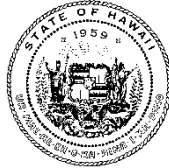


JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



BONNIE KAHAKUI
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Tel: (808) 586-0554
email: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>

LATE

**TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY**

March 18, 2025, 9:45 AM

**HOUSE BILL 371, HD1
RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 371, HD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) appreciates the intent and provides the following comments on this bill, which specifies when it is unlawful for officers and any immediate family member of any state or county contractor to make any contribution to any candidate committee or noncandidate committee or to any candidate or to any person for any political purpose or use. It also specifies when it shall be unlawful to receive funds on a contract through legislation, and requires the Campaign Spending Commission to publish the names of the state and county contractors and grantees, and their officers and adult immediate family members, on its website, as reported by the state and county agencies.

SPO comments on Section 2, page 5, lines 3-10, which requires each state and county agency to report to the commission the names of any state or county contractor or grantee and the names of the contractor's and grantee's officers and adult immediate family members.

For the purposes of assessing compliance with this section, the state or county agency shall provide the information to the commission. The commission shall periodically publish the information on its website.

The SPO recommends that bill clarify whether this reporting requirement would apply to **ALL** contracts, regardless of the dollar value or method of procurement. If so, the overall report will be extensive. Currently, the Executive branch departments post awards on the Hawaii Awards and Notices Database System for any award \$2,500 or greater. In FY 2023, Executive branch agencies reported approximately 3,000 awards. In FY 2024, agencies reported approximately 2,700 awards. This data is primarily from the Executive branch agencies and does not include the other 21 government jurisdictions.

Requiring agencies to collect, record, and submit a report for every contract, regardless of threshold or method of procurement, will be an administrative burden. Also, compliance with this statutory requirement would likely necessitate additional resources, such as an online database, which would enhance efficiency, accuracy, data integrity, and compliance.

The SPO recommends that the bill only applies to contracts procured over the small purchase threshold, (HRS 103D-305, \$100,000 for goods and services, \$250,000 for construction), and for the following methods of procurement: professional services, HRS 103D-304; competitive sealed bids, HRS 103D-302; or competitive sealed proposals, HRS 103D-303.

The SPO provides reference to the Procurement Code under Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 103D-101- Requirements of ethical public procurement. In addition to public employees conducting themselves in ethical procurement practice, HRS 103D-101(b) mandates any actual or prospective bidder, offeror, or business to also act in good faith and practice purchasing ethics, and when applicable, display business integrity as a responsible offeror through public procurement processes.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.

KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



LATE

PHONE: (808) 586-0285
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STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 17, 2025

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director
Campaign Spending Commission



SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 371, H.D. 1, Relating to Campaign Contributions.**

Tuesday, March 18, 2025
9:45 a.m., Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.¹ The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") supports this bill.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") §11-355 by extending the ban on contributions from state and county contractors to the officers of the contractor and their immediate family. It is common for contractors, the Commission believes, to get around the ban by having those persons connected to the contractor make political contributions. A few of these situations also involved false name contributions where the contributors were reimbursed for their contributions. The bill also extends the ban to HRS Chapter 42F grantees of the state and grantees of the counties via county charter or code, and the officers of the grantee and their immediate family. Grantees, similar to contractors, receive state and local funds and thus should be treated similarly in the context of political contributions. This bill will prevent the corruption, or at least the appearance of corruption, of elected officials.

This bill also requires each state and county agency to report to the commission the names of any state or county contractor or grantee and the names of the contractor's and grantee's officers and adult immediate family members which the Commission will periodically

¹ The companion bill is S.B. No. 257.

publish on its website.² The Commission is in discussion with and working with the State Procurement Office and the Department of the Attorney General in developing the mechanics for this to occur.

The Commission requests that this committee pass this measure, as amended.

² This language was modeled after the language contained in H.B. No. 894 at page 2, lines 7-12.



Committee on Judiciary
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

March 18, 2025 9:45 am Room 016
HB371 HD1 — RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

TESTIMONY

Beppie Shapiro, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members: **The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports HB371 HD1, which would** 1) extend the prohibition on campaign contributions by contractors to apply to state or county grantees; 2) extend the prohibition on campaign contributions by contractors/grantees to the officers and immediate family members of the contractor/grantee; 3) prohibit state or county grantees from soliciting contributions; 4) require the return of illegal contributions to the contributor; 5) escheat any illegal contribution not returned within 30 days, to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund (HECF); and 6) require grantees/contractors to disclose the names of owners, officers and immediate family members.

To save time for readers already familiar with the analysis of Campaign Spending Commission (CSC) data published in the New York Times (NYT) in 2024*, I give a brief statement of the basis for LWV-HI support of each of the 6 items. I refer readers to the NYT article (link on p.2 below) for more detailed data.

- 1) The same considerations of pay-to-play apply to grantees as to contractors.
- 2) Since 2006 - the year the pay-to-play law (HRS 11-355) was implemented - people tied to government contractors have given state and local Hawaii politicians more than \$24 million: **about one-fifth of all donations** made. Most often, these donations were given to politicians with the most power to determine contract awards. HRS 11-355 is undermined by contributions from officers, employees, and their families. HB371 HD1 would restore the intent of HRS 11-355.
- 3) When grantees solicit contributions to politicians, those contributions may be bundled by the grantee or otherwise identified as tied to the grantee, such as by thanking the politician for the grant award or expressing the benefit of the award.
- 4) and 5) Returning illegal contributions to the contributor within 30 days, or, failing that, escheating the money to the appropriate state agency, is standard practice across campaign finance regulations. The money added to HECF funds will help offset the expenses of monitoring contributions by contractor officers and their immediate families.
- 6) One weakness in implementation of HRS 11-355 is that CSC staff often don't know the identities of a contractor's officers and their immediate families. HB371 HD1 cures this problem.

*Blaze Lovell, Eric Sagara & Irene Casado Sanchez. *Inside the Late-Night Parties Where Hawaii Politicians Raked In Money*. New York Times; January 17, 2024.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/17/us/hawaii-contractors-campaign-donations.html?searchResultPosition=7>

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 9:37:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurel brier	Testifying for Kauai Women's Caucus	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Remove the conflict of interest,make our elections more fair and transparent. This can build trust trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.



**Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Strongly Supports: HB371
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 9:45am; Conference Room 016**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

HAPA is submitting testimony in STRONG Support of HB 371, which aims to close the “pay-to-play” loophole by prohibiting state and county contractors from making political contributions. This legislation is a critical step toward ensuring fairness and transparency in Hawai'i's electoral and procurement systems.

Allowing contractors to contribute to political campaigns creates a perception of favoritism and undermines public trust in government processes. By closing this loophole, HB 371 reinforces the principle that contracts should be awarded based on merit and public benefit, not on political connections or financial contributions.

This bill also aligns with broader efforts to promote ethical governance. It helps to eliminate conflicts of interest and ensures that elected officials remain accountable to their constituents rather than to donors with vested interests. By mandating the reporting of contractors and prospective contractors, as outlined in the bill, we enhance transparency in the procurement process.

We urge the committee to support HB 371. This measure is essential for restoring public trust.

Thank you for your support and consideration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is positioned above the printed name.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:23:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Mr. Chairman and members of the Judiciary Committee,

As former chair of the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct, I submit this testimony in support of HB 371 HD1 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Commission found "that wealthy individuals often enjoy greater opportunities and privileges in life than poor and have-nots. Power is often so tightly intertwined with wealth and that they often co-occur in societal structures, particularly in the arena of politics, where power may beget more money and money may beget more power. It is no small thing to disentangle the two when their influence on each other is longstanding and systemic and where there is now such strong inertia against any system that would jeopardize the wealth of those who hold it or the power of those who wield it." Commission December 1, 2022 Final Report at page 30. HB 371 HD 1 is one of the Commission's proposals "to tackle this mammoth task." Commission Report at pages 30 and 33.

Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:04:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Greetings Committee Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Marcia Kemble 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Marcia Kemble

Makiki

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:50:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this initiative.

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:40:33 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

This is an excellent good government bill and closes a loophole which contributes to corruption.
Please moved this bill forward.

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:19:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Culbertson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please pass the bill!

R A Culbertson

Honokaa

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:39:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Susan Stayton, 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!

Mahalo for your consideration!

Susan, Lawai, Kauai

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:45:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaleiheana-a-Pohaku Stormcrow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kaleiheana Stormcrow, 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.

This bill would remove a huge conflict of interest that privileges nepotism in the government and the award state contracts.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!

Mahalo for your consideration!

Kaleiheana Stormcrow, Mountain View

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 4:50:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is kimdonghyeon, 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!

Mahalo for your consideration!

Kimdonghyeon

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:32:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ban all contractors contributions to legislators

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:38:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support for preventing state and country contractors and grantess, and members of their families, from making political donations during the life of their contracts and grants.

Mahala nui loa for your service!

Elisa W. Johnston

Makiki

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:36:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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. Mahalo.

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 6:37:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorna Holmes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lorna Holmes, and I am writing in support of HB370, which will modernize and improve Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the funding limits and adjusting qualifying contribution requirements, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

We ask that you please amend the bill to match the increased funding and expenditure limits that were included in SB 345. By doing this, we can pass a strong viable partial public funding program for Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Dr. Lorna Holmes, Honolulu 96817

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 7:57:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Keala Fung, 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!Mahalo for your consideration!

Keala Fung, Honolulu

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:12:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Tieva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Catherine Tieva 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.

It is past time to insure our elections reflect the voices of our citizens and not by only those with special interests.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!

Mahalo for your consideration!

Catherine Tieva Lahaina, Hawaii

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:20:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl hendrickson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Preventing contractors and grantees from donating to political campaigns reduces the risk of undue influence or favoritism in government decisions and in the awarding of contracts and grants.

When the public sees that government contracts and grants are free from political influence, their trust in their elected officials and government increases.

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:52:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Shay Chan Hodges

Maui, Hawaii

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:53:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Honorable Members,

I am writing to respectfully ask that you support HB371 HD1 which prohibits state or county grantees, officers and immediate family members of state or county contractors, and officers and immediate family members of state or county grantees from contributing to candidate or noncandidate committees for the duration of the contract.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 10:38:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Noelle Lindenmann 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!

Mahalo for your consideration!

Noelle Lindenmann, Kailua-Kona

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 11:09:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in favor 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 makes our elections more transparent and fair for all. Mahalo.

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 11:41:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this common sense measure to close this blatant conflict of interest.

Thank you for your consideration,,

Kevin Faccenda, Honolulu

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:32:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danelle Guion	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Danielle Guion, 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Please support!

Mahalo for your consideration!

Danielle Guion, Makakilo, O'ahu, Hawai'i

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 2:38:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

I urge you to 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.

By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Thank you

Please support!

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 5:19:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:16:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Seikai Darcy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lisa Darcy from Kula, Maui, HI, 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. I am so glad to see you supporting this common sense legislation which addresses creating a stronger more equitable election process.

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

I am a novice and a quick learner regarding the elections process. I believe people's positions on governing community needs to be the focus and the amount of financial influence irrelevant. By removing a conflict of interest, this bill makes our elections more fair and transparent. It also builds trust by making sure contractors and grantees stay focused on their work without any perception of political strings attached.

Grateful for your support and consideration.

Lisa Darcy, Kula Maui HI

LATE

HB-371-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 1:36:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/18/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Choy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Thank you