

PHONE: (808) 586-0285 FAX: (808) 586-0288 WWW.HAWAII.GOV/CAMPAIGN

## STATE OF HAWAI'I CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 24, 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 E. Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director Campaign Spending Commission

## SUBJECT: Testimony on H.B. No. 369, Relating to Campaign Contributions.

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 is a housekeeping measure. In 2023, the Legislature amended Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") §11-351(b) to prohibit the acceptance of a cash contribution more than \$100, in the aggregate, during an election period. This bill amends HRS §11-364(a) requiring the return of an excess cash contribution to the contributor within thirty days of receipt of the excess contribution. Any excess cash contribution not returned to the contributor within thirty days shall be deposited into the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund. Thus, the treatment of an excess cash contribution will be consistent with other types of excess contributions.

The Commission requests that this Committee pass this bill.