

Testimony in Support of SB1493

Submitted for: Judiciary Committee Hearing, scheduled to be heard on Thursday, 2/23/23 at 9:30 AM.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Greg Misakian and I strongly support SB1493.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, further below is the picture, and with just a few words I submit my testimony.

There are those who often oppose consumer protection Bills meant to help condominium owners and residents of Hawaii. The same group who often oppose these measures profit more when they are not enacted, are deferred, are improperly referred to the wrong committees, or are improperly triple referred. The game is clear and the rules are not, but the picture is 100% clear, unless you choose not to look. Hawaii needs better laws to ensure that Legislators, Attorneys, and all members of the public behave ethically and properly, and in the best interest of all.

Campaign Contributions of Yuriko Sugimura (aka Jane Sugimura), as seen at the State of Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission website:

Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	12/15/2009	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/19/2010	\$100.00	\$1,700.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	10/02/2009	\$500.00	\$500.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	08/12/2010	\$100.00	\$1,800.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	09/03/2010	\$500.00	\$2,400.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	08/18/2010	\$100.00	\$1,900.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Abercrombie, Neil	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	03/24/2010	\$100.00	\$1,600.00	Bendet Fidell & Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/08/2017	\$150.00	\$550.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/07/2013	\$300.00	\$300.00		Attorney / CPA

Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/10/2016	\$200.00	\$400.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/23/2008	\$100.00	\$300.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/13/2011	\$200.00	\$500.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/10/2015	\$200.00	\$200.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/05/2012	\$200.00	\$700.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/02/2018	\$200.00	\$750.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	12/03/2019	\$500.00	\$500.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/06/2014	\$200.00	\$500.00		Attorney / CPA
Baker, Rosalyn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/20/2010	\$200.00	\$300.00		Attorney / CPA
Belatti, Della	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	01/30/2019	\$200.00	\$200.00		
Belatti, Della	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/11/2018	\$250.00	\$250.00		
Caldwell, Kirk	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	11/24/2015	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Attorney
Chang, Stanley	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/29/2020	\$150.00	\$150.00		
DeCoite, Lynn	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	04/25/2019	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Espero, William	Individual	SUGIMURA, Yuriko J.	10/05/2017	\$200.00	\$300.00		
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/27/2014	\$250.00	\$250.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/12/2011	\$200.00	\$200.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	03/12/2015	\$125.00	\$125.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal

Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/04/2012	\$200.00	\$500.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/13/2018	\$300.00	\$1,325.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	09/14/2017	\$400.00	\$525.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/11/2009	\$200.00	\$200.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	11/22/2017	\$500.00	\$1,025.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/16/2010	\$200.00	\$400.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Fukunaga, Carol	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/14/2011	\$100.00	\$300.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Principal
Hashimoto, Troy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/24/2018	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Attorney
Hashimoto, Troy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	11/21/2019	\$100.00	\$200.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Attorney
Hashimoto, Troy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/20/2022	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Attorney
Hashimoto, Troy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	11/02/2021	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura	Attorney
Ichiyama, Linda	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	04/11/2018	\$100.00	\$200.00		
Ichiyama, Linda	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	02/24/2020	\$100.00	\$250.00		
Ichiyama, Linda	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	11/13/2019	\$100.00	\$150.00		
Ige, David	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	11/28/2017	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Bendet, Fidell, Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Ige, David	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/19/2018	\$100.00	\$1,100.00	Bendet, Fidell, Sugimura AAL ALC	Attorney
Ihara, Les	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/05/2016	\$100.00	\$200.00		
Iwase, Randall	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	01/29/2007	\$300.00	\$300.00		

Johanson, Aaron	Individual	SUGIMUR A, YURIKO J.	10/14/2015	\$300.00	\$300.00	CLAY CHAPMAN IWAMURA PULICE & NERVELL	ATTORNEY
Johanson, Aaron	Individual	SUGIMUR A, YURIKO J.	07/21/2016	\$300.00	\$600.00	CLAY CHAPMAN IWAMURA PULICE & NERVELL	ATTORNEY
Johanson, Aaron	Individual	SUGIMUR A, YURIKO J.	11/03/2021	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	CLAY CHAPMAN IWAMURA PULICE & NERVELL	ATTORNEY
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert	Individual	SUGIMUR A, YURIKO J.	01/08/2015	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert	Individual	SUGIMUR A, YURIKO J.	01/15/2016	\$150.00	\$300.00		
Keohokalole, Jarrett	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/17/2018	\$200.00	\$250.00		
Keohokalole, Jarrett	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	03/11/2020	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Kong, Samuel	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	04/18/2018	\$100.00	\$150.00		
Kong, Samuel	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	04/24/2019	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Kong, Samuel	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/22/2019	\$100.00	\$250.00		
Learmont, Lei	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/04/2018	\$500.00	\$500.00		
Luke, Sylvia	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	06/23/2022	\$500.00	\$500.00		
Luke, Sylvia	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	04/23/2008	\$50.00	\$150.00		
Luke, Sylvia	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	01/11/2019	\$250.00	\$250.00		
Luke, Sylvia	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	04/16/2018	\$300.00	\$300.00		
Maluafiti, Alicia	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	06/04/2018	\$500.00	\$500.00		

McKelvey, Angus	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	11/14/2019	\$100.00	\$150.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura, AAL, a Law Corporation	Attorney
Menor, Ron	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/01/2019	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura AAL ALC	Attorney
Menor, Ron	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	10/16/2019	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura AAL ALC	Attorney
Misalucha, Bennette	Individual	SUGIMUR A, YURIKO J.	09/11/2020	\$500.00	\$500.00		
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	09/25/2019	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	02/17/2018	\$232.46	\$232.46	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/16/2018	\$500.00	\$732.46	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	03/14/2019	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/14/2018	\$100.00	\$832.46	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	10/17/2018	\$500.00	\$1,332.46	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	12/12/2020	\$250.00	\$1,250.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Moriwaki, Sharon	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	12/06/2021	\$2,750.00	\$4,000.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura, Pulice & Nervell, AAL, ALC	Attorney
Nishimoto, Scott	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	01/31/2019	\$250.00	\$250.00		
Nishimoto, Scott	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	03/04/2019	\$100.00	\$350.00		

Ohno, Takashi	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	01/30/2020	\$250.00	\$350.00		
Ohno, Takashi	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	01/16/2018	\$150.00	\$200.00		
Oshiro, Blake	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	07/27/2010	\$250.00	\$350.00		
Rhoads, Karl	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	07/12/2021	\$500.00	\$500.00		
Rhoads, Karl	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	10/03/2019	\$500.00	\$700.00		
Rhoads, Karl	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	01/11/2016	\$175.00	\$275.00		
Rhoads, Karl	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	01/04/2019	\$200.00	\$200.00		
Rhoads, Karl	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/08/2012	\$125.00	\$125.00		
Saiki, Scott	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	05/13/2019	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura Pulice & Nervel	Attorney
Saiki, Scott	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	06/21/2022	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura Pulice & Nervel	Attorney
Sakamoto, Norman	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/27/2009	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Say, Calvin	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	04/29/2019	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Schatz, Brian	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	04/09/2010	\$50.00	\$450.00		
Schatz, Brian	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	12/18/2009	\$400.00	\$400.00		
Sugimura, Yuki	Immediate Family	Sugimura, Yuriko	06/04/2022	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Bendet Findell A Law Corporation	Attorney
Sugimura, Yuki	Immediate Family	Sugimura, Yuriko	12/06/2017	\$500.00	\$500.00	Bendet Findell A Law Corporation	Attorney
Sugimura, Yuki	Immediate Family	Sugimura, Yuriko	03/26/2020	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Bendet Findell A Law Corporation	Attorney

Sugimura, Yuki	Immediate Family	Sugimura, Yuriko	08/12/2015	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Bendet Fidell A Law Corporation	Attorney
Takayama, Gregg	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	02/19/2020	\$100.00	\$350.00	Bendet Fidell	Attorney
Takayama, Gregg	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/10/2022	\$200.00	\$400.00	Bendet Fidell	Attorney
Takayama, Gregg	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	11/13/2019	\$100.00	\$250.00	Bendet Fidell	Attorney
Takayama, Gregg	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	03/06/2019	\$50.00	\$150.00	Bendet Fidell	Attorney
Takayama, Gregg	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	04/11/2018	\$100.00	\$150.00	Bendet Fidell	Attorney
Takayama, Gregg	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/10/2022	\$200.00	\$200.00	Bendet Fidell	Attorney
Takenouchi, Jenna	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/11/2022	\$200.00	\$200.00		
Takumi, Roy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	01/11/2018	\$200.00	\$200.00	Clay Chapman Pulice & Nervell	Attorney
Takumi, Roy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	04/29/2022	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	Clay Chapman Pulice & Nervell	Attorney
Takumi, Roy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/04/2021	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Pulice & Nervell	Attorney
Takumi, Roy	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	04/16/2019	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Pulice & Nervell	Attorney
Tam, Adrian	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	09/26/2020	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura Pulice & Nervell	Attorney
Tokuda, Jill	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	06/08/2018	\$250.00	\$1,550.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura. AAL. ALC	Attorney
Tokuda, Jill	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	06/27/2018	\$100.00	\$1,650.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura. AAL. ALC	Attorney
Tokuda, Jill	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	11/14/2017	\$500.00	\$600.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura. AAL. ALC	Attorney
Tokuda, Jill	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	03/29/2018	\$500.00	\$1,100.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura. AAL. ALC	Attorney
Tokuda, Jill	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	05/03/2018	\$200.00	\$1,300.00	Bendet Fidell Sugimura. AAL. ALC	Attorney

Tokuda, Jill	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko J.	12/15/2021	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman	Attorney
Weyer, Matt	Individual	Sugimura, Yuriko	07/20/2022	\$500.00	\$500.00	Clay Chapman Iwamura Pulice & Nervell	Attorney

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/17/2023 1:34:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diann Karin Lynn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's hard enough for mere mortal citizens to compete with paid lobbyists without having them also trying to influence legislators with donations. Here's another good "political finance reform" opportunity! Please explore!

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/17/2023 2:02:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcia Kimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I firmly support this measure, and simply believe that these timely "campaign contributions" are just another form of bribery, no matter how euphemistically everyone else terms them. They're a reason, if not the exclusive reason fair, just legislation and enforcement of that legislation fails. No moneyed influence of any business or political entity should unfairly disrupt the course of achieving timely, rightful legislative objectives. Until there is a reckoning of this kind of influence, the best intentions and crafting of measures are doomed to failure.

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/17/2023 9:55:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for the reasons stated in Section 1 of the bill, i.e.,

The legislature find that contributions made during legislative sessions, including extended sessions or special sessions, can create the perception that the contribution is, or is intended to, influence decisions being taken on pending legislation. The legislature's passage of Act 283, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, to prohibit elected state and county officials from holding fundraisers during regular and special sessions of the state legislature is one approach to restoring confidence in Hawai'i's legislative process. This bill would address lobbyist contributions and have similar effect.

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/18/2023 3:10:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Polk	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Restricting lobbyist donations to sitting State legislators and the Governor during a legislative session is highly desirable. But the inclusion of ALL elected officials, as well as non-sitting candidates, is **very self-serving** by severely restricting the potential for anyone to challenge a sitting legislator. Although I don't like the ability of lobbyists to donate at all, this bill leaves open their ability to do so the rest of the year, while banning it during a prime time for challengers to raise money.

By including other elected officials in last year's ban on fund raisers during the session, the Legislature has already ignored the fact that legislators and the Governor are the **only ones** who can make new laws and therefore the only ones for whom restrictions on fund-raising make sense. By restricting anyone else, it turned a proposal to raise ethics into one that restricts competition on specious grounds.

Please don't do it again. Please remove other elected officials and candidates who are not currently in office from this bill. Otherwise, the legislature just continues to suggest that it doesn't believe in fair play.

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/20/2023 8:15:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a registered lobbyist, I view SB1493 is a crucial piece of legislation that seeks to limit the financial influence of lobbyists on our political system by prohibiting contributions and promises of contributions to elected officials or candidates during legislative sessions, and shortly before and after. The proposed legislation is a significant step towards promoting transparency, accountability, and fairness in our political system, and helps to prevent undue influence on our elected officials by wealthy special interests.

This bill recognizes the significant role that money plays in politics and aims to promote a more democratic election process. By prohibiting lobbyist contributions during critical legislative periods and for candidates and candidate committees who have received contributions or made expenditures over \$100, SB1493 promotes a system where elected officials make decisions based on the merits of the issue rather than the financial influence of lobbyists. Passing this legislation is an essential step towards ensuring that our elected officials truly represent the people they serve, and not the interests of wealthy special interests. I urge lawmakers to support SB1493 and help to promote transparency and accountability in our political system.

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/20/2023 10:47:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Lobbyists should not be driving legislators and legislation. Their influence must be regulated. This is more important with the latest revelations, in Saturday's Civil Beat, that a lobbyist, Alicia Maluafiti, obtained drugs using a veterinarian's credentials. Her arraignment is scheduled for Wednesday Feb. 22 at 10:30 a.m.

Please support this bill.

SB-1493

Submitted on: 2/20/2023 11:35:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shaw Kailaka Pascua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to prohibit lobbyists from contributing to elected officials during legislative sessions.