

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

614

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 02 2017

RE: S.B. No. 251

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred
S.B. No. 251 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 or who would be unopposed in the
general election from the prohibition on using election campaign
funds to make charitable donations or to award scholarships during
a certain period of time prior to the general election.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this
measure from Common Cause 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 general
election.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of January 7, 2059, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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. 251, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 251, S.D. 1, 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



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 251	Committee Referral: JDL	Date: 2/21/17		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (C)	✓			
RHOADS, Karl (VC)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes