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To: <u>Standards of Conduct</u>

Subject: Reform for Clean Elections in Hawaii **Date:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022 8:37:25 PM

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The Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct has the opportunity to positively influence the future of democracy in Hawaii by supporting the following five (5) recommendations on campaign finance reform.

- 1. Allow only public funding for all State and County elections in Hawaii.
- 2. Ban the solicitation and acceptance of campaign donations during the legislative session.
- 3. Reduce the cap on campaign donations to \$100.
- 4. Ban contributions from corporations and unions, as 21 other states currently do.
- 5. Limit candidate campaign war chests so it is a level playing field for all candidates challengers and incumbents.

Incumbents should be required to expend monies in their campaign account for the benefit of their constituents by the end of their elected term and prior to campaigning for re-election.

This is to ensure elected officials are beholden only to the public, NOT big money special interests. This is in the public's best interests, as special interest money has a corrupting influence on politics and government, as we have seen over and over. The most recent being elected officials and big money campaign donors under indictment, as well as two state legislators who pleaded guilty to accepting bribes - one a 20-year veteran legislator and the other a nine year legislator.

The time for campaign finance reform is NOW! Support clean elections in Hawaii to restore the public's trust and positively affect the future of democracy in Hawaii for generations.

Respectfully, Lorrie Ann Santos