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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. 1604, H.D. 1, Relating to Elections**

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”) supports this bill and urges the Committee to pass the bill.

This bill amends HRS §11-156, by replacing “expense statements” with “disclosure reports and the payment of any fine assessed by the campaign spending commission,” that a winning candidate would need to be in compliance with prior to the issuance of a certificate of election to that candidate. The Commission supports this amendment because candidates file “reports” with the Commission, not expense statements. See e.g., §11-331 & §11-333. Also, requiring the payment of administrative fines already levied by the Commission, as a condition for the issuance of the certificate of election, will further encourage compliance with the Campaign Finance Law.

This measure has a companion bill, S.B. No. 2119.



House Finance Committee  
Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair Aaron Johanson

Wednesday 02/19/14 at 03:00PM in Room 308  
HB 1604 - Relating to Elections

TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT  
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

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Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the Committee:

**Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 1604**, which would withhold election certification from an individual until all required disclosure reports are filed and fines paid for any past infractions paid.

We see the disclosure of campaign finances as very important for the public to understand how our elections are being influenced. At present, there is little way to force a politician to abide by campaign spending laws other than the very expensive option of going to court. Requiring that all reports be filed and fines paid before being seated is a step forward in ensuring compliance with campaign spending laws. For that reason, we urge you to pass HB 1604.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1604.



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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, February 19, 2014, Room 308  
HB1604, HD 1 RELATING TO ELECTIONS, 3:00 p.m.  
TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Co-Chair, Legislative Committee League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Luke, Vice-Chairs Niishimoto and Johanson, and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports the intent of HB 1604 providing that certificates of election would be delivered only after the filing of campaign commission disclosure reports and the payment of any fine assessed by the Campaign Spending Commission.**

It is important that all candidates promptly comply with any outstanding campaign commission disclosure reports and any fines already assessed. It is also important that the requirements for delivering elections certificates are clear,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.