



HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawaii · Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 · Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
50th ANNIVERSARY 1968-2018

Committee: Committee on Judiciary
Bill Number: H.B. 2420 HD1
Hearing Date/Time: February 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
Re: Testimony of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission **SUPPORTING**
THE INTENT of H.B. 2420 HD1, Relating to Ethics

Dear Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) supports the intent of H.B. 2420 HD1, which generally seeks to enact a state-law equivalent of the federal Hatch Act.

The Commission supports efforts to ensure that state officials work to promote the best interests of the people of Hawaii. As such, the Commission supports legislation to protect state officials – and the public – from coercion by high-level state employees; likewise, the Commission supports legislation to ensure that state programs are administered in a non-partisan fashion.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Commission’s work and for considering the Commission’s testimony on H.B. 2420 HD1.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck
Executive Director and General Counsel



House Committee on Judiciary
Chair Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair Joy San Buenaventura

02/22/2018 2:00 PM Room 325
HB2420 HD1 – Relating to Ethics

TESTIMONY / SUPPORT
Corie Tanida, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

Dear Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and members of the committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB2420 HD1 which would establish restrictions on the participation in political activities of certain state employees and officers.

We agree with the intent of this bill—to align state restrictions on the participation of political activities of state officials and employees with the federal Hatch Act. We believe it is important to address restrictions on employees in regulatory agencies where outside attempts to influence decisions are not uncommon.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony **supporting HB2420 HD1**.



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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Thursday, February 22, 2018, 2:00 PM, Conference Room 325
HB 2420, HD1, Relating to Ethics

TESTIMONY

Piilani Kaopuiki, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports the intent of HB2420. This bill establishes restrictions on the participation in political activities of certain state employees and officers.

It is a very important bill since many state employees are routinely involved in political campaigns. It is, therefore, an important ethics concern. We read the Committee Report from the House Labor and Public Employment Committee, and our understanding is that this Committee accepted all the February 8th recommendations of the State Ethics Commission and incorporated those recommendations in the HD1 version of this measure. If we were confident this has occurred, we could strongly support the HD! Version.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.