

HB-96

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 4:01:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

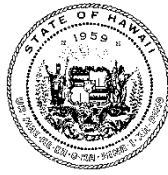
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
daniel foley	Commission to Improve Standards of Conductone	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chairman Tarnas and members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

As Chair of the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct (Commission), I support this bill expanding the scope of the prohibition of campaign contributions from those receiving state and county funds for reasons stated in the Commission's December 1, 2022 Final Report submitted to the House of Representatives, specifically found at page 33 of the Report.

Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)



STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 30, 2023

TO: The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

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

SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 96, Relating to Contributions by State and County Contractors and Grantees of the State.**

Wednesday, February 1, 2023
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

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

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) §11-355 by extending the ban on contributions from state and county contractors to the owners, officers, employees of the contractor and their immediate family. It is common for contractors, the Commission believes, to get around the ban by having those persons connected to the contractor make political contributions. A few of these situations also involved false name contributions where the contributors were reimbursed for their contributions. The bill also extends the ban to HRS Chapter 42F grantees of the state, and the owners, officers, employees of the grantee and their immediate family. Grantees, similar to contractors, receive state funds and thus should be treated similarly in the context of political contributions. This bill will prevent the corruption, or at least the appearance of corruption, of elected officials.

The Commission requests that this committee pass this bill.

¹ The companion bill is S.B. No. 201.

HB-96

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:13:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill closes a serious loophole in campaign financing. Its passage will help restore the public's trust in government.