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February 8, 2017

TO: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair House Committee on Judiciary

> The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair House Committee on Judiciary

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director VC Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: Testimony on H.B. No. 279, Relating to Campaign Contributions and Expenditures

Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.¹ The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") supports this bill.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") §11-363, by distinguishing the dissemination, distribution, or republication of a candidate's campaign material by a third party from other coordinated activities by setting it out in a separate subsection. As currently set out in subsection (a), the financing of the dissemination, distribution, and republication of a candidate's campaign material is a contribution to that candidate, while any other coordinated activity in cooperation, consultation, in concert with, or at the request or suggestion of a candidate is both a contribution to that candidate and an expenditure by that candidate. Placing the two different types of activities in separate subsections will clarify the statute.

The bill also specifies four instances where the financing of the dissemination, distribution, or republication of a candidate's campaign material will not result in a contribution to that candidate. The bill retains the exception already in the law for the use of campaign

¹ The companion bill is S.B. 447.

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material by co-candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor supporting each other in the general election, and includes exceptions for the use of campaign material by the candidate that prepared the material, campaign material that is used to advocate the defeat of the candidate who prepared the campaign material, and the use of campaign material in a news story or editorial by an independent broadcast station, newspaper, or periodical. The latter three exceptions are modeled after those found in the regulations of the Federal Election Commission (11 C.F.R. §109.23).

The Commission requests that this Committee pass this measure.

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<u>HB279</u>

Submitted on: 2/7/2017 Testimony for JUD on Feb 9, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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