

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2191

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2445

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred
S.B. No. 2445 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to exempt
candidates who are already declared elected to office after
running unopposed in an election from the prohibition on using
election campaign funds to make charitable donations and to award
scholarships until the general election.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in
opposition to this measure from the League of Women Voters of
Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the
Campaign Spending Commission.

Your Committee finds that candidates are prohibited from
using campaign funds for certain purposes, such as making
charitable donations and awarding scholarships, from the filing of
nomination papers to the general election, presumably because
these uses may be interpreted as attempts to buy votes. This
measure provides candidates who become elected to office prior to
a general election the opportunity to use campaign funds for
purposes of making charitable donations or awarding scholarships,
as they no longer need to acquire votes to prevail in the
election.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2445 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary and
Labor,



GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, Chair



