



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

---

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS			MAILING ADDRESS
John Bickel, President	Melodie Aduja	Jan Lubin	Bill South	P.O. Box 23404
Alan Burdick, Vice President	Keola Akana	Shannon Matson	Michael Vernon	Honolulu
Doug Pyle, Secretary	Juliet Begley	Jenny Nomura		Hawaii 96823
	Stephanie Fitzpatrick	Stephen O'Harrow		

---

January 31, 2023

TO: Chair Rhoads and Members of the Judiciary Committee

RE: SB 917 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION  
REGARDING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

Support for a hearing on Feb. 3

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 917 as it would propose a constitutional amendment to provide that freedom of speech protected under the Hawai'i State Constitution does not include the expenditure of money to influence elections. We strongly support the freedom of speech but spending money is not speech.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President

**SB-917**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:29:36 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘I; Hawai‘i’s oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports SB 917.

We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.  
Chair and SCC Representative  
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

**SB-917**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 10:41:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB917.

**SB-917**

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 10:03:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Citizens United should not have become law. It is time for the people to take back control. Special interests should not be controlling who is elected, it is the people who should. Thank you Sen. Rhoads for introducing his bill.

**SB-917**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 12:30:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORTING this bill which proposes a constitutional amendment to provide that freedom of speech protected under the Hawaii State Constitution does not include the expenditure of money to influence elections. In reading the explanation of this bill and the background, it is important to protect our islands from these influences.

**SB-917**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:46:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ingrid Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Committee Members!

I support this measure for the plain reason that money is not speech. Also, we have had too much of big money interests influencing elections and governance.

mahalo,

Ingrid Peterson