



STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION


235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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. 145, Relating to Campaign Contributions**

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, 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 S.B. No. 405.

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 145
RELATING TO THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

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

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 145, 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.

HB 145 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 HB 145, and Common Cause Hawaii respectfully urges the Committee members to pass HB 145 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

HB-145

Submitted on: 1/31/2021 9:35:31 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.

HB-145

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 10:16:00 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Banner Fanene	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I Support HB145. It 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. .