

HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawaii · Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 · Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Committee: Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Bill Number: H.B. 391, H.D.2

Hearing Date/Time: March 21, 2019, 3:00 p.m.

Re: Testimony of the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission **SUPPORTING**

THE INTENT of H.B. 391, H.D.2 Relating to Ethics

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i State Ethics Commission ("Commission") supports the intent of H.B. 391, H.D.2, which generally seeks to enact a state-law equivalent of the federal Hatch Act.

The Commission supports efforts to ensure that state officials work to promote the best interests of the people of Hawai'i. As such, the Commission supports legislation to protect state officials – and the public – from coercion by high-level state employees; likewise, the Commission supports legislation to ensure that state programs are administered in a non-partisan fashion.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Commission's work and for considering the Commission's testimony on H.B. 391, H.D.2.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck
Executive Director and General Counsel

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Hawaii

Holding Power Accountable

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To: The Senate Committee On Labor, Culture And The Arts From: Brodie Lockard for the Common Cause Hawaii Board

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2019, 3:00 pm

In support of HB 391 HD2

Dear LCA Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and Committee Members—

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 391 HD2.

State law should comprehensively restrict political activity for any state officers or employees.

Restricting the participation in political activities of state government officers and employees who are employed or hold office in state positions with adjudicatory, regulatory, law enforcement, or investigative responsibilities as a regular part of their duties, would ensure that political activity by these officers and employees does not compromise public confidence and trust in government.

Restrictions should exist on the participation in partisan political activities of certain state employees and officers who regularly engage in adjudicatory, regulatory, law enforcement, or investigatory duties.

Please pass HB 391 HD2 and strengthen the integrity of our elected officials.

Brodie Lockard Board Member, Common Cause Hawaii