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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION**

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 16, 2018

TO: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

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

SUBJECT: **Testimony on S.B. No. 2992, Relating to Campaign Finance**

Tuesday, February 20, 2018  
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 016

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

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") §11-302 by broadly excluding from the definition of "advertising" signs, banners, and bumper stickers. The Commission opposes this bill because the blanket removal of these forms of communication from the definition of advertising may lead candidates and noncandidate committees to believe that the expenditures for signs, banners and bumper stickers that support or oppose the nomination or election of a candidate need not be reported on the Commission's electronic filing system. This would reduce transparency in campaign finance. If the intent of the bill is to exempt signs, banners, and bumper stickers from the disclaimer requirement contained in HRS §11-391, then a more limited amendment should be made to that section, rather than §11-302.