HB452 HD1



STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

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TESTIMONY OF THE

CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

ON HOUSE BILL NO. 452, HD 1

RELATING TO ELECTION FRAUDS

March 14, 2014

Chair Hee and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 452, HD 1. The purpose of this bill is to deem anyone who knowingly publishes, distributes, or promotes false information regarding the time, date, place or means of voting, guilty of an election fraud.

The false provision of information regarding the time, date, place, or means of voting has not been an issue in our state, as compared to the incidents the bill notes have occurred on the mainland.

In terms of election offenses, we work cooperatively with the county prosecutors and the Department of the Attorney General, who have concurrent jurisdiction over such matters, to assist them in any manner they require. Given our dealings with these law enforcement agencies, we are not aware of them investigating or prosecuting the conduct noted in this bill under either Chapter 19, HRS or the Hawaii Penal Code, Title 37, HRS.

We would defer to the county prosecutors and the Department of the Attorney General as to whether the Hawaii Penal Code or Chapter 19, HRS cover the conduct envisioned by this bill or if adjustments in the language of the bill would help in the enforcement and prosecution of such conduct.

The Office of Elections recognizes that this is a matter for the Legislature, and as such has limited its testimony to the above noted technical comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 452, HD 1.



Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro

Thursday 03/14/2014 at 10:00AM in Room 016 HB452 HD1- Relating to Election Frauds

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

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB452 HD1. This bill would deem any person who knowingly publishes, distributes, or otherwise communicates false information about the time, date, place, or means of voting, guilty of an election fraud.

Our hope is to prevent types of elections fraud that occur in other states, here in Hawaii. HB452 HD1 is a common sense measure that would expand our existing election fraud laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB452.