



**STATE OF HAWAII  
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION**

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 6, 2013

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

The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Judiciary

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

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

SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 360, Relating to Comprehensive Public  
Funding for Elections**

Thursday, February 7, 2013  
2:02 p.m., Conference Room 325

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") takes no position on this bill but offers the following comments.

Section 1 of the bill would limit the number of candidates that the Commission certifies to participate in the Pilot Comprehensive Public Funding for Elections to the Hawaii County Council program, or Act 244,<sup>1</sup> to twenty-five candidates. The Commission notes that in 2010 and 2012, only eight candidates were funded under Act 244 in each year. In the anticipation that the bill may increase participation in the program, the Commission respectfully request that an appropriation be made by the legislature to fund the program.

Also, on page 2, line 22 to page 3, line 1, of the bill, the reference to "election cycle" should be changed to "election period" to be consistent with Part XIII of Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Section 2 of the bill amends the formula for computing the base amount of public funding for the primary and general elections by using the average of the amount spent by the winning candidates in the previous two elections, reduced by ten percent. As section 12 is currently

---

<sup>1</sup> 2014 is the last year for this pilot comprehensive public funding program. Also, under section 3 of Act 244, in order to run this pilot program in 2014, the Commission must determine if there is a minimum of \$3,500,000 in the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund ("HECF"). As of December 31, 2012, HECF's balance stood at \$3,190,437.02.

The Honorable Karl Rhoads  
The Honorable Sharon E. Har  
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary  
Testimony H.B. 360  
February 6, 2013  
Page 2

worded, the base amount of public funding is the average of the amount spent by the winning candidate in the two previous elections of the same district, reduced by ten percent. Section 2 would give certified candidates the same amount of public funding no matter which district they run in.

To illustrate, under section 12 of Act 244, the base amount of public funding for the 2014 elections will be:

<u>District</u>	<u>Primary Election</u>	<u>General Election</u>
1	\$3,780.49	\$7,260.01
2	\$13,781.48	\$0.00
3	\$12,058.37	\$450.76
4	\$11,366.93	\$2,956.81
5	\$15,764.18	\$1,921.22
6	\$22,310.78	\$15,788.93
7	\$8,292.33	\$266.66
8	\$18,333.09	\$172.97
9	\$12,267.28	\$324.38

If this bill is passed, the base amount of public funding for certified candidates in all districts will be \$13,106.10 for the primary election and \$3,237.97 for the general election.

## har2-Vincent

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:42 AM  
**To:** JUDtestimony  
**Cc:** richard@bidleman.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB360 on Feb 7, 2013 14:02PM

### **HB360**

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 7, 2013 14:02PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Bidleman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a resident of the Big Island, public funding of our county elected officials provides for a level playing field. It will,also, rid ourselves of corporate or other special interest funding.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## har2-Vincent

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2013 12:32 PM  
**To:** JUDtestimony  
**Cc:** jamsha10@evergreen.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB360 on Feb 7, 2013 14:02PM

### **HB360**

Submitted on: 2/6/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 7, 2013 14:02PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shawn A. James Leavey	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Mahalo for your support of this bill amending the Big Island Comprehensive Public Election Financing pilot program.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)