

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1424

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 28 2023

RE: H.B. No. 724
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 724 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend the prohibition against contributions to a candidate committee or noncandidate committee by state and county contractors to include state and county grantees and the owners, officers, and immediate family members of a state or county contractor or state or county grantee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission, League of Women Voters of Hawaii, and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct.

Your Committee finds that under existing campaign finance law, only a state or county contractor is prohibited from making campaign contributions. However, owners, officers, employees, and family members of the contractor can still make contributions to election campaigns. Grantees, similar to contractors, receive state funds and thus should be treated similarly in the context of political contributions. This measure extends the ban to grantees



of the state and counties, and the owners and officers of the grantee, and their immediate family, which will reduce the potential for donations to unduly influence policymaking.

Your Committee has amended this measure by specifying that section 11-335, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not apply to the partial public financial system.

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. 724, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 724, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

Karl Rhoads

KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 724	Committee Referral: JDC	Date: 3/17/23
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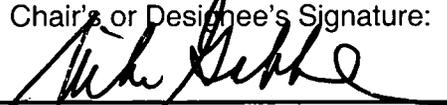
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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*Only one measure per Record of Votes