



STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 7, 2020

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

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

SUBJECT: **Testimony on S.B. No. 2144, Relating to Reports of Candidate Committees**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020
10:10 a.m., Conference Room 016

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

This measure amends HRS §11-333(b) by amending paragraph (3) by replacing “candidate reimbursements” with “committee reimbursements to the candidate or other individuals” to the list of expenditures that need to be itemized. As currently written, only candidate reimbursements need to be itemized. In many instances, individuals other than the candidate are being reimbursed for campaign costs advanced by those individuals. Those reimbursements to other individuals should also be itemized. The Commission urges this Committee to pass this measure.

¹ The companion bill is H.B. No. 1703.

Statement Before The
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Tuesday, February 11, 2020
10:10 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

in consideration of
SB 2144
RELATING TO REPORTS OF CANDIDATE COMMITTEES.

Chair RHOADS, Vice Chair KEOHOKALOLE, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB 2144, which provides for disclosures when candidate committees reimburse the candidate or other individuals for expenditures made on the candidate's behalf.

Common Cause Hawaii is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to reforming government and strengthening democracy through improving our campaign finance system with laws that amplify the voices of everyday Americans by requiring strong disclosures and making sure everyone plays by the same commonsense rules.

SB 2144 provides that schedules filed with reports in Section 11-333, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall include committee reimbursements to the candidate or other individuals. This will provide more transparency in how candidate committees are spending monies, which is always beneficial to the process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2144, and Common Cause Hawaii respectfully urges the Committee members to pass SB 2144 out of your Committee. If you have further questions of me, please contact me at sma@commoncause.org.

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

SB-2144

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 6:26:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/11/2020 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This will provide more transparency in how candidate committees are spending monies, always beneficial

SB-2144

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 4:20:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/11/2020 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2144

Submitted on: 2/8/2020 12:12:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/11/2020 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward B Hanel Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Concur with CommonCause Hawaii comments

SB-2144

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 5:02:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/11/2020 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 2145 which permits an order of the Commission to be confirmed as a judgment in Circuit Court, giving the order the same force and effect as any other judgment issued by the Circuit Courts. However, the Commission's judgment should be appealable like any other court judgment. Further, a person's right to a contested case hearing should **not** be deemed waived if the person does not request a hearing within 20 days of receipt of the preliminary determination. There may be many reasons why a person does not request a contested case hearing within 20 days of receipt of the preliminary determination -- illness, travel, lack of understanding of the process, trying to obtain counsel, etc.

I suggest SB 2145 be amended to remove that (1) a person's right to a contested case hearing is deemed waived if a person does not request a hearing within 20 days of receipt of the Commission's preliminary determination and (2) the Commission's orders confirmed as a judgment in the Circuit Courts are not appealable. A person's right to due process and his/her fair day in court is a central part of democracy.