want to say is summed up in a recent article on Huffington Post: How Hawaii Government can work again. I won't include the text here, but can summarize my feelings as follows: I'm so frustrated by the loss of integrity in our elections and the absence of representation for myself, personally. I really believe this bill paves the way for us to become a people represented by our law-makers rather than law-makers in the control of the businesses and organizations with the money to buy them. Please also consider having the Finance Committee use General Funds for the Campaign Spending Commission for it? Thanks for getting it this far, please see it through and get us back to good government representation of the people. If we really can't be represented, we will cease to participate and that would signal the end of our democracy.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:20 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: animalhavenhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank DeGiacomo	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I strongly support the passage of this bill in the hopes it will limit the influence of monied interests and place constituents' issues on the public agendas, as well as allow for more diversity of candidates. Passing this bill will save the state money from not having to pay for politically necessary boondoggles. Frank De Giacomo

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Testimony in Support of HB2533: Comprehensive Public Funding for Elections to the Hawaii House of Representatives

From Susan Dursin, Captain Cook, HI, Testifying as Individual

Finance Committee Hearing, Wednesday, February 19, 2014 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

Chair Representative Luke, Vice Chairs Representative Johanson and Representative Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I urge your support for HB2533, which would create a public funding program for elections to the Hawaii House of Representatives.

That program would allow citizens without personal resources or connections to wealthy supporters to run for office. Widening the pool of candidates offers a stronger foundation for our election process and our governing bodies. It also strengthens public faith in those institutions and the process.

You yourselves are aware of the time and effort needed to raise campaign money. When candidates are funded publicly, they can devote themselves to meeting a wide spectrum of their potential constituents, discussing issues, rather than raising money. The public will stop concentrating on who has given money to a campaign and focus on the issues.

The pilot program used by Big Island council candidates in 2010 and 2012 was a success, both with candidates and voters. I believe a similar program, expanded to cover state House candidates, will be equally well-received.

Please support the full funding of this program, making sure at the same time that adequate funding for the Campaign Spending Commission becomes a state budget expense.

Thank you for considering my comments.

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 10:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: barbarapolk@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: I strongly support public financing of election campaigns, both for the sake of legislators and for the sake of the public. Political campaigns have become so expensive that legislators need to spend considerable amounts of time raising substantial amounts of money. This time could be better spent communicating with and listening to constituents--and i believe most legislators would very much prefer this! For the public, taking political campaigns out of the hands of those who have the money to donate larger amounts would increase confidence in the political process. I believe it will also, over time, increase voter turnout as voters lose their cynical view of politics and politicians. I urge you to pass HB 2533.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 1:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: birthpang@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobbie Pang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly OPPOSED. Do not use taxpayer monies to level a playing field between hardworking community minded candidates and candidates that represent their own agenda and not the will of the people. The electoral process was created to ensure that candidates that best represented the public interest would have the best chance to be elected to office.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 15, 2014 5:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: clk5356@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/15/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: It's time has come!!

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finance1

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Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 8:31 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: CKing@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl King	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Public funding for the state house candidates will allow us to elect candidates who are not beholden to special interest groups and will hopefully provide a more varied group of candidates from which to choose. I support this bill for those reasons.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2014 2:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: christinet54@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/16/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christine trecker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HB2533 HD1 is a critically important bill that I urge you to support. While it may not be easy nor cheap to reverse “business as usual” at the Capitol, it is the price we must pay to have a clean government that truly represents the will of the people.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 2:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: karibenes@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kari Benes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Representatives, In the not to distant past the following words were spoken by Abraham Lincoln to ensure the survival of America's representative democracy "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." For the sake of our beloved President Lincoln, lets respect the words he spoke and OPPOSE this measure. Mahalo

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 8:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: keithkenyon@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Kenyon	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I'm opposed to HB2533. It really disturbs me that tax dollars pay a salary to "representatives" who ignore the public. Why would I want the same ignorance to get campaign money to ignore us more? [Most of us don't want most of you guys back in office] Thanks for letting me comment.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 5:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mattbinder@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Binder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Luke and committee members, I hope you will support HB2533 as a step toward restoring sanity in our electoral process. The US supreme Court ruling has unleashed floods of secret cash into this crucial democratic process, turning our elections into circuses. HB2533 will show people that there is a better way. I live on the Big Island and have seen how well public financing of campaigns can work. The system has been a huge success. Please don't let this concept die on the vine. Sincerely, Matt Binder Kamuela

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 2:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Reforming the current corrupting campaign finance laws is the first step to getting the influence of money out of our political system and freeing legislators to do the job we elect them to do rather than spending so much time fund raising and then answering to the expectations of those who contribute the most.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 9:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Strongly Support.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 15, 2014 4:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: saralegal@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/15/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Steiner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Legislators, Please support this public campaign funding bill. It is very important that persons qualified for the job, but who don't have the finances, or that don't want to be beholden to their major contributors, have equal access opportunity to represent the residents of Hawaii. Thank you for your attention in this important matter! Sincerely, Sara Steiner Big Island

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 10:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: browninhawaii@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruth Brown	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose BH2533. This bill is poorly thought out in respects to benefiting the public or encouraging new candidates to run for office. It does not level the playing field, but gives incumbents another advantage. This alone should be reason enough to let the bill die in committee, rather than advancing it for the personal privilege of the author, Rep. Rhoads. Ruth Brown Registered voter Waianae, HI

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To: Campaign Spending Commission

Regarding HB2533, please that I strongly oppose the passage of this bill.

The idea of taking tax payer money to support campaign re-election for those we might fiercely oppose and not even in our districts is beyond arrogance!

If they feel they have done their job in representing their constituents in their districts, getting re-elected and the collection of donations should not be an issue.

If they fear as many should that they their arrogance and betrayal to their constituents may actually be remembered come Nov. that may be the price they must pay for their haughtiness.

Again I am strongly opposed to the passage of this bill HB2533 or any version of.

Respectfully submitted

Rita Kama-Kimura
District 36
02/17/2014

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2014 9:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: paul.mckimmy@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/17/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul McKimmy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. Campaign Spending Commission should be funded by general funds; using the Election Fund to administer CSC has been inappropriate.

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To: Chair Sylvia Luke
Vice-Chair Scott Nishimoto
Vice-Chair Aaron Johanson
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance
Re: Opposition to HB2533

Aloha Chair Luke and honourable members of the House Committee on Finance:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in OPPOSITION to HB2533. Based on the originator and the timing of this legislation, it is clear that HB2533 (a.k.a. “public financing”) is intended to be abused by unpopular incumbents. This “golden parachute” for elected officials who do not uphold their duties to their constituents is an abuse of the electoral process – and hearing this legislation under the guise of “helping the little guy” is shameful at best.

The program described in HB2533 entitles a representative to almost \$30,000 in a race for House of Representatives. \$30,000 would lead to an escalation of election-related expenditures in close to 50% of all contested House races. Additionally, the contributions from public financing could dwarf those of a popular incumbent, setting them at a disadvantage.

However, based on both the introducer and the timing of HB2533, it is quite clear that this measure’s sole intention is to ensure that unpopular legislators (particularly those who voted in support of SB1) will have a golden parachute should their steady stream of campaign contributions from proud and loyal constituents dry up. HB2533 is nothing more than a “golden parachute” to ensure that representatives like Karl Rhoads will have a funding source during their next election cycle, regardless of their effectiveness as a representative. HB2533 will ensure that elected officials have no obligation to represent the interests of their constituents and will be insulated from their actions as representatives. This is contrary to the principles of the electoral process.

I will remember in November, and I OPPOSE HB2533 because supplying “golden parachutes” for unpopular representatives was never what our Founding Fathers ever intended.

Sincerely yours,

To: Chair Sylvia Luke
Vice-Chair Scott Nishimoto
Vice-Chair Aaron Johanson
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: Opposition to HB2533

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HB2533 will ensure that elected officials have no obligation to represent the interests of their constituents and will be insulated from their actions as representatives. This is contrary to the principles of the electoral process.

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Sincerely yours,
David Tetsutani
Kapolei, Hawaii

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:50 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: janlubin@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jan Lubin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 12:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: katc31999@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katarina Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 9:38 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sweetmitzhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sally evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: Chair Sylvia Luke
Vice-Chair Scott Nishimoto
Vice-Chair Aaron Johanson
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance
Re: Opposition to HB2533

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I will remember in November, and I OPPOSE HB2533 because supplying “golden parachutes” for unpopular representatives was never what our Founding Fathers ever intended.

Sincerely yours,
Pua Guiteras



finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:33 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: streamgirlll@yahoo.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014
 Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary True	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Since 86% of Hawaii residents support citizen funded elections I think this should be passed. I am tired of the best government money can buy.

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To: Chair Sylvia Luke
Vice-Chair Scott Nishimoto
Vice-Chair Aaron Johanson
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance
Re: Opposition to HB2533

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However, based on both the introducer and the timing of HB2533, it is quite clear that this measure’s sole intention is to ensure that unpopular legislators (particularly those who voted in support of SB1) will have a golden parachute should their steady stream of campaign contributions from proud and loyal constituents dry up. HB2533 is nothing more than a “golden parachute” to ensure that representatives like Karl Rhoads will have a funding source during their next election cycle, regardless of their effectiveness as a representative. HB2533 will ensure that elected officials have no obligation to represent the interests of their constituents and will be insulated from their actions as representatives. This is contrary to the principles of the electoral process.

I will remember in November, and I OPPOSE HB2533 because supplying “golden parachutes” for unpopular representatives was never what our Founding Fathers ever intended.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Guerrero

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pilot-14@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Dorflinger	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose legislation for public financing of election campaigns. The electoral process was created to ensure that candidates that best represent the public interest would have the best chance to be elected to office. Legislating funding would defeat this purpose.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fritlang@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fritz Fritschel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In light of the enormous amount of money being spent on public elections recently, I maintain that the proposed bill on Campaign financing is a step in the right direction to rebalance the power of the electorate. Please Pass Campaign Financing legislation. Fritz Fritschel

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: williamsm081@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Williams	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: swill34124@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon Williams	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: swill34124@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon Williams	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: williamsm081@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

LATE

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Williams	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: barbarageorge40@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara L. George	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HB2533

FIN 308 Feb 19, 2014 3:00 PM



February 19, 2014

Aloha Legislators,

Please support HB2533. As a resident of Hawaii County I have seen the publicly financed options work well with the Hawaii County Council. Please allow this successful program to move forward to the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Justin Avery

1314 Kumukoa
Hilo, HI 96720

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:50 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: babyjean@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnie Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support Public-funded elections as you should not have to depend on corporations and the rich to run for office. Mahalo Ronnie Perry

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 7:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nho.hoku@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

LATE

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nelson Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. Hawaii residents support citizen- funded elections. This will allow candidates to run more grassroots-oriented campaigns. Mahalo.

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From: Daniela Kittinger
244 Hawai'i Loa St.
Honolulu, HI 96821

Date: February 10th, 2014

Re: **HB 2533, relating to campaign finance - in support**

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **support of House Bill 2533**, which creates a public funding mechanism for state office elections.

As a taxpayer, I support this bill because I believe campaign finance is at the heart of corruption in politics. Publicly funded campaigns would create an environment in which candidates are behold to the needs and desires of the people, rather than high-powered corporate donors and well-financed lobbyists. It also opens the door for average citizens to run and get elected to office... not just the wealthy.

The time is now for this bill. Hawai'i's urgent social and environmental problems are not going away, as our politicians are not responding to the needs of the people and the land. Problems like education reform, pesticide use by big agriculture corporations, homelessness, and climate change mitigation go on unaddressed because they are not concerns of moneyed interest groups and corporations. By design, these entities are concerned with only one thing above all else – profits.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

With aloha,

Daniela Kittinger
Hawai'i resident

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 4:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: blockard@iname.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 9:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sundownertoni@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

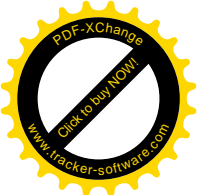
Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Public funding works! We have it on the Big Island County COuncil. Now let's support it for legislature. Vote yes.

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Testimony in Support of HB2533: Comprehensive Public Funding for Elections to the Hawaii House of Representatives

From Susan Dursin, Captain Cook, HI, Testifying as Individual

Finance Committee Hearing, Wednesday, February 19, 2014 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

Chair Representative Luke, Vice Chairs Representative Johanson and Representative Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I urge your support for HB2533, which would create a public funding program for elections to the Hawaii House of Representatives.

That program would allow citizens without personal resources or connections to wealthy supporters to run for office. Widening the pool of candidates offers a stronger foundation for our election process and our governing bodies. It also strengthens public faith in those institutions and the process.

You yourselves are aware of the time and effort needed to raise campaign money. When candidates are funded publicly, they can devote themselves to meeting a wide spectrum of their potential constituents, discussing issues, rather than raising money. The public will stop concentrating on who has given money to a campaign and focus on the issues.

The pilot program used by Big Island council candidates in 2010 and 2012 was a success, both with candidates and voters. I believe a similar program, expanded to cover state House candidates, will be equally well-received.

Please support the full funding of this program, making sure at the same time that adequate funding for the Campaign Spending Commission becomes a state budget expense.

Thank you for considering my comments.



Finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:58 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: neilfrazer@icloud.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014
 Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Aloha Chair and Committee Members, Please support this bill. It will save Hawaii a lot of money. A succinct explanation of the likely savings can be found in the Wikipedia entry for the Tullock paradox, which runs as follows: "The term Tullock paradox refers to the apparent paradox first observed by the public choice economist Gordon Tullock on the low costs of rent-seeking relative to the gains from rent-seeking. The paradox is basically that rent-seekers seeking political favors can usually bribe politicians to give them the favors at a cost much lower than the value of the favor to the rent-seeker. For instance, a rent seeker who hopes to gain a billion dollars from a particular political policy may need to bribe politicians only to the tune of ten million dollars, which is about 1% of the gain to the rent-seeker." Mahalo for your service to Hawaii. Sincerely, Neil Frazer, PhD

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:08 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: res1z0vb@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this so we ALL can have a fuller voice in our government.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kentolsen@hawaiiotechworks.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: This is LONG overdue. We can make it a reality. If this doesn't work, I'm sure the law can be changed back again, so lets give it a try. We honestly can't do much worse.

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finance1

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Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 3:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: clk5356@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*

LATE

HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 3:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: purplefireweed@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tina Floyd	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE pass this bill. The people of Hawaii support citizen-funded grassroots populist campaigns. MAHALO.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 4:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: makikirandy@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Please support campaign finance reform. Publicly funded elections is the reform that makes all other reforms possible. By passing this bill, legislators won't need to spend half their time fundraising. They could spend their time addressing the needs of their constituents. HB2533 does not allow any Jane or Joe to throw their hats in the ring. She/he would have to gather a significant number of signatures to prove their viability as a candidate. This is a very reasonable bill. Please pass it. Mahalo.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 8:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: arbeit@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Arbeit	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Electoral reform that responds to our residents more than big business and labor is needed more than ever. Please support this bill that gives the majority more access to policy making.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bjborgnino@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: The only way we can have government for the people by the people is to get the money out of politics.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 3:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: toddhairgrove@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM*



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Todd Hairgrove	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ngannora@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2533 on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM
Attachments: image.jpg



HB2533

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annora Ng	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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