



HAWAI‘I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawai‘i · Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 · Honolulu, Hawai‘i

Committee: Senate Committee on Government Operations
Bill Number: S.B. 1453
Hearing Date/Time: February 14, 2023, 3:10 p.m.
Re: Testimony of the Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission with **COMMENTS**
about S.B. 1453, Relating to Lobbyists

Aloha Chair McKevey, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

The Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) has not yet had an opportunity to consider this bill, but will be doing so at its February 15, 2023 meeting. The Commission would appreciate the opportunity to stay involved on this matter should S.B. 1453 move forward.

Mahalo for your continuing support of the Commission’s work and for considering its testimony on S.B. 1453.

Very truly yours,

/S/ Robert D. Harris
Executive Director and General Counsel

SB-1453

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:46:53 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/14/2023 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hunter Heavilin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a registered lobbyist, I strongly support SB1453 which expands the definition of "administrative action" in lobbyists law to include granting or denying applications for business or development-related permits, licenses, or approvals and procurement of goods and services under the Hawaii Public Procurement Code. This bill will help ensure transparency and accountability in the lobbying process by making it clear that the lobbyists law applies to all branches of government, including the executive branch.

The current definition of "administrative action" in lobbyists law is outdated and does not take into account the many different ways in which lobbyists can influence government decisions. By expanding the definition to include procurement of goods and services and decision making on permits, licenses, and approvals, this bill will help ensure that all forms of lobbying are subject to the same standards of transparency and accountability. This will help to prevent conflicts of interest and ensure that the public's interests are protected. With the passage of this bill, we can be confident that the lobbying process in Hawaii is fair and transparent.

SB-1453

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:55:05 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/14/2023 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Culbertson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators,

Getting corrupt practices out of government requires more than this; but we'll certainly need this legislation too!

Please pass SB1453