

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR50 on Apr 18, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Monday, April 17, 2017 5:45:33 PM

HCR50

Submitted on: 4/17/2017

Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Daria Fand | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Vice Chair Rhoads, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: I applaud and respect the intent of this Resolution, which endeavors to move towards ridding this country of a grievous Supreme Court stain: the Citizen's United ruling. This decision has predictably inflicted devastating effects upon our elections process, and deserves to be repealed and retired eventually to the wastebin of "worst judicial rulings in U.S. history." However, a Constitutional Convention at the national level at this time is a more dangerous proposition than Citizens United alone, as it would likely open a Pandora's Box of potentially far-reaching ruinous additional introduced amendments concerning any and all aspects of the Constitution. Within the current political climate of a strongly held Republican Congress, this "open sesame" could provide the impetus for sweepingly regressive moves to undermine and revoke decades, if not centuries, of sacredly held doctrine, through the very same pernicious agents and process that brought us Citizens United. We are far too vulnerable to these special interest corporate lobbies and their current momentum to take the risk that they will not up-end any and all parts of the Constitutional rights and freedoms we have established and won, from human and civil rights, to voting procedures, to privacy of choice such as Roe v. Wade, and basic First Amendment rights. Even if a Constitutional Convention were to include an item to end Citizens United, with the Supreme Court already weighted against such repeal, and the Congress dominantly Republican, this Resolution does not stand a chance of being adopted. All it would accomplish at this juncture would be to open the process to destroying much more of our judicial precedent, and instituting frighteningly reactionary standards. Constitutional lawyers, and even the late Antonin Scalia himself have argued against the Con-Con's potential for a slippery slope of Constitutional uprooting; and with Justice Neil Gorsuch newly appointed, we have enough trouble on our hands as is. Therefore, I URGE YOU VERY STRONGLY TO VOTE NO ON THIS MEASURE. I again thank you for the spirit with which it has been offered, but please DEFER this measure at this time, in the interests of keeping our federal Constitution intact as possible.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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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LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR50 on Apr 18, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Monday, April 17, 2017 2:58:01 PM

HCR50

Submitted on: 4/17/2017

Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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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The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2017

THE SENATE

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 325
Tuesday, April 18, 2017; 9:30 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON HCR 50 HD 1
URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RESTORE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS**

The ILWU Local 142 opposes HCR 50 HD 1, which urges the United States Congress to restore free and fair elections, by submitting an application to the United States Congress for the purpose of convening a convention to propose amendments to the Federal Constitution.

While the ILWU is concerned with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, and the impact it has had and will continue to have on our elections, we are not convinced that this resolution offers the best alternative as a vehicle to address this issue.

Convening a convention for proposing amendments to the Federal Constitution creates much uncertainty in potentially having other issues raised, that go well beyond the general purpose and structure of the Federal Constitution. Such a convention could evolve into, but should not become a referendum on public issues that may be popular at the time.

The ILWU Local 142 respectfully urges that HCR 50 be held by the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this important matter.