



## HAWAI'I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawai'i · Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 · Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Committee: Committee on Judiciary  
Bill Number: S.B. 1056, S.D.1  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 12, 2020, 2:31 p.m.  
Re: Testimony of the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission  
**SUPPORTING** S.B. 1056, S.D.1, Relating to Lobbyists

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i State Ethics Commission ("Commission") supports S.B. 1056, S.D.1, which seeks to promote transparency in government by requiring additional lobbying reports. The Commission is willing and able to administer additional reporting periods, and the Commission supports the inclusion of more frequent expenditure reports.

Rather than requiring two reports in each election year, the Committee may wish to consider adding one report each year (for example, requiring a report for the period May 1-July 31 every year, due by August 31, followed by a report for the period August 1-December 31, due by January 31).

Additionally, the Commission respectfully requests that the Legislature clarify the language within the bill with respect to special sessions of the Legislature. Currently, the bill provides that special session expenditure reports shall "[c]over the period from May 1 through adjournment sine die of that special session," and this language could lead to duplicate reporting in election years. For example, if the special session occurs in August of an election year, then it appears the filer will be required to file two expenditure reports with the same expenditure information for the May 1-July 31 period: one will be due the second Friday in August, and the second will be due within thirty days after adjournment of the special session. The Commission assumes that filers would only need to report information on one report, and respectfully asks that the language be clarified to provide as such.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Commission's work and for considering the Commission's testimony on S.B. 1056, S.D.1.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck  
Executive Director and General Counsel

Statement Before The  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
Thursday, March 12, 2020  
2:31 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of  
**SB 1056, SD1**  
**RELATING TO LOBBYISTS.**

Chair LEE, Vice Chair SAN BUENAVENTURA, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB, SD1, which requires lobbyists and specified individuals to file two additional reports in general election years to the Hawaii State Ethics Commission, including one report on the second Friday in August and one report on the first Monday in November.

Common Cause Hawaii is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to reforming government and strengthening democracy through ethics, accountability, transparency reforms.

Common Cause Hawaii comments that SB 1056, SD1, requiring additional reporting by lobbyists and specified individuals during general election years will promote transparency in the legislative process. Additional reporting should be required every year and not only during general election years, as the legislature is in session every year, to assist with ethics, accountability, and transparency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1056, SD1. If you have further questions of me, please contact me at [sma@commoncause.org](mailto:sma@commoncause.org).

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma  
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii



Pono Hawai'i Initiative

Josh Frost - President • Patrick Shea - Treasurer • Kristin Hamada  
Nelson Ho • Summer Starr

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Relating to Lobbyists  
Testifying in Support with comments

**LATE**

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

The Pono Hawai'i Initiative (PHI) **supports with comments SB1056 SD1 Relating to Lobbyists**, which will require additional reports by lobbyists and specified individuals during general election years.

This measure will help to promote transparency in the legislative process and will help to keep these individuals more accountable. It would be helpful to make this requirement yearly since the legislature is in session every year.

For all these reasons, we urge you to vote in favor of this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity,  
Gary Hooser  
Executive Director  
Pono Hawai'i Initiative

**SB-1056-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 9:54:33 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/12/2020 2:31:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Edward B Hanel Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Concur with CommonCause Hawaii comments.

**SB-1056-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 11:11:32 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/12/2020 2:31:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donna Ambrose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support requiring lobbyists to file reports every year rather than just during general election years. The legislature meets every year, and citizens should be able to access who's lobbying whom and for what. More transparency, please!

**SB-1056-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 12:34:09 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/12/2020 2:31:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

More transparency is always good. Additional reporting by lobbyists is welcome, and not just during general election years, but every year.

**LATE**

**SB-1056-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 5:10:35 AM  
Testimony for JUD on 3/12/2020 2:31:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

I am writing in support of SB1056 SD1.

- Common Cause Hawaii comments that SB 1056, SD1, requiring additional reporting by lobbyists and specified individuals during general elections years will promote transparency in the legislative process. Additional reporting should be required every year and not only during general election years, as the legislature is in session every year, to assist with ethics, accountability, and transparency..

Please support this bill.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake