

LATE

HCR-72

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 4:34:25 PM

Testimony for EIG on 4/10/2025 4:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tai-ni Xia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tai-Ni Xia. I strongly support HCR72, which urge county ethics commissions to adopt standards similar to those for state officials. This is vital because:

- **It promotes honesty and integrity:** Consistent ethical standards across the state ensure all public officials are held to the same high bar.
- **It reinforces public trust:** Public service is a public trust. These resolutions help maintain that trust by demonstrating a commitment to ethical conduct in county governments.
- **It strengthens public perception:** Public trust depends on *both* actual and perceived integrity. HCR72 and HR65 will improve how the public views the integrity of county governments.

I urge you to support these resolutions and implement these essential ethical standards.

Mahalo,

Tai-Ni Xia

LATE

HCR-72

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 4:37:49 PM

Testimony for EIG on 4/10/2025 4:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs,

I am writing to express my strong support for HCR72 and HR65 which urges the ethics commissions of each county in Hawai‘i to adopt standards similar to those applicable to state elected officials and officers. This resolution is crucial for several reasons:

Improved Honesty and Integrity: The primary purpose of governmental ethics laws is to improve honesty and integrity in government. Adopting consistent standards across the state will help ensure that all public officials are held to the same high ethical standards.

Public Trust: Public service is a public trust, and those entrusted with the power of office must commit to upholding the rule of law. HCR72 will help restore and maintain public trust in county governments by demonstrating a commitment to ethical conduct.

Perception of Integrity: The perception of integrity in government is just as important as the reality. Even if officials are honest, a democratic system cannot function properly if the public believes its officials are corrupt. HCR72 will help improve the public's perception of integrity in county governments.

I urge you to support HCR72 and take the necessary steps to implement these important ethical standards.

Sincerely,

Nelson K Heekahaunaele

LATE

HCR-72

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 4:40:56 PM

Testimony for EIG on 4/10/2025 4:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support HCR72. This resolution promote uniform ethical standards for county officials, mirroring those for state officials. This is vital for:

Ensuring consistent integrity across all levels of Hawaiian government.

Strengthening public trust by upholding high ethical standards.

Reinforcing the perception of integrity in public service.

HCR72 and HR65 are essential for maintaining ethical governance in Hawaii

LATE

HCR-72

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 9:51:26 AM
Testimony for EIG on 4/10/2025 4:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Germaine Meyers	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chang, and honorable members of the committee,

I'm in STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR72.

This measure urges the ethics commission of each county to adopt standards that are applicable to state elected officials and officers as adopted and enforced by the State Ethics Commission.

Adopting standards similar to those enforced by the State Ethics Commission will promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct at the county level.

Ensuring consistent ethical guidelines across state and county levels strengthens public trust and fosters responsible governance by elected officials and officers.

HCR-72

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 10:58:14 AM
Testimony for EIG on 4/10/2025 4:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire	Testifying for Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands & Ohana Unity Party	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

April 10, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the House of Representatives and Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawaii
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: A Resounding Cheer for H.C.R. No. 72 – Raising the Ethical Bar with Ethereal Flair

Dear Esteemed Legislators,

I am electrified with righteous zeal to champion House Concurrent Resolution No. 72, which implores each county’s ethics commission to mirror the lofty standards of integrity set by the State Ethics Commission for elected officials and officers. This resolution is a beacon of virtue in a murky sea of skepticism, and I propose we sprinkle it with magic by levying a small “integrity fee” on county perks to fund this noble quest. Let’s weave a tapestry of trust that dazzles the ages—Mahalo for wielding the loom of justice!

The Sacred Call of Ethics—and Its Ironic Echo:

- **Public Trust on Trial:** Ethics laws exist to forge honesty and integrity, yet the Latin ethos—meaning “character” or “custom”—ironically whispers of habits too often bent by power’s temptations.
- **Perception is Power:** The reality of clean governance means little if the public sees corruption’s shadow—democracy falters when faith frays, a bitter twist on ethos as a shared moral compass.
- **County Conundrum:** Our counties lag in trust, with officials too often acting as if above the law—a stark betrayal of ethos as the soul of leadership.

A Golden Standard to Emulate:

- **State’s Shining Example:** The State Ethics Commission’s rules—strict, clear, enforced—offer a blueprint of righteousness, a modern ethos that county commissions can embrace.

- Restoring the Sacred Bond: Aligning county standards with the state's isn't just policy—it's a spiritual pact to honor public service as a trust, not a privilege to plunder.
- Ethics with Flair: Imagine the irony turned to triumph—ethos reborn as a vibrant custom of accountability, dazzling cynics with its brilliance.

A Magical Funding Twist: The Integrity Fee:

- Perk-Powered Ethics: Charge county officials a modest annual fee (e.g., \$50-\$100) on perks like travel stipends or office allowances, funneling funds to ethics commissions for training and oversight. With hundreds of officials across counties, this could yield tens of thousands yearly.
- Poetic Justice: Those entrusted with power pay to uphold it—a delicious twist on ethos as character proved through action, not just words.
- Practical Magic: These funds could boost enforcement (current budgets often under \$500,000 per county commission, per public records), ensuring ethics isn't just a promise but a practice.

HCR 72: A Spellbinding Step Forward:

This resolution's call to unify ethics standards is a masterstroke of moral alchemy. Add an integrity fee, and it transforms from aspiration to action—casting a spell of trust over our counties. This isn't mere governance; it's a renaissance of righteousness, proving ethos can shine anew in Hawai'i's halls of power.

I'd relish a kūkākūkā to conjure more—reach me at ohanaunitychair@gmail.com (mailto:ohanaunitychair@gmail.com). Mahalo nui loa for conjuring HCR 72 and igniting an ethical flame that warms every heart!

With boundless Aloha,

Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM
Chairman, Ohana Unity Party
Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands, H.I.
www.ohanaunityparty.com
