

From: [Marti Townsend](#)
To: [Standards of Conduct](#)
Subject: Please support campaign finance reform
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Aloha Standards of Conduct committee members,

I am writing to urge you to do your part to limit the harm of outsized corporate financial influence on the outcome of our elections. Please support the following:

- 1) The full public funding for all State and County elections in Hawai'i. This could be paid for in part by taxing the current balances in campaign accounts.
- 2) Prohibit the solicitation or acceptance of campaign donations during the legislative session.
- 3) Reduce the cap on campaign donations to a lower amount from the current \$6,000, \$4,000 and \$2,000 to \$100, \$100, and \$100. Montana caps their maximum donation for state legislative races at \$180 per election.
- 4) Prohibit contributions from corporations and unions as 21 other states now do.
- 5) Limit candidate campaign war chests. This is done in Alaska where candidates can only carry forward a small portion of their campaign account from one election to the next. This law was upheld by the Alaska Supreme Court which noted that when a candidate who is unopposed raises money and squirrels it away for a future election, they are effectively circumventing donation limits for that future election.

All 5 are important, but the reform that makes all other reforms possible is the public funding of elections. Ban and limit big-money special interests and replace it with public funds to be used to elect public servants beholden only to the public.

Thank you very much.

Aloha,
Marti Townsend