

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 03 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2300

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 2300 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to allow candidates seeking election to use campaign funds for child care and vital household dependent care costs under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, Common Cause Hawaii, Hawaii State Democratic Women's Caucus, Vote Mama Foundation, Great Wāhine Run, Pono Hawai'i Initiative, AAUW of Hawaii, Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, and ten individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu County Republican Party and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission.

Your Committee finds that parenthood and care for one's dependents should not be a barrier to political office. One solution to this unnecessary obstacle is to allow candidates for elected office to use campaign funds to defray the expensive costs of a candidate's child care or dependent family care. Your Committee also finds that a growing number of candidates and good governance organizations are pushing state legislatures and elections commissions to adopt similar proposals in an effort to



encourage more women and low-income candidates to run for public office by addressing a financial barrier for parents and caregivers. Accordingly, your Committee finds that this measure will reduce that cost barrier by allowing candidates more flexibility in how they use campaign funds.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2300 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2300	JDC	02-17-22

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	✓			
ACASIO, Laura	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
LEE, Chris	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	7	-	-	-

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: *Karl Rhoads*

Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod
 File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy

*Only one measure per Record of Votes