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STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION


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January 29, 2021

TO: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
House Committee on Government Reform

The Honorable Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair
House Committee on Government Reform

Members of the House Committee on Government Reform

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

SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 140, Relating to Campaign Finance Reports**

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
8:30 a.m., Conference Room 309

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

This measure amends HRS §11-340(c) to make clear that the increased fine (not to exceed \$300 per day) for the late-filing of preliminary reports only applies to the reports due ten days before a primary, general, or special election. This measure is necessary due to the additional preliminary reports mandated by the Legislature in 2019. The Commission urges this Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

¹ The companion bill is S.B. No. 400.

Statement Before The
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM
Wednesday, February 3, 2021
8:30 AM
Via Video Conference, Conference Room 309

in consideration of
HB 140
RELATING TO THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

Chair McKELVEY, Vice Chair WILDBERGER, and Members of the Government Reform Committee

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 140, which clarifies that increased fines may apply if a candidate committee or noncandidate committee fails to timely file the preliminary primary or preliminary general report due 10 days before the primary, general, or special election.

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.

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 140 because it clarifies that increased fines applies to candidate and noncandidate committees alike if they fail to file preliminary primary, general, or special reports, which are due 10 days before any such election. Timely filing of reports is necessary for transparency and accountability.

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 140, and Common Cause Hawaii respectfully urges the Committee members to pass HB 140 unamended out of your Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 140. If you have further questions of me, please contact me at sma@commoncause.org.

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

HB-140

Submitted on: 1/31/2021 9:32:28 PM

Testimony for GVR on 2/3/2021 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Feena Bonoan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please do not pass this bill.