

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2025

RE: S.B. No. 51
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 51, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCING FOR CANDIDATES TO ELECTED OFFICE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish, require legislative reports regarding, and appropriate moneys for a comprehensive system of public financing for all candidates for state and county elective offices, beginning with the 2028 general election year.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; 350 Hawaii; Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action; Free Access Coalition; Our Hawaii; Surfrider Foundation, Kauai Chapter; Green Party of Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals.

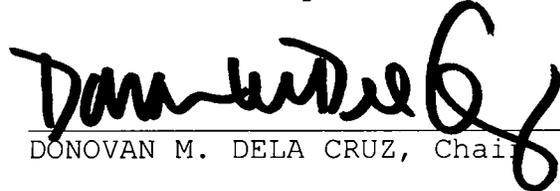
Your Committee recognizes that the State has been a pioneer in advancing the public financing of election campaigns since 1978, when the Article II, Section 5, was added to the Hawaii State Constitution to require the Legislature to establish a fund for the partial public funding of those campaigns. Your Committee



believes that a comprehensive public financing system, as proposed by this measure, will allow participating candidates to take actions and make policy decisions with less potential for undue influence of various interests that finance campaigns.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 51, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

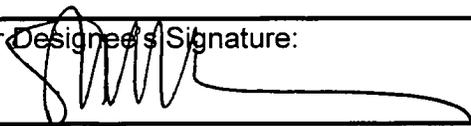
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB51 SD1	Committee Referral: JDC, WAM	Date: 2-26-2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn		X		
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado		X		
LEE, Chris	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt		X		
TOTAL	10	3	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**