



STATE OF HAWAII  
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION


235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 8, 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 S.B. No. 406, SD 1, Relating to Campaign Spending  
Commission Staff**

Wednesday, March 10, 2021  
11:30 a.m., Via Videoconference

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

This measure seeks to clarify Commission staff’s authority to perform all day-to-day functions of the office, including the conducting of investigations and filing of complaints. Section 1 of the measure amends subsection (b) of Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) §11-311 by adding at the end of the subsection: “The commission may employ staff who may initiate complaints under section 11-402; provided that the staff shall not be members of the commission.” Section 2 of the measure amends subsection (b) of HRS §11-402 by including complaints initiated by staff to those initiated by the Commission.

Upon further consideration, instead of the proposed amendment to HRS §11-311, the Commission requests that this Committee replace the contents of Section 1 with the following:

Section 1. Section 11-314, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending paragraph (12) to read as follows:

“(12) Employ or contract with, without regard to chapters 76, 78, and 89, persons it finds necessary for the performance of its day-to-day functions, including a

---

<sup>1</sup> The companion bill is H.B. No. 146, which GVR deferred on February 17, 2021.

full-time executive director, and to fix their compensation; provided that the commission shall have the authority, at its discretion, to dismiss persons employed by or contracted with the commission; provided further that any persons employed or contracted by the commission shall have the authority, without further commission action, to perform the day-to-day functions of the commission;“

The Commission believes it is more appropriate to amend §11-314(12), since it is the provision that addresses employees of the Commission, rather than amend §11-311. The Commission urges this Committee to pass this measure with the amendment to Section 1 discussed above.

**SB-406-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/8/2021 8:57:06 PM

Testimony for GVR on 3/10/2021 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

Please support SB406.

Thank you,

Andrea Quinn