

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2020

FEB 27

RE: H.B. No. 1706
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 1706 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require any candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee to return excess contributions by nonresident contributors within thirty days and escheat excess contributions that were not returned within thirty days to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission, Common Cause Hawaii, and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii law currently limits the amount of time a candidate leaving office may contribute toward scholarships or other charitable causes, which can cut off financial support for some students at four-year programs, among other consequences.

Your Committee also finds that current law allows candidates to use campaign funds to purchase vehicles for personal use, which may be excessive for Hawaii elections.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a purpose section;
- (2) Amending the allowable uses of campaign funds to:
 - (A) Include the lease of vehicles for the duration of a campaign, instead of allowing for the purchase of vehicles; and
 - (B) Increase the total amount of donations to certain organizations, public schools, or public libraries and scholarship awards to four times the maximum amount that one person may contribute to the candidate;
- (3) Allowing, until November 5, 2024, a candidate who is elected to office to use campaign funds for certain purposes or return funds to contributors until two years following the end of the candidate's term for which the campaign funds were received, instead of two years from the date of the election for which the campaign funds were received;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1706, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1706, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



CHRIS LEE, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1706	Committee Referral: JUD	Date: 2/5/2020		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JUD Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LEE, Chris (C)	/			
2. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (VC)	/			
3. BROWER, Tom	/			
4. CREAGAN, Richard P.	/			
5. LOWEN, Nicole E.	/			
6. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	/			
7. NAKASHIMA, Mark M.				/
8. PERRUSO, Amy A.	/			
9. SAY, Calvin K.Y.				/
10. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	/			
11. YAMANE, Ryan I.	/			
12. THIELEN, Cynthia	/			
TOTAL (12)	10			2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				