

LATE TESTIMONY

The Campaign Spending Commission seeks an increase in the maximum amount from \$1000 to \$5000 for a fine to "a person other than an individual." CSC wishes to recover "costs" from violators.

QUESTION: Is CSC a revenue-generating engine for itself?

With the passage of this measure, CSC will be able to initiate investigations, spend as much as it likes uncovering "dirty deeds," conduct a hearing, find the party guilty, impose fines, and collect whatever "costs" it imagines it has incurred.

QUESTION: Should CSC be permitted to act as investigator, prosecutor, judge, jury, executioner and recipient of financial bounty? Has CSC ever heard the term "conflict of interest?"

CSC should not be permitted to expend any funds not specifically appropriated for its use by this legislature. They should not be able to travel on mainland junkets, "have a great time, enjoy great food" as they cheerily testified at December's meeting and hobnob with their fellow campaign controllers across the nation.

In a further exercise of its power, CSC also represents the first level of appeal of its actions through its "reconsideration" process. Beyond that an aggrieved party must appeal at Circuit Court, an expensive, lengthy and difficult proposition.

CSC considers itself an entity unto itself and does as it pleases.

In the last legislative session, CSC attempted to gain authorization to deposit fines directly into their special fund. SB577 failed to be enacted into law. Now they come back with a revenue generating measure to place their costs of operations upon the backs of those whom they deem guilty of offenses. Do city prosecutors and police get reimbursed in this way? Is it a good idea for the legislature to permit the creation of this obvious conflict?

But wait, the commission already deposit fines into its own special fund. My check is attached. Yes, they do deposit the fines that way. They will tell you that they transfer money later. But the statute requires that the fines to be deposited into the state general fund, not the commission's special fund and then, maybe, transferred later if they have time or inclination. Does the legislature receive documentation of such transfers from CSC? How much money in fines was collected by CSC last year? How much money was transferred to the state general fund?

CSC wants to increase fines, but do we ever hear them ask to increase decades-old contribution limits? No, and they've even decreased the amount a campaign allowed to report from a pass-the-hat calabash.

There is precious little respect for individual freedoms at CSC, just a firm desire to control. It's as if CSC wishes to criminalize becoming a candidate or participating in the electoral process. Increasing the complexities of the laws and rules makes it difficult for people to understand them and drives folks away from the electoral process.

I believe CSC is in need of adult supervision and that is up to the legislature to provide it.

MICHAEL G PALCIC

4406

59-101/1213

3-11-15

date

Pay to the Order of HAWAII ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND \$ 200.00
Two Hundred and 00/100 dollars

First Hawaiian Bank
KAPIOLANI BANKING CENTER
1580 KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

Michael G. Palcic

for Allen Campaign

⑆ 121301015⑆ 4406 65⑆ 359332⑆

Harvard Circle

Date:04/20/2015 Account:65359332 Amount:\$200.00 Serial:4406 Sequence:511739940
CaptureSequence:1004006664300

⑆ 121301015⑆

>121301015⑆ FHB 04202015 001004006664300

FOR DEPOSIT ONLY
FIRST HAWAIIAN BANK
STATE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
MASHI EDEEN, CFP®
Loc #1020 Acct #01-000407