



STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 5, 2021

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 KEI
Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: **Testimony on S.B. No. 405, Relating to Campaign Contributions**

Wednesday, February 10, 2021
9:15 a.m., Via Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.¹ The Campaign Spending Commission (“Commission”) supports this bill, a house-keeping measure.

This measure amends subsection (a) of Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) §11-364 by including excess nonresident contributions to the list of prohibited contributions that committees must return to contributors within thirty days. Thereafter, if not returned, the excess nonresident contributions escheat to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund. The Commission urges this Committee to pass this measure.

¹ The companion bill is H.B. No. 145.

Statement Before The
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Wednesday, February 10, 2021
9:15 AM
Via Videoconference

in consideration of
SB 405
RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

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

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB 405, which provides that excess contributions by nonresident contributors shall escheat to the Hawaii election campaign fund if not returned to the contributor within 30 days.

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.

SB 405 provides another source of income for the perennially underfunded Hawaii Election Campaign Fund and will allow candidates, who choose, to more readily use available public financing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 405, and Common Cause Hawaii respectfully urges the Committee members to pass SB 405 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



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COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
WEDNESDAY, 2/10/21, 9:15 AM, VIDEOCONFERENCE

SB405 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS
Beppie Shapiro, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports this bill, which provides that excess contributions by nonresident contributors shall escheat to the Hawaii election campaign fund if not returned to the contributor within 30 days.

This bill complements existing law and will help ensure adequate funding for the partial public funding program.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

SB-405

Submitted on: 2/6/2021 10:18:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/10/2021 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB 405 provides another source of income for the perennially underfunded Hawaii Election Campaign Fund and will allow candidates, who choose, to more readily use available public financing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 405, and we respectfully urge the Committee members to pass SB 405 out of your Committee.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tlaloc Tokuda

Kailua Kona 96740

SB-405

Submitted on: 2/6/2021 11:01:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/10/2021 9:15:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Caroline Kunitake | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Committee on Judiciary,

Please support SB405. We need to bolster the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund.

SB 405 provides another source of income for the perennially underfunded Hawaii Election Campaign Fund and will allow candidates, who choose, to more readily use available public financing.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

SB-405

Submitted on: 2/7/2021 11:09:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/10/2021 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I support SB 405.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.

SB-405

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 12:47:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/10/2021 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support passage of SB 405 as one way to address funding shortfalls in our electoral process. Concurr with comments submitted by Common Cause Hawaii on this bill.

SB-405

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 11:54:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/10/2021 9:15:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| David Anderson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

SB405 provides another source of income for the perennially underfunded Hawaii Election Campaign Fund and will allow candidates, who choose, to more readily use available public financing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 405, and I respectfully urge the Committee members to pass SB405 out of Committee.