



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
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PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
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SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2386
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

February 9, 2024

Chair Rhoads and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill No. 2386. This bill establishes presidential preference primary elections for the 2028 election cycle.

The following outlines the operational matters related to the conduct of a presidential preference primary election and notes the legal considerations on specific sections of the bill.

Operational Matters

The presidential preference primary would be conducted as a single-party primary such that voters must first select a political party and then only vote for the candidates associated with their selected political party. Votes for the candidates of another political party would not be counted. Additionally, nonpartisan presidential candidates would not have the option of appearing on the presidential preference primary election ballot and would continue to need to petition and fulfill the requirements under HRS § 11-113 to appear on the general election ballot.

All expenses are to be borne by the State, including those attributable to voter registration by the counties, unlike in a combined election in which the counties are solely responsible for voter registration costs. Our initial estimate of the costs associated with the State's responsibilities under HRS § 11-110(b)(3)(B) is listed below and is based on servicing over 997,000 registered voters, estimated based on a 5% increase in registered voters for each of the

next 3 elections (2024, 2026, and 2028) from the most recently completed 2022 election cycle. It does not include the expenses associated with the responsibilities of the county clerks under HRS § 11-110(b)(3)(A) that the State will ultimately need to pay.

Mail ballot packet - Ballot & Envelopes	373,775
Ballot Printing Services	305,657
Ballot Mailing Services	285,220
Electronic Ballot System	20,350
Postage (Outgoing)	498,566
Postage (Incoming)	628,193
Ballot Tracking System	32,407
Counting Center Facilities	612,000
Counting Center Volunteers	417,560
Staff Overtime	128,588
Voting System Vendor	571,995
Voter Education	426,113
2028 Estimate	<u>\$4,300,424</u>

This would be part of our FY 2026-27 annual budget request.

Another consideration may be to move the regularly scheduled primary election to an earlier date to include the presidential preference primary as a contest. Holding a presidential preference primary election with the primary election may improve voter participation, as historically, turnout for single contest elections is lower. Also, the costs would be reduced as it becomes part of the operation of the primary election.

Legal Considerations

We raise the following legal concerns:

Section 1: HRS § 11-62 Qualification of political parties; petition.

The bill establishes the deadline to qualify as a political party for the presidential preference primary election as no later than the 90th day prior to the close of candidate filing for the election. We envision there could be political parties that do not qualify prior to the presidential preference primary, but that they do meet the deadline to appear on the primary election ballot in August. HRS § 11-62(a)(1). In such a situation, we would understand HRS § 11-113 to permit such a duly qualified party to submit names to our office for inclusion on the general election ballot for president and vice president.

Section 3: HRS § 11-174.5 Contests for cause in general, special general, special, and runoff elections

Given that the focus of the bill is on the presidential preference primary election, we would suggest removing Section 3 of the bill that addresses the general election. Any amendments to the handling of the presidential election itself in the general election might be better addressed in a separate bill.

Section 7: HRS § 12-3 Nomination paper; format; limitations

Given that a prospective presidential candidate may not be an actual member of the state political party they wish to affiliate with, as they are instead a member of the corresponding national party or the same political party in another state, it may be appropriate to amend HRS § 12-3(a)(7) by adding the following language at the end of Page 11, Line 10:

; provided that in a presidential preference primary a party includes membership in the national party or an affiliated political party in another state who will be sending delegates to the same national convention as the party defined in section 11-61.

Section 9: HRS § 12-5 Nomination papers: number of signers

We would recommend amending the first sentence of the proposed language of HRS § 12-5(a) to read on Page 16 at lines 19-20 as follows: “Nomination papers for candidates for president in the presidential preference primary election shall be signed by not less than twenty-five registered voters of the State.”

Section 10: HRS § 12-6 Nomination papers: time for filing: fees

We would suggest the filing fees for federal offices be kept similar to that of state offices after factoring in the discounted filing fee provision of HRS § 12-6 that functionally caps the fee at \$75 for the statewide office of governor and lieutenant governor. We may face a challenge concerning the filing fees for federal offices being significantly higher than the discounted filing fee many state and county office candidates pay. Having said that, HRS § 12-6 does include a provision for waiving the filing fee for a person who is indigent and submits a petition with a requisite amount of signatures, but it also could be subject to challenge if it is considered to be too burdensome.

Section 11: HRS § 12-7 Filing of oath

As a point of clarification, Section 11 of the bill appears to require presidential candidates in the presidential preference primary election and the general election to take and subscribe to an oath. Also, it could arguably require the vice presidential running mate in the general election

to sign. This may create issues with the requirements of HRS §§ 11-113(c)(1)(B) and (2)(A), which include “[a] statement that each candidate is legally qualified to serve under the provisions of the United States Constitution.” This statement is not signed by the presidential and vice presidential candidates but instead by appropriate party officials.

Given this, it may be appropriate to limit the oath in HRS § 12-7 to just any presidential candidate who seeks to participate in the presidential preference primary election. Otherwise, the proposed language in Section 11 of the bill may have unintended consequences if a presidential candidate at the national convention of a political party is chosen who did not sign the nomination paper oath as they did not participate in the presidential preference primary election.

Section 12: HRS § 12-8 Nomination papers; challenge: evidentiary hearings and decisions

The bill on Page 23, Lines 6-17, appears to authorize a political party to be able to challenge a candidate as not being a member of their political party. Given that candidates may be members of the national political party or an affiliated political party in another state, we would suggest that the bill clearly permit the state political party leadership to challenge those who claim to be associated with the national party or an affiliated party in another state who will be sending delegates to the same national convention.

Section 20: Effective Date

Given that there may be administrative matters that will need to be addressed, we would request that the effective date of the bill be changed to July 1, 2026.

Finally, as a housekeeping matter, we would recommend that HRS § 11-1 be amended to include a definition of a presidential preference primary election that would read as follows:

“Presidential preference primary” means an election whereby candidates associated with a political party receive votes to be its presidential nominee at its national convention. The political party will send delegates to its national convention in accordance with the convention’s rules concerning delegates from each state, which may or may not ultimately factor in the results of the presidential preference primary election.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill No. 2386.



February 2, 2024

Senate's Committee on Judiciary
 Hawai'i State Capitol
 415 South Beretania Street
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Friday, February 9, 2024 at 9:30 AM

RE: OPPOSITION for Senate Bill 2386

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard and fellow committee members,

I am writing in opposition to Senate Bill 2386 on behalf of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization, in its current form.

SB 2386 would establish a presidential preference primary elections for the 2028 election cycle.

The Stonewall Caucus held a talk-story on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM via Zoom to discuss the subject of this bill. Everyone, caucus member or not, were invited to attend.

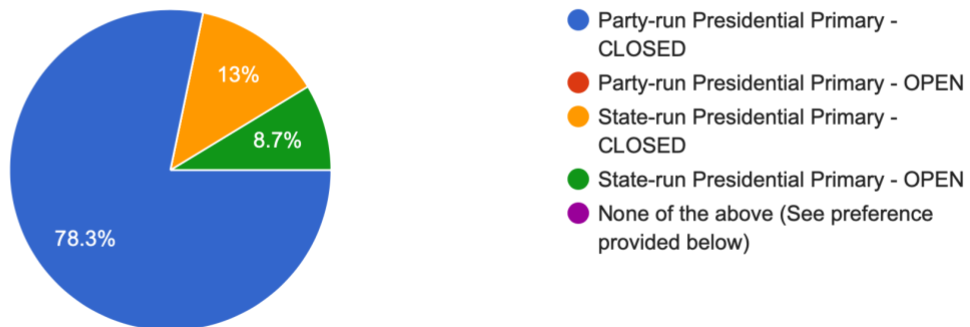
Here are the resources from that event:

1. Recording of the primer that was used before we opened the floor for discussion: <https://youtu.be/3-3Tln8GxM> (13 minutes long)
2. Slide deck used for the talk-story: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VQH-cS2E7Pqcrz7Uut1Lvt5FXwwSRL5Q/view?usp=share_link

The results from the survey show OVERWHELMING support (91.3%) for a Closed Primary no matter who runs it, which coincides with what is dictated to the DPH by our foundational documents.

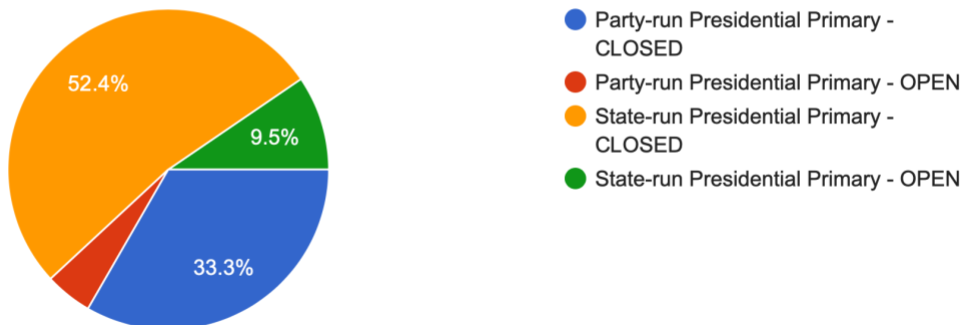
For the 2024 Presidential Primary which of the following proposals do you support the most:

23 responses



For the 2024 Presidential Primary which of the following proposals do you support the second most:

21 responses



It should be noted that the 2 people that did not give a 2nd choice picked “Party-run Presidential Primary – CLOSED” as their 1st choice.

Given the responses from our members, plus the Caucus’ long-standing position on this matter, and what is in the Democratic Party of Hawai’i’s foundational documents in our Constitution¹ and Resolution² the Stonewall Caucus can ONLY be able to support a CLOSED Presidential Primary. The Caucus understands for the State to run a closed Presidential Primary it would require an amendment to the State Constitution.

Yes, the questions that were asked in 2023 were about the 2024 Presidential Primary but as you saw our Party’s Constitution has not changed nor has the Resolution been with rescinded. This means they are both are guiding documents and there has been ZERO requests for any change in the Caucus’s position from our members.

The Caucus can also think of a lot of better ways of spending \$6+ million dollars; shelters for homeless unaccompanied minors, free meals for public school students, hardening our public schools for when the next big hurricane hits, etc . It should be noted that when a similar bill was debated in 2023 the price tag for this endeavor went up with every hearing and we were never given a final estimated cost.

Without any amendments to the bill to ensure a closed Presidential Primary and guarantees that this would increase participation we must oppose SB 2386.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai’i

¹ Article 1, Section1 - DPH State Constitution - https://www.hawaiidemocrats.org/files/ugd/cac0ab_e0fbaa66facd465fa9fd16f24cb10dc0.pdf

² GOV 2010-02 Limitation of Voting in Democratic Party Primaries to Party Members - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fYib_Dca9bR4K1kjP-flEfoAiXfW-Ih7/view

DPH Constitution as amended by the State Convention 05/28/2022

Art. I, Sec. 1

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that its primary election, a state-imposed mandatory nomination procedure, ought to be open to participation of only such persons as are willing to declare their affiliation with and support for the Party, either through public registration to vote, or through maintenance of membership in the Party. The Party further believes that the current Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, by maintaining secrecy of affiliation, and by compelling the Party to admit to its nomination procedures those who may have no interest in, or actually oppose the interests, values, and platform of the Party, do violence to the Party's associational freedoms and the individual freedoms of its membership to define their own political views, guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States.

Art. VIII, Sec. 8

The **resolving clauses of resolutions**, except for those clauses that refer to a specific date, event, or legislative session, **once adopted by delegates at a convention of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall represent the official policies of the Party and shall remain in force and effect until rescinded or amended by the delegates at an annual or special convention.**

GOV 2010-02 Limitation of Voting in Democratic Party Primaries to Party Members

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fYib_Dca9bR4K1kjP-flEfoAiXfW-lh7/view

Be It Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i take all action necessary and proper to limit participation in all Democratic Party primaries within the State of Hawai'i to persons who are bona fide members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and to cause the Hawai'i State Government to institute such limitations in all future primaries as soon as possible; and

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:43:52 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Enoka-Shayne Bingo	Testifying for We, the People	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose. Furthermore, you all are encroaching heavily on elections and showing obvious conspiracy against the people and the limitations by which you are to govern yourselves, not us. The constitution is there to keep you in guidelines. You are all hereby on notice for stepping and continuously tiptoeing those guidelines. Stop it.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 6:56:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Detwiler	Testifying for Hawaii Federation of Republican Women	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in OPPOSITION of SB2386 relating to elections.

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

This is one of several bills this session that pave the way to eliminate our Party-run Presidential Caucuses which are done in person with Voter ID and hand-counted paper ballots at the caucus voter precinct locations. The counting is done in the presence of official observers and designated observers representing each presidential candidate.

This bill proposes to replace our Party-run Caucuses with State-run Primaries run by mail-in ballots and counted by election software source code. The election software source code is managed and controlled by a non-government contractor, Hart Intercivic. There are many risks related to the use of software such as malware and hacking vulnerabilities.

Procedurally, both major political parties of the U.S. which are the Democrat Party and the Republican Party officially nominate their candidate for president at their respective national conventions. Each of these conventions are attended by a number of delegates who are selected in accordance with the given party's bylaws. The results of the presidential primaries and caucuses bind many of these delegates, known as pledged delegates, to vote for a particular candidate. Both parties also have a group of unpledged delegates.

Please vote NO on SB2386.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Detwiler, President

Hawaii Federation of Republican Women

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 3:17:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Mckay	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

It is of the opinion that Mr. Karl Rhodes is not following the constitution nor his oath of office, nor those whom support or co sponsor this bill

And it is of the opinion that Regardless of party affiliation or demographics, elected officials are to represent the people. It seems is clear that Mr. Karl Rhodes has no interest in what the people want nor to take into consideration what the Constitution stands for. If he did, he would be voting accordingly to the testimonies that have been submitted in regards to the previous bill submitted.

The current bill 2386 is an attempt to stream line the future of voting and take away the party caucuses and give more control to the state. My questions are, what are you and your cronies afraid of Mr. Rhodes? Are you afraid that the people are waking up to the fact that the left is leading us down the path of socialism? Or do you not like the fact that the republican party will prove that the one day paper ballot system can and will work? Or could it be another financial stream you want to remove from opposing parties?

taking an oath, elected officials pledge to uphold the principles and values enshrined in the Constitution, which include serving the interests of the people of the United States. This bill does NOT serve the interest of the people nor does it represent freedom of choice, nor a fair system for the voters of Hawaii. If you think this was a fair system implemented in Iowa and the citizens were content with it, you are mistaken and it is of the opinion, that you have no interest in the constitution nor the freedoms and rights of the citizens of Hawaii, let alone the United States of America

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 8:39:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinne Solomon	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Rhoads and JDC Committee Members,

I strongly oppose SB2386.

I am a volunteer for the March 12th Hawaii Republican Party Presidential caucus for the Kalani caucus site.

I along with my D19 and D20 neighbors, will be checking in voters and verifying them with picture identification, issuing them a ballot, and hand counting the results.

This is the procedure for each caucus site statewide.

The Republican National Convention published a resolution last year affirming that elections should be done with same day in person voting, picture ID, and hand counting of paper ballots.

The Hawaii Republican Party is working on a similar resolution.

This bill is setting the stage to abolish our party run caucuses (see HB342) and replacing them with state run Presidential Primaries (see SB1005 SD2 HD1 and HB1485).

State run primaries will be mail in elections over several days if not weeks, with no voter ID, and results tabulated by election software, all of which are antithetical to how Republicans in Hawaii want elections to be run.

I urge you to consider the following when voting on this bill:

-Were any Hawaii Republicans in leadership positions consulted to see if they want our caucuses abolished?

-How many millions of dollars will switching to mail in Presidential primaries cost Hawaii tax payers?

Party run caucus expenses are covered by the parties, not taxpayers.

-Why are you changing a process that currently works just fine and does not cost taxpayers anything?

Please vote NO on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne Solomon D20 resident

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 10:56:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this Bill that would put control of the presidential candidate selection process in the hands of the State, instead of the current caucus system that is run by the Party.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 12:33:54 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L Toriki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

Why would we need to establish this presidential preference primary elections? I do not support ranked choice voting and this seems like it would be used towards that end.

We need to maintain free and fair elections, using our caucus system and paper ballots.

This type of election manipulation as well as all other election bills this session will have the affect of less tranparency and more distrust with our election system. Why would or "elected" officials be for this except to make it harder for voters to trust the system and thus disenfranchise many voters of different political beliefs.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 1:12:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amy Yang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386. It allows corruption and injustdist. it's absurd!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 1:15:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jadine L Brown	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because I trust in the caucus system and do not want it to be replaced.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 1:23:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimo Sinh	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386. It allows confusion and misiinformation.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 1:33:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luna Chow	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386. It is wrong. It creates corruption.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 2:45:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I must oppose SB 2386 because it would not be a closed presidential preference primary. As a member of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, our constitution states that we only support a closed primary. Under the current State Consitution, a closed primary could not occur.

Based on previous estimates it would cost over 6 million dollars for the proposed presidential primary. Those funds could be better spent on Maui fire victims, homeless youth, and removing the statute of limitations for victims of sexual abuse.

Although I'm only speaking for myself, I am a State Central Committee representative, the House District 43 Chair, and a twice Presidential Elector.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY 02-09-24

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
ON
S.B. 2386 RELATING TO ELECTIONS

by
Scott W. Smart

Chairman Rhoads and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I am testifying STRONGLY AGAINST S.B. 2386

This bill seeks to establish a Presidential Party Preference Primary Election in the State of Hawaii. There is no need for such a primary. National party conventions are assemblies under Amendment I, US Constitution. As such, the conduct of these conventions are matters for the Assembly to determine. The bill appears to acknowledge this in SECTION 16, which would amend Chapter 12 Section 41 with a new subsection (d):

“(d) Political parties shall send delegates to their respective national conventions in accordance with the convention's rules concerning delegates from each state, which may or may not factor in the results of the presidential preference primary election.”

Thus, the proposed primary is nothing but a “beauty pageant” that will cost the state money to no discernible purpose. In particular, if rules for a party National Convention provide for determining delegates prior to April in the election year, the whole exercise is meaningless.

Specific concerns:

SECTION 2 amends Chapter 11 Section 173.5 subsection (b) by adding:

“provided further that the right of a presidential candidate to the office shall depend upon the outcome of the national electoral vote.”

I have no idea what this means. The “right” is fully determined by Amendment XII and Amendment XX to the US Constitution; there is no room for state opinion on this.

SECTION 11 amends Chapter 12 Section 7 by requiring a candidate for presidential election or presidential preference election to file an oath as provided in that section. This oath requires, in part:

“I will support and defend ... the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawaii”

Article II Section 1 US Constitution contains the oath of office for the President. There is no reason for a President to swear an oath to Hawaii, in particular to support Hawaii constitution and laws. I doubt this could be enforced.

/s/

Scott W. Smart
94-210 Kakaili Pl
Mililani, HI 96789
(808) 627-1220

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 4:35:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rami Donahoe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of the caucus system and do not think our primary should be based on paper ballots. This state has shown it already has issues with paper ballots. We have a right to let the individual parties run thier primary voter choice and to let that play out. This is the only way to keep transparency and keep our rights.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 7:55:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvonne Alvarado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Yvonne Alvarado Oppose Bill SB2386

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 9:50:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ronelle andrade	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 2386.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 11:17:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CHESTER LUM	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony opposing this bill.

SB2396 should be tabled as it appears partisan.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony opposing this bill.

Chester Lum

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 11:00:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Kamau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Mahalo.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 11:39:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey F Mizuno	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 12:53:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Drew Elwood	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill because it is unconstitutional. It establishes presidential preference for primary elections in 2028. This means the state would control the primary with limited transparency Instead of a caucus system run by the party with hand counted ballots. For the people by the people with fair and transparent elections is what we stand for in America. We do not stand for bureaucrats dictating who we can vote for (communism).

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 7:22:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monique Perreira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Let the voters decide. Everyone should have their voice heard.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 8:02:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Wong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2396

This Bill establishes presidential preference primary elections in 2028. The State would control the primary with limited transparency, instead of a caucus system run by the Party with hand-counted paper ballots.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 8:49:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lester	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill should not be passed as it sways the powers that govern the bill to sway it anyway they want and not the people of Hawaii.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 10:42:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruben Ongos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL!!!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 11:39:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Thyne	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose, there should be more transparency in our Elections, not less! Why is the Legislature wasting time and our MONEY on nonsense Bills? Really help the Residents of Hawaii and Lahaina!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:28:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manulani Garcia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:51:28 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Magoon Ohana	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. Need transparency and people's choice in voting, not who the establishment wants in office. Govt. "OF, BY & FOR THE PEOPLE"

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 6:25:51 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dalene McCormick	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please do not implement a primary. Our general voting statistics are one of the worst in the country and this bill wants to put even more of a burden on Hawaii voters to participate in a primary election? This is ridicoulus, why dont we design bills that will actually drive up the general vote. Make Haawaii residents feel like thier vote counts and is worthwhile and perhaps we can get more than 30% of our registered voters to participate.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 6:32:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 6:39:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosemarie Vailisale	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Rosemarie Vailisale, oppose and does not support such bill

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:53:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joelle Seashell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a subjective bill that could be selectively enforced. It needs to be rewritten so that is doesnt only benefit the those that govern.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:16:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
julie schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb 2386

there is no transparency in this bill

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:39:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:42:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoë Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:46:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb2386

there is NO TRANSPARENCY

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 10:08:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kay Aina	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee members,

This bill seeks to change the method by which Hawaii chooses its presidential primary candidates from a system run by citizens to one run by the government. Such a change would be costly, time-consuming, and less accountable to the people. Please defer this measure. Thank you.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 10:40:48 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose this bill.

I do not think that the State of Hawai'i should control the primary, there would be limited transparency.

A Caucus system run by the parties with hand counted ballots is the ONLY fair transparent way to conduct honest primaries in our US Elections. Period!

Than you very much.

Noela von Wiegandt

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:44:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shari saiki Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:13:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2386. This is a good step to ensure safety and confidentiality of those who are at risk especially an individual running on an election.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 2:05:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill. State should not be usurping the power of the peoples voices and/or choices.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 3:40:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexis Caramonte	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

Mahalo

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 4:23:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Grimes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB2386

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:21:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:32:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Timothy Ashton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The party candidates should be determined by party caucuses.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:33:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tania victorine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

do not want you to remove our caucuses

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:47:48 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 2386.

Thank you,

Teri Savaiinaea

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:54:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolina Carreira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As per usual, Senator Rhoads loves to introduce bills that promote government overreach. I strongly oppose this bill as the State should not be running primaries but should leave the take to the party run caucuses.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:02:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurie Anne Bell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:40:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:41:16 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Dedely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:42:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 12:10:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Gorman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386 because Hawaii is controlled by a Democratic majority and should not have a say in how or when Republicans can choose their leaders through an established practice of caucus voting. The Republican members have a right to instruct the Hawaii Elections who shall be on the ballot to represent the Republican Party.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 12:19:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cara Soto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 12:19:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharron VanDeusen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 1:47:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 1:57:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanine Acopan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSED!!!!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 2:29:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peggy Regentine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 2386. It will prevent parties from having caucuses which is totally unfair.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 2:37:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
LARRY FORTUNO	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. The current caucus system works fine with paper ballots and voter ID. Why change it and start a chain reaction of other bills that destroy our ability to choose our party's nominee.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 2:41:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chanara Casey Richmond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chanara Casey Richmond, House District 42.

I oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 2:50:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon-Louis Siracusa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose, this is not the democratic way. The people should chose not the government. It appears to be a banana republic tactic that has no place in this country nor this great state. Again strongly oppose this ridiculousness.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 2:55:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivek Pathela	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE ABSOLUTELY!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 3:12:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Scott	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii needs to retain the caucus system.

Paper ballots. ID required. In person voting. Same day voting & counting.

All have agreed (currently & in the past), mail-in voting is a fiasco for election integrity with rampant opportunities for cheating.

One preference would be to put changes to election laws on the ballot & let the voters decide. Try a do-over with all mail-in voting - bet it would be repealed in a heartbeat.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 3:50:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael E Solomon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please **DO NOT** pass SB2386, as it would replace the two-party caucus "voice of the people" with a SINGLE PARTY decision as to the "appropriate candidates" to govern our State and our Nation.

Our Aloha State is already the "Joke of Democracy" as a SINGLE PARTY STATE, and even responsible Democrats are voicing concern about the lack of differing views to ensure we govern and progress responsibly with all viewpoints considered.

We MUST NOT sink deeper in the mire of a single party government. Please vote **NO**.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 4:15:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Nichols	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 4:48:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thaddea H Pitts	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of the caucuses continuing. There is so much division over election integrity and this just added fuel to the fire. I say no to SB2386

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 5:46:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Fujimoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear "Elected" Officials,

Please stop interfering with our elections! Who are you to decide what the people want. Let we the people exercise our constitutional right to vote for whom we deem best to represent us.

You're nothing more than communists! This is no longer America!

If you were truly acting in the best interest of the people, you would whole heartedly support same day, in person voting using paper ballots and having to show proper identification. Anyone who is not for this honest system is, in my opinion a traitor and should be treated as such. Fair is fair, let the people decide honestly! That's is all any honest person can ask for.

Thank you

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 6:47:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ANTHONY M GAIRNESE	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutly no, our voice is being removed by a single party movement. No.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 6:50:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marlies Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

Paper ballots and same day voting!
Fair elections

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 6:50:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy M Cook	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill which takes away a citizen's **right** to vote for a candidate of my choice.

Politicians attempting to pass legislation specifically to eliminate opponents leads to tyranny.

Laws barring criminals from running for office should be sufficient.

Do not pass this bill restricting the rights of US citizens.

Wendy Cook

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 7:15:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lesha Mathes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. We don't want our caucuses replaced in any way. We don't need your interference.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 7:30:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Josephine Keliipio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a registered Democrat for the last 20 years, I OPPOSE SB 2386 that would remove President Donald Trumps name from Hawaii's ballot. Shame on Senator Karl Rhoades and others who introduced this bill that would PROHIBIT FREEDOM OF CHOICE in voting for or against President Trump. What the heck is the matter with you guys?

Mahalo,

Josephine Keliipio

Kailua Kona, Hawaii

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 8:45:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The people pick who they want This bill would eliminate the party's choice of candidate. Our party uses voter I.D. in-person voting at a Caucus to determine our candidate. That candidate should not be picked any other way. This bill bypasses the choice of the party to pick their candidates. I vehemently oppose this bill. How about NOOOOOOO!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 8:50:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:03:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:13:48 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucricia Amaral	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:18:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melvin Amaral	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:40:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tom laidlaw	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to oppose SB 2386 to protect election integrity and for the betterment of the people of Hawaii.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:51:45 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Lipscomb	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It has the effect of eliminating the Caucus methodology that political parties use to select delegates to National to elect candidates of our choosing and replaces it with a untrustworthy state-run election, that is subject to partisan interference in another party's nomination procedure. This bill is bad politics, and bad for the people of Hawaii.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:03:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Boyd Ready	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Senators,

Presidential candidates are chosen by citizens freely assembling in political parties to choose delegates who debate and vote to select their group's preferred candidate. They are not processes of government, nor should they be. This bill would substitute a government-run election or poll for the freely and independently organized selection processes by political parties. This kind of take-over and imposition on the people's independent right to assemble and choose delegates for candidates for President is an imposition on our liberty. Government should not be imposing its methods on the people who are choosing competitive candidates to stand for national office. For these reasons, I oppose this bill.

Boyd Ready

Haleiwa

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:06:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fenton K lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony Opposing SB2386

Honorable Members of the Legislature,

This testimony stands in opposition to SB2386, underpinning significant constitutional concerns and urging a reconsideration of its enactment. The bill, by introducing restrictive measures on political party qualifications and election procedures, potentially infringes upon the foundational principles of freedom of expression and equal protection under both the U.S. and Hawaii State Constitutions.

The First Amendment's guarantee of political expression and association is at risk if the bill's stringent requirements limit the diversity of political discourse. The Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause may be contravened by provisions that disproportionately impact smaller or emerging parties, undermining the equity of our electoral process.

Similarly, the Hawaii State Constitution enshrines rights that could be compromised by the bill's enactment, particularly those related to political freedom and equitable participation in elections.

Given these considerations, it is imperative that SB2386 be halted. The potential constitutional conflicts it presents necessitate a thorough review and reassessment. Ensuring our electoral laws bolster, rather than hinder, democratic participation is crucial. As such, I strongly recommend against moving forward with SB2386 in its current form and advocate for a dialogue aimed at refining our electoral processes in a manner that respects our cherished constitutional protections.

Respectfully,

Fenton Kaulana Lee

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:12:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I absolutely oppose this bill as it takes away my freedom as a citizen to think for myself and choose who to vote for no matter who is running for office.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:20:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alberta Lono-Morolt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:23:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorraine Nip	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386 because it restricts the public voice.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:31:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elmer Domingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i District 29 Chair, oppose SB2386 because it restricts the public voice.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 11:42:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joely young	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 2386 as it restricts the public's voice.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 12:34:35 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patty Takahashi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386, because it restricts the voice and involvement of the people to familiarize themselves with government and it's processes. Government is suppose to serve and protect the people's freedom of choice. Also, Caucuses allows the public to get involved with a sense of being part of their community and government.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 12:37:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gene Lamkin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our current voting system isn't broken. It doesn't need to be fixed with Rank Choice Voting. Mail In Ballots introduce fraud and abuse of ballot integrity and chain of custody. This proposal only weakens voter confidence in the election process. One vote, paper ballot, ID, and One Day. That's worked for almost 250 years. The system isn't broken. The politicians are broken.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 2:09:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Shedko	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

Political parties should hold their own caucuses with voting at the district level. This is fairer, more secure and trustworthy than a state run Presidential Preference Primary!

Mahalo!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 2:19:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doug Pasnik	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this legislation. This is another effort to disable the voice and vote of the people.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 4:34:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Moylan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill, SB2386.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 5:20:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Parmenter	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose SB2386

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 5:30:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Monohon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I object to this bill that establishes primaries instead of party caucus. Why on earth would you want to ADD the cost of primaries to the State budget when the cost of caucuses are already borne by political parties?

As elected legislators, please concentrate on the many needy problems of our state with funds available and do not add frivolous new programs to the budget. We the taxpayers are watching your spending of tax dollars closely. Vote no

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 5:51:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Gusich-Batara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB2386. Eliminating our Party Run Presidential Caucus nomination takes the control of the selection of the party nominee from the party and places it in the control of the state. The Republican Party Caucus preference and practice of in-person, voter ID and hand-counted ballots would no longer be possible. Additionally, the Caucuses not only select the nominee but serve as rallying points for parties. Let the people decide upon our party candidate in our own forum.

Thank you

February 8, 2024

Testimony in opposition of SB 2386

I oppose SB 2386 because it restricts my voice and voices of others who are Americans, in how we vote for the person of my choice. There is no good purpose for this bill for the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Signe Godfrey

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:14:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brent Matson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in opposition of this bill that paves the way to eliminate the caucus via HB342 for selecting presidential nominees for the general election. There is no valid reason for the legislature to change how we select our party's nominee. This should rest in the hands of the party they are representing and those that want to participate in that process as it currently stands.

Next will be HB411 which would in essence remove republican candidates from the ballots since the two top democrat candidates typically get more votes than the top republican in a primary.

All these measures are aimed at removing the republican party from being in the general election on several different levels and stripping the rights of republicans to have their candidates on the ballots. The democratic party already has a stranglehold on the government in this state yet they want even more control. What are they afraid of? I fear this is falling on deaf ears but must make my opinion heard.

Respectfully,

Brent Matson

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:50:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Stanton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386. We need to keep our Primaries at the local level.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:58:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Ruiz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No state runned Primaries.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 8:21:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Diamond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB2386 because it limits public voice.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 8:50:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Masunaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill . Dangerous. Both republican and democrat both need to oppose. This will open

elections for cheating . No ID requiemnts for voters , will have non citizens, and dead people voting. Voting machines can be hacked . As a citizen will will no assurance of election integrity.

Please do the right thing , do not pass this dangerous bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 8:51:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Perkins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill! There is no reason to make changes to the current laws other than to weaponize the system and cause further discord with our elections.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 8:51:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Ravelo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe in a government for the people and by the people. This bill should not be allowed because it paves the way to eliminate our participation, in how we will be governed

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:06:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Gillard	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Another waste of our tax dollars.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:07:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol D. Yokoyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee,

Please strongly OPPOSE SB2386.

The people of Hawaii expect election security and election integrity. Therefore, OPPOSE SB2386.

Mahalo for your time.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:14:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Masunaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It doesn't matter what party someone belongs to. To verify that those voting are US citizens, alive and legitimately the person submitting their vote and not someone else, there must be in-person voting with an ID as it was before. Universal mail-in ballots with no excuse to vote absentee will open the way for massive fraud as anyone (not necessarily the legitimate voter) can fill out the ballot and mail it in. With only mail-in ballots, here is no way to tell whether the voters are legitimate. Relying on computerized voting machines are also dangerous as these machines can be hacked or altered. The future of election integrity is at stake in Hawaii. I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:15:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barry Yokoyama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please OPPOSE SB2386. The State of Hawaii needs election integrity and election security.

Mahalo.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:19:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elethia Gentry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:19:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Garcia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a lifelong registered Democrat, I OPPOSE SB 2386 that would remove President Donald Trump's name (or any other candidate) from Hawaii's ballot. Shame on Senator Karl Rhoades and others who introduced this bill that would PROHIBIT FREEDOM OF CHOICE in voting for or ANYONE! Removing or not allowing any candidate from the ballot is removing any semblance of a democracy. Once you stop allowing people a choice, our freedoms have been denied, and this is no longer a free country.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:25:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Duclayan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB2386. Let the people decide!

Mahalo,

Larry Duclayan

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:30:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Francesca Au	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386 because it restricts the public's voice.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:34:42 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lora Burbage	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Presidential primaries should be left to the political parties. Besides our State has much better use of monies that would have to go to implementing this.

mahalo!

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 10:19:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICARY

Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

CONCERNING: SB 2386 RELATING TO ELECTIONS

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

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

I am writing to urge your support for SB 2386, which aims to establish a State Run Presidential Preference Primary election in Hawaii beginning in 2028. I believe all registered voters in our state deserve the right to participate in this crucial aspect of the electoral process, just as they do in State Run Primaries and General Elections.

Currently, the process of selecting Presidential candidates in Hawaii excludes a significant portion of our electorate.

- In the 2020 election cycle only 80,000 enrolled members of the Democratic Party of Hawaii received a ballot for the Party Run Presidential Primary.
- Fewer than 40,000 actually participated in the primary.
- In contrast, In the subsequent General Election, the Democratic Party candidate received a total of 366,000 votes in Hawaii.
- This means over 300,000 voters who supported the Democratic candidate in the General Election never received a Ballot to vote in the Party Run Presidential Primary and were effectively disenfranchised from the primary process.

It is evident a large percentage of voters are denied their fundamental right to participate in selecting Presidential candidates under the current Party Run Presidential Primary process. The Democratic National Committee recognized this issue in 2023 and strongly recommended all State Democratic Parties transition to State Run Presidential Primaries due to their improved procedures and controls and their ability to get a ballot to registered voters.

Hawaii currently stands among a handful of states that do not rely on State Run Primaries as the norm, and was only approved on an exception basis. Passing SB 2386 would provide our state with four years to plan and budget for the 2028 cycle, ensuring a smooth transition to this more inclusive electoral process.

When considering the cost of implementing a State Run Presidential Primary, it's essential to weigh the value of allowing all voters to participate against restricting the vote to a small group of registered party members. The right to vote is priceless, and ensuring its accessibility to all citizens should be a priority for Hawaii.

I encourage you to support SB 2386 and help ensure Hawaii's electoral process is fair, inclusive, and reflective of the will of all its citizens.

Larry Smith

House District 27

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 12:01:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Kuwaye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose this bill. Seems such major changes should not be decided by the few in power.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 1:47:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alicia moro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2386

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 3:48:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlene Lum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose. The people in Hawaii deserves the right to vote in person, with a paper ballot.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 5:59:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victoria Johnson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE the Bill

This bill will pave the way to eliminate our Party run Presidential Caucuses which are done in person with Voter ID and hand counted paper ballots-and REPLACE them with STATE RUN PRIMARIES run by mail-in ballots and counted by election software source code. Passing SB2386 will allow them to pass all the following primary bills:

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:27:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terry Murakami	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. In order to maintain the highest levels of integrity in our elections I would prefer having Presidential Caucuses which are done in-person with Voter ID and hand-counted paper ballots instead of State-run primaries with mail-in ballots and counted electronically.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 8:53:45 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Winifred Y. Yamashiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose because I want to keep current practice intact.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 10:12:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
V Butler	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 11:39:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joyce Calma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-2386

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 11:56:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/9/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james wallace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill SB2386. Another corruption bill that doesn't want us tax-paying citizens to be involved. That's why we are voted the most CORRUPT STATE in the nation. Not every body is voting for democrats but yet they rule the house and senate. No wonder we're at the bottom of the list for education and top of the list for worst state to live in and most expensive, What a dump!!!