



Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Chair Gil Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro

Wednesday 2/25/2015 at 9:15 AM in Room 016  
SB599 Relating to Elections

TESTIMONY – COMMENTS  
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

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Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee:

**Common Cause Hawaii offers comments on SB599** which authorizes the elections commission to remove the chief election officer by a majority vote of a quorum at a meeting of the commission.

We believe that before having a vote to remove the chief elections officer (CEO), the elections commission should be required to conduct a performance evaluation of the CEO within two months of certifying general election results. The performance evaluation should include evaluation of the CEO's performance for the primary and general election, and should be considered public record.

A performance evaluation would provide documentation to justify the Commission's removal of the chief elections officer. Requiring this step would help prevent abuse of authority (or perception of) to remove CEO as a politicized move.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on **SB599**.