

KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 27, 2025

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

The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, 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. 772, Relating to Campaign Finance.**

Tuesday, January 28, 2025
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

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

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) §11-381 by repealing paragraph 6 of subsection (a), so that candidates would no longer be allowed to use campaign funds to purchase two tickets for another candidate’s event. This measure is in alignment with HRS §11-382(1), which prohibits the use of campaign funds to support the campaign of another candidate.

The Commission requests that this committee pass this measure.



House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Strongly Supports: HB772 Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 2:00pm; Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

HAPA strongly supports HB772, which prohibits the use of campaign funds to purchase up to two tickets for an event or fundraiser held by another candidate or committee.

The current law can lead to a cycle of mutual financial support among candidates, creating opportunities for undue influence and favoritism. This bill reduces that potential quid pro quo arrangement and guarantees that campaign funds are used solely to support that specific candidate's own campaign efforts.

This change would also align with recent efforts to improve campaign finance regulations. Two years ago, Act 128 went into effect. This Act prohibits lobbyist contributions and expenditures during legislative sessions shortly before and after. This bill would complement this law since it would further restrict the flow of campaign funds between candidates.

It is worth noting that we have been taking steps to increase transparency in our political financing, such as the new requirements of legislation requiring disclosure of certain lobbyist relationships in their public financial interest disclosures. HB772 builds on this trend of increasing accountability for our people.

We urge you to support the passage of HB772 to make voting accessible and simple for everyone.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anne Frederick, Executive Director

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 8:44:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*Green Party of Hawai'i is in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers. Smoke and mirrors in the political hallways, enough is enough.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or "pay-to-play" situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other's events in exchange for political favors. Please support HB772.

Mahalo nui,

Green Party of Hawai'i

Susan RobertsEmery

Co chair GPH

Paauilo

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:28:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John & Rita Shockley	Free Access Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

The Free Access Coalition this bill.

Mahalo!



Hawaii Legislative Council Members

Joell Edwards
Wainiha Country Market
Hanalei

Russell Ruderman
Island Naturals
Hilo/Kona

Dr. Andrew Johnson
Niko Niko
Family Dentistry
Honolulu

Robert H. Pahia
Hawaii Taro Farm
Wailuku

Maile Meyer
Na Mea Hawaii
Honolulu

Tina Wildberger
Kihei Ice
Kihei

L. Malu Shizue Miki
Abundant Life
Natural Foods
Hilo

Tanya Aynessazian
Principal Contractor

Chamber of
Sustainable Commerce
P.O. Box 22394
Honolulu, HI 96823

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Tuesday, January 28, 2025
2:00 PM in Room 325

RE: **HB772** Candidate Campaign Expenditures Reform - **Strong Support**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

The Chamber of Sustainable Commerce strongly supports HB772, which would remove a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allow candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing up to two tickets to another candidate's event.

As small business owners who believe we can strengthen Hawaii's economy without hurting workers, consumers, communities or the environment, we urge this committee to vote in favor of passing HB772, because this bill brings us another step closer toward a democracy that protects small business owners, workers, consumers and the environment, not just large corporate campaign donors who can afford to pay to play.

Campaign donations are meant for a candidate to run their own campaign. Removing the ability for one candidate's campaign to purchase tickets to another candidate's event ensures that campaign funds aren't quietly funneled to other election campaigns. This also prevents potential conflicts of interest and "pay to play" circumstances in which candidates feel pressured to support or attend another candidate's fundraiser in exchange for political favors. For example,

This bill is an important step in reducing the influence of big money in our election process by requiring that campaign donation remain focused on the candidate to whom the original donation was given, and not a way to indirectly support other campaigns.



150 Hamakua Drive #341
Kailua, HI 96734

our-hawaii.org

Testimony in Support of HB772

Submitted to the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee
by Evan Weber, Managing Director, Our Hawai'i, 1/28/2025

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and all Committee members,

On behalf of Our Hawai'i's over 38,000 members and supporters across the pae 'āina, we write in strong support of House Bill 772, relating to campaign finance. Our members and supporters are local people — kama'āina and kānaka 'oiwi, keiki and kūpuna, from Kaua'i to Kohala, Kailua to Kapolei and every place in between. They have joined our movement to fight for a Hawai'i that puts local people — not big money interests — first, because they are worried about the direction of our islands and believe now is the time for change.

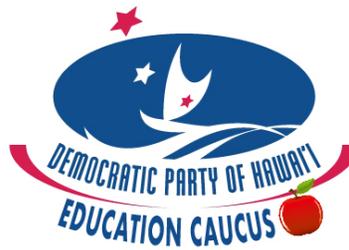
Our supporters are not alone. Our corruption and public trust in government crisis has reached a tipping point. After years of the FBI putting our officials in handcuffs, resignations, and scandals, [Hawai'i voters as a whole in 2022 ranked government corruption as their number 3 top issue, only behind inflation and affordable housing](#). In 2024 polling, [2 in 3 \(66%\) voters said they believe elected officials care more about "wealthy donors" than the "needs of their communities"](#). With public trust at or near all time lows, now is the time for action. While some progress has been made in recent years through the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct, there is more opportunity to take action in removing the influence of money in politics.

House Bill 772 seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawai'i's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through connections to other candidates, especially well established or sometimes entrenched elected officials. This helps level the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



HOUSE BILL 772, RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE

JANUARY 28, 2025 · JHA HEARING

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus **supports** HB 772, relating to campaign contributions, which disallows the use of campaign funds to purchase up to two tickets for an event or fundraiser held by another candidate or committee.

Our democracy belongs to we, the people. At a time when our nation is experiencing extreme political turmoil and basic civil liberties are under assault, we must take steps in Hawai'i to safeguard democratic participation. In the 2024 primary election, for example, our state experienced its lowest turnout in 65 years, with only 32.1 percent of registered voters filling out a ballot. This is, in part, a reflection of the public's deep cynicism with our electoral processes.

Hawai'i continues to be embroiled in public corruption scandals, following the bribery allegations that were levied against former Senate Majority Leader Kalani English and former State Representative Ty Cullen. Other public officials, such as employees at local permitting offices, have also recently been ensnared in bribery scandals, in some cases with connections to Milton Choy, the lobbyist who was responsible for coordinating the bribery scheme that Sen. English and Rep. Cullen became a part of. These cases show that we have a moral crisis in our public institutions and must do all we can to restore integrity to government.

With that in mind, we should act quickly to end the longstanding practice of campaign money laundering. When people make campaign donations, they generally expect that those contributions will be used to help the candidate receiving the funds run their own campaign. Removing the ability to buy tickets for another candidate's event ensures that campaign funds are not funneled to other campaigns, thereby preventing candidates from exerting pressure on their political peers to support their preferred campaigns in exchange for legislative favors.

Additionally, ending this practice will erode the tendency toward "buying factions" through campaign contributions, which undermines the integrity of our campaign system by redirecting it toward the accumulation of power, rather than the preservation of the public trust. Finally, passing this measure will strengthen transparency in our campaign system, since the original funding that is used to make candidate-to-candidate donations is not publicly reported.

We believe our government should work for the public interest, not special interests. It is in that spirit that we support this and other reforms to restore integrity to our state's electoral and governmental processes.

Contact: educationcaucusdph@gmail.com

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 9:14:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments: Dear Mr. Chairman and members of the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee, As former chair of the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct (Commission), I submit this testimony in support of HB 772 Relating to Campaign Finance. In proposing this bill to the legislature, the Commission found that the use of campaign funds to purchase up to two tickets for an event or fundraiser held by another candidate or committee "gives the appearance of impropriety since campaign funds of the purchaser/candidate are likely contributions made to the purchaser/candidate and not to the candidate holding the event or fundraiser." Commission December 1, 2022 Report at pages 33- 34. Mahalo, Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 10:29:24 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

When I make a contribution to a candidate I expect that money to be used for that person's campaign, not to buy tickets to another candidate's fundraiser. I do not support bait and switch. This bill is long overdue. Please move it forward.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 3:57:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*I, Bobbie Best, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 4:46:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Marcia Kemble, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Marcia Kemble

Makiki

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 5:26:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emelia Briscoe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Emelia, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of HB772, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Emelia Briscoe, Honolulu

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 6:15:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*My name is GeorgiaHoopes, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 6:46:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*My name is kimdonghyeon, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

When you give money to confuse voters and have selfish interests, corruption and the gates are bound to open. Therefore, all citizens suffer. The redistribution of profits fails!

Mahalo for your consideration!

kimdonghyeon

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 6:47:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mishka Sulva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Mishka Sulva, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

This change would help prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Democracy means acting on behalf of the people. Let us help our representatives by removing this potential pressure to "go along to get along."

Mahalo,

Mishka Sulva, 96816

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 7:19:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Dorsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support HB772, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to use their campaign funds for other candidates. Doing so will help prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Thank you

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 7:50:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
karolle t. bidgood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I am in **strong** support of this bill. It is my understanding that the campaign funds a candidate raises are intended solely for that candidate's campaign efforts. If candidates are expected to purchase up to two tickets to other candidates' fundraising events, that could prove costly. In addition, supporters of the candidate may be disheartened to learn that their donations have been diverted to other candidates.

Mahalo,

Karolle Bidgood

Kahaluu, HI

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 7:52:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Troy Schacht	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 10:41:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elisa W Johnston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB772 because Candidate Campaign Expenditures Reform will help prevent conflicts of interest and pressure on candidates to use their campaign funds to support other candidates.

Mahalo,

Elisa W. Johnston

Makiki

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 11:22:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Kimo Pestana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas,

Vice chair Poepoe,

And members of the committee.

My name is Kimo Pestana and I am writing in strong support of HB772. Which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to reallocate funds donated to their campaign and donate to other candidates fundraising. Shamefully, it allows a candidate to use their campaign donations to purchase fundraising tickets to other candidates fundraisers. By this loophole candidates can pool their financial support with other candidates.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest where candidates may participate in other candidates fundraising in exchange for political favors.

I don't want parts of my campaign donations to be secreted to another candidate because my candidate feels pressure to exchange political favors. Let each candidate stand on their own reputable status. Nor should candidates with strong attachments to wealthy supporters, be able to spread the wealth, to assemble support, in other districts, for their legislation.

And finally this loophole promotes a gang mentality where legislators assemble groups or gangs within the legislative body. That behavior cannot be tolerated in an honest legislature. Elimination of this loophole would prove that this legislative body does not approve of that mentality.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 6:47:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Representative Tarnas, Vice Chair Representative Poepoe and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

Please support HB772, a good government reform measure, that, to my understanding, would restrict the use of campaign funds.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 7:23:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julia Marrack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*My name is Julia Marrack, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Julia Marrack, Kamuela

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 7:27:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sven Sorge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Sven Sorge

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:47:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Janik	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*My name is Richard Janik, MD, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB371**, which prevents state and county contractors, grantees, and their families from making political contributions while their contracts or grants are active.*

Closing this loophole is important because it ensures public funds are used for their intended purposes, not to sway political campaigns or decisions.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:05:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane E Arnold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB772. We need to get money out of Hawaii politics and instead have a true democratic system. Thank you.

Jane E Arnold

1763 Iwi Way, Apt D

Honolulu, HI 96816

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:15:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Palacios	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

ALOHA ALL,

I SUPPORT HB772

MAHALO FOR CONSIDERING MY TESTIMONY,

ANN SAFFERY

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:21:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kahi Pacarro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB772 - Closes a loophole allowing candidates to donate to each others' campaigns

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:22:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Pizzitola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other’s campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii’s electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB662 - Disallows self-funded campaigns by wealthy candidates

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 662, which seeks to disallow self-funded campaigns for elective office in Hawai‘i. This legislation represents a significant step toward ensuring fairness and equity in the electoral process.

By prohibiting self-funded campaigns, HB 662 addresses the disproportionate advantage that wealthy candidates may have in elections. It levels the playing field by encouraging all candidates to rely on broader public support rather than personal wealth. This change

promotes a more inclusive political process, enabling individuals from diverse economic backgrounds to compete on equal footing.

Furthermore, reducing the role of personal wealth in campaigns fosters greater public confidence in our democracy. It ensures that candidates are accountable to their constituents rather than solely advancing their own interests through significant financial means.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 662. This bill is an essential step towards leveling the playing field for local working families in our politics. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:24:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debra M Javar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully SUPPORT HB772

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:32:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg Puppione	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other’s campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii’s electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:38:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keila Paahana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:42:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin Hagan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:37:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kalai Hanohano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this proposed measure.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:39:45 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other’s campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii’s electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:43:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kris Bordessa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support closing the loophole that allows candidates to donate to each others' campaigns.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:49:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
emily gambino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Emily Gambino

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:52:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg Crawford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:15:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Legrande	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in stong support of HB772. We must get a handle on the way our legislators are elected!
Look at where Citizens United got us!

Thank you, Linda Legrande

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:23:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eileen McKee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB772.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

Eileen McKee, Kihei

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:29:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KEALA FUNG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Keala Fung, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

I would like to see campaign donations focused on the candidate’s own election, and not funneled in various ways to other candidate’s campaigns.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Keala Fung, Honolulu Hawaii

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:32:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

I have examined where the loophole is in the bill and believe that its removal is very much needed to avoid any potential conflicts of interest or attempts at corruptions and undue influence.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 12:21:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Ann Collins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawai'i's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 12:43:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dennis O'Shea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this bill to get Big Money out of Hawaii politics, and restore our democracy. Mahalo.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 12:46:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Spadaro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is one of four House Bills (370, 372, 772, 662) that are important to making public campaign financing work the way it is intended to and to accomplish a level playing field for all candidates. This is how democracy is supposed to work. I hope you will pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Mary Spadaro

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 12:47:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joell Edwards	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*Aloha from Wainiha, Kauai. My name is Joell. Edwards and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

If a candidate truly supports another candidate, they should have no problem using their personal funds to attend any fundraising events.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Joell Edwards, Wainiha

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 1:06:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mary drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

perception of pushing a candidates agenda on another candidate is not a good look..

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 2:28:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pamela Elders	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to urge your support of HB 772 which would prevent inappropriate use of campaign funds.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 2:50:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this bill. Mahalo!

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 3:28:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Maki Morinoue, and I write in strong support of HB772, which closes a loophole in Hawai‘i’s campaign finance laws that allows candidates to use campaign funds to purchase tickets to other candidates’ fundraisers.

What Does HB772 Do?

This bill ensures that candidates can no longer use campaign funds to buy tickets to fundraising events or gatherings held by other candidates or committees—a practice previously allowed for up to two tickets.

Why Is This Important?

- Campaign donations should support a candidate’s own campaign, not be funneled into others.
- This reform helps prevent conflicts of interest and “pay-to-play” dynamics where candidates may feel pressured to support others’ events in exchange for political favors.
- It keeps campaign financing transparent and focused on the candidate’s election efforts.

By passing HB772, we can strengthen trust in our electoral process and ensure campaign funds are used as intended.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Maki Morinoue
Holualoa, HI

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 3:49:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stacey Alapai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*My name is Stacey, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Stacey Alapai, Makawao Maui

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 4:48:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
fred hofer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good idea

I support this Bill

Fred Hofer

Hilo

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 5:41:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JarraeTehani Manasas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in **STRONG** support of HB772, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration

JarraeTehani Manasas, Kailua Kona Hawai‘i

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 5:46:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikos Leverenz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of HB 772, which is a straightforward prohibition on candidates using their own campaign funds to support another candidate's campaign through the purchase of fundraising tickets.

Donors who submit a contribution to a designated candidate do so to support a particular candidacy and not to support another candidate (or, as is currently the case, a non-profit or community organization of the candidate's choice).

Candidates and officeholders who are aligned have the opportunity co-host joint fundraisers, as is currently practiced, and this kind of arrangement is sufficient to build the kind of professional comity that is not solely rooted in the mere disbursement and receipt of funds.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 7:51:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica May	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:10:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 772, which seeks to close the loophole allowing candidates to donate to each other's campaigns through the purchase of fundraising tickets. This legislation is a crucial step toward fostering fairness and transparency in Hawaii's electoral process.

By addressing this loophole, HB 772 ensures that campaign funds are used solely for their intended purpose—engaging and communicating with voters—rather than creating a system of mutual financial support among candidates. This change will help prevent the appearance of impropriety and maintain public trust in our democratic system.

Moreover, closing this loophole reinforces the principle that elections should be won through merit and the ability to connect with constituents, not through financial exchanges among candidates. It levels the playing field, particularly for grassroots candidates who may not benefit from connections with elected establishment politicians.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 772. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Lum

'Ewa Beach, Hawai'i

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:16:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine L. Andrews, J.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee. My name is Christine Andrews from Wailuku, Maui. I submit this testimony in SUPPORT of HB772, and request that you vote to pass this bill. It is one of the Foley Commission measures that has not yet been made law. Now is the time to consider and pass all of the Foley Commission measures and support a vibrant democratic process in Hawaii.

Thank you for your time,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.

Wailuku, Maui

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:23:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Faccenda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in STRONG support of HB772, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

Kevin Faccenda,
Honolulu

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

To: Judiciary Chair Tarnas and Committee Members
From: Brodie Lockard, Common Cause Hawaii Board Member
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025

In strong support of HB772

Dear Chair Tarnas and Committee Members—

A *New York Times* exposé in April of last year detailed the disturbing history of late-night parties “where lobbyists and executives seeking government contracts lined up to drop cash and checks into a metal lockbox.

“... As described by attendees, a typical party could bring in thousands of dollars in donations, giving some elected officials almost half their annual campaign haul in a single night.”

Candidates blatantly greasing each other’s palms by buying tickets to their events and fundraisers is just as dishonest. It’s discouraging how many Hawaii politicians keep finding creative ways to cheat the existing campaign finance laws, shaming themselves in the process and circumventing the will of voters.

HB772 would prohibit the use of campaign funds to purchase up to two tickets for an event or fundraiser held by another candidate or committee. It would end at least this practice, which any reasonable constituent would see as corruption.

Please pass this much-needed bill.

Sincerely,

Brodie Lockard
Common Cause Hawaii Board Member

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:56:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are in crisis. We cannot afford to pass up any opportunity to stop direct and indirect ways in which money is ruining our democracy. Please move this bill forward with the support and urgency it deserves. Mahalo.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 5:31:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
The Rev. Prof. GREGORY JOHNSON	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PLEASE vote in FAVOR of HB772.

- Campaign donations are meant to help a candidate run their own campaign. Removing the ability to buy tickets for another candidate's event makes sure campaign funds are not quietly funneled to other campaigns.
- This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or "pay-to-play" situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other's events in exchange for political favors.
- Campaign donations stay focused on the candidate's own election and not on a way to indirectly support other campaigns.

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 9:12:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Stayton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

*My name is Susan Stayton, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Susan, Lawai, Kauai

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 9:31:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to respectfully ask that you support HB772, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 11:15:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leo Nahe Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*My name is Leo Nahe, and I am writing in **STRONG support of HB772**, which removes a loophole in the campaign finance laws that allows candidates to donate to other campaigns in the form of purchasing 2 tickets to their fundraisers.*

This change helps prevent potential conflicts of interest or “pay-to-play” situations where candidates might feel pressured to support or attend each other’s events in exchange for political favors.

Na,

Leo Nahe

HB-772

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 11:45:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel R Freund	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This practice makes the legislature look like a self-funded club. If a candidate wants to set up a PAC then set up PAC. Campaign funds are for the candidate who received the donations to campaign.

- Dan Freund, Kapaa