

**STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION**


235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 3, 2025

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director 
Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: **Testimony on S.B. No. 345, Relating to Public Financing.**

Wednesday, February 5, 2025
9:15 a.m., Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") supports the intent of this bill but has concerns regarding funding.

The bill increases the amount of funds available to qualified candidates participating in the partial public financing program by:

1. Increasing the expenditure limits for elected offices by 20%; and
2. Raising the maximum amount of public funds available from ten or fifteen percent of the expenditure limit to 67% of the expenditure limit.

The bill also increases the matching fund ratio from \$1 for each \$1 of qualifying contributions raised to \$2 for every \$1 of qualifying contributions raised in excess of the minimum qualifying contributions that a candidate must raise to participate in the partial public financing program.¹

Under this bill, if one candidate for each elected office qualified and received the maximum amount available, the maximum amount available for public financing would be

¹ On page 4, line 7, the Commission believes that "fund" should be replaced by "limit."

\$10,298,546 in the primary election and another \$10,298,546 in the general election.² Under the existing partial public financing program, if one candidate for each office qualified to receive funding in the 2026 elections, the maximum available for public financing would be \$1,474,306 in the primary election and another \$1,474,306 in the general election.

In Section 5 of the bill, there is an appropriation of \$16,000,000 for this fiscal year and the same amount for the next fiscal year, into the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund. The balance in the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund is \$2,199,230.60 as of December 31, 2024. Obviously, that amount is insufficient to pay for the bill's enhancement of the partial public financing program. The bill's appropriation of funds is necessary.

The Commission supports the intent of this bill so long as the necessary funds are appropriated.

² By the Commission's calculations, the enhancements to the partial public financing program made by this bill increases the funds available to qualified candidates to an amount more than that offered by S.B. No. 51, the measure proposing a comprehensive publicly-funded campaign program.

LATE



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 345 WITH AMENDMENTS
RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCING
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol

February 5, 2025

9:15 AM

Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS with amendments** SB345, which increases the amount of public funds available to candidates for public office who participate in the State's Partial Public Financing program under Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 11, Part J, and increases participating candidates' expenditure limits.

OHA generally supports public financing as a good government measure. The amendments proposed in SB345 will make the public financing program a more viable option for candidates by increasing the funding available—and expenditure limits that candidates must agree to—in order to participate in the public financing system. Increased access to publicly financed campaigns makes elections more accessible, open, and fair

At the same time, OHA objects to the continued disparity with which OHA is treated under the Partial Public Financing law and SB345. HRS § 11-423(d) sets forth the campaign expenditure limits under the partial public financing program through a multiplier. The multiplier also affects the amount of public financing available to a candidate. See HRS § 11-425. **OHA trustees are the only candidates who run statewide election campaigns that are not explicitly listed under HRS § 11-423(d), and thus default to the lowest multiplier category with "other offices."**

Currently the multiplier is \$1.40 for the office of lieutenant governor and \$.20 (20 cents) for OHA candidates. HRS § 11-423(d)(2), (5). While SB345 increases the multiplier for the other category to 24 cents, this remains significantly lower than the multiplier for the office of Lieutenant Governor, which would increase to \$1.68 if SB345 is enacted. **As a matter of basic equity, OHA respectfully requests that Section 2 be amended on page 3, at line 16, by adding a category: "For the office of Hawaiian affairs" and setting the multiplier amount to \$1.68 in parity with the Lieutenant Governor, another candidate running a statewide campaign.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure that will enhance equity in our elections. We urge this committee to **pass SB345 with our proposed amendments**, to promote fair, transparent, and equitable governance in the State of Hawai'i.



Committee on Judiciary
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

Wednesday February 5, 2025 9:15 am Room 016
SB345 – RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCING

TESTIMONY

Beppie Shapiro, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members: **The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports SB345, Relating to public financing.** The League of Women Voters of the US believes that methods of financing political campaigns should enable candidates to compete equitably for public office and ensure that candidates have sufficient funds to communicate their messages to the public. Hawaii's Partial Public Funding Program (PPFP) is intended to support those goals.

The amount available through the PPFP to publicly funded candidates has not changed in over two decades. Inflation in media prices, postage, and labor costs make the current amounts far less than competitive. The current amounts available to qualified candidates for public funding are far below the amounts spent by privately funded candidates who won election to the same office. Not surprisingly, the number of candidates using the PPFP has decreased every year since at least 2016. The increases proposed in SB345 unquestionably offer an improvement on the status quo.

In addition, SB345 cuts the amount of qualifying contributions required to access public funding for several offices, making the program easier to access.

To enable the Campaign Spending Commission (CSC) to fulfill the requirements of this bill as well as its existing duties, SB345 adds 2 positions to CSC staff and increases the CSC budget by an unspecified amount.

Please pass SB345.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:33:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Susan RobertsEmery, and I am writing on behalf of the Green Party of Hawai'i. We are in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections. This has been a part of our state since 1978.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Green Party of Hawai'i humbly asks that you support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Susan RobertsEmery
Co-Chair GPH
Green Party Hawai'i
Paauilo



LATE

**Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Strongly Supports: SB345
Wednesday, February 5, 202,5 at 9:15am; Conference Room 016**

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

HAPA strongly supports Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) strongly supports SB 345, which strengthens our state's partial public campaign financing system by increasing the matching funds available to candidates and ensuring adequate funding for the program.

Hawai'i's partial public financing system has not been meaningfully updated in over two decades, despite inflation and the rising cost of running for office. The program was established in the public interest to reduce the influence of large private donors and ensure fairer elections. However, the current funding levels are inadequate, making it difficult for candidates to rely on public financing as a viable option.

SB 345 addresses this issue by increasing the cap on matching funds to 67% of the campaign expenditure limit, raising the expenditure limit itself by 20%, and doubling the public match to \$2 for every \$1 in qualifying contributions beyond the minimum threshold.

The proposed changes in SB345 align with other reform efforts in the state. In 2023, lawmakers passed many recommendations from the Foley Commission, including strengthening penalties for government fraud and reforming lobbying practices. However, some of the toughest reform measures, such as full public financing of elections and prohibiting campaign contributions during legislative sessions, have yet to be enacted.

This bill also ensures that the Campaign Spending Commission has the resources necessary to administer and oversee the program effectively. It appropriates \$16 million over the next two fiscal years to replenish the Hawai'i Election Campaign Fund, which has been underfunded for years. Without this investment, the program cannot function as intended.

We urge you to support SB345 as you have the opportunity to respond to public sentiment for an equitable and transparent electoral system.

Thank you for your support and consideration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written above the printed name.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:36:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alika Valdez	Testifying for The Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-345

Submitted on: 1/30/2025 1:24:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Mr. Chairman and members of the Judiciary Committee,

As the former chair of the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct (Commission), I submit this testimony in support of SB 345 RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCING.

The Commission found "that publicly funded elections can help counter the repercussions of Citizens United because public funding expands the reach of many small donors and can relieve the candidates of the need to rely on the support of special interest groups or large donors." Commission December 1, 2022 Report at page 32.

Mahalo, Judge Daniel Foley (ret.)

SB-345

Submitted on: 1/30/2025 6:35:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE this Bill which would provide double the amount of my tax dollars to political campaigns of candidates who do not align with my values. I urge all members of the Committee to **VOTE NO** on this Bill.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:20:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J S	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSED

I prefer my tax dollars go to novel things like, fixing our already crumbling roads and infrastructure?

Funding of candidates should be the candidates responsibility, not the "state".

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:40:36 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this Bill. It's not necessary.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:55:48 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Oppose this bill

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:04:13 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deven English	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong opposition of this bill. Taxes should not be used to fund any one party candidate.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:27:18 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Another ridiculous request!!!

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:06:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments: I oppose this bill. It is not in the best interest of the people of Hawaii. This bill would double the amount of tax dollars that will be used to finance Democratic candidates for office. The people of Hawaii don't want to play your games. Our tax dollars should not and will not be going towards financing your candidates. Leave out tax dollars out of it. Pay out of your own pocket if you like this bill.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:06:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

This is money laundering at its finest. You guys are going to get caught for this. This is not what my tax dollars are going to. You work for THE PEOPLE. The people dont work for you.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:14:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:16:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:17:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:03:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Text

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:24:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB345

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:34:10 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly oppose this bill, mahalo.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:08:33 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ihilani Buffett	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to SB345. Stop using our tax dollars foolishly!

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:09:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin D. Ganitano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB345 because this will double the amount of our tax dollars that will be used to finance Democrat candidates for office.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:40:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments: Testimony in Opposition to Hawaii Senate Bill 345 (SB345) I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 345 (SB345), which proposes to increase the cap on public financing for political campaigns. While the intent to support candidates and promote fair elections is commendable, I believe that SB345 will have several unintended consequences that do not serve the best interest of Hawaii taxpayers. Key Points of Opposition: Increased Taxpayer Burden: SB345 raises the cap on the maximum amount of matching funds available to candidates, which will result in a higher financial burden on taxpayers. The increased expenditure on public financing could divert funds from other critical public services and infrastructure projects that are essential for the well-being of our community. Potential for Misuse of Funds: By increasing the cap on expenditures and the matching fund ratio, there is a heightened risk of misuse of public funds. Candidates may be incentivized to spend more on campaigns, potentially leading to wasteful spending and less accountability in how public funds are utilized. Lack of Proven Effectiveness: There is limited evidence to suggest that increased public financing leads to more competitive elections or better governance. Instead, it may simply result in higher campaign costs without necessarily improving the quality of candidates or election outcomes. Opportunity Cost: The funds appropriated for increased public financing could be better spent on other pressing needs, such as education, healthcare, and affordable housing. Investing in these areas would have a more direct and positive impact on the lives of Hawaii residents. Encouragement of Political Spending: By increasing the matching fund ratio, SB345 may inadvertently encourage candidates to focus more on fundraising and spending, rather than on policy issues and community engagement. This could lead to a more transactional and less substantive political environment. In conclusion, while the goal of promoting fair elections is important, I believe that SB345 does not serve the best interest of Hawaii taxpayers. Instead, I urge the legislature to consider alternative measures that support candidates without imposing an undue financial burden on taxpayers or risking the misuse of public funds. Thank you for considering my testimony. Sincerely, Larry Duclayan

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 12:48:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

No

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 12:59:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bradle Lindsey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 345, which proposes to double the amount of taxpayer dollars used for Democratic candidates through the Hawai'i Partial Public Financing Program. This bill represents a misuse of public funds and undermines the principles of fair and equitable campaign financing.

Doubling the amount of taxpayer dollars allocated to Democratic candidates will create an imbalance in campaign financing, favoring one political party over others. This not only distorts the democratic process but also places an undue burden on taxpayers who may not support these candidates or their policies.

Furthermore, the increased expenditure limits and matching fund ratios proposed by SB345 will lead to higher campaign spending, exacerbating the influence of money in politics. This is contrary to the goal of promoting transparency and accountability in our electoral system.

In conclusion, SB345 is a flawed piece of legislation that will misuse taxpayer dollars and undermine the integrity of our elections. I urge you to reject this bill and uphold the principles of fair and equitable campaign financing.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:06:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this bill. Our election process needs a complete revamping and clean up. This is going in the opposite direction of transparency and honesty.

We The People want fair and honest elections. This will only serve to increase the already 'thumb on the scale' that the democrat party uses.

Do Not Pass this bill

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:08:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB345. Double the amount of your tax dollars will be used to finance Democrat candidates for office, and I refuse to let this happen.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:22:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I most strongly oppose SB345.

If candidates can't find people who want to fund their campaign, then I, as a taxpayer, certainly don't want any taxpayer funds provided to them. I have been a candidate twice and I have never asked for taxpayers to fund my campaigns. This concept will encourage many unqualified individuals to run for office on a "free ride" from the government. That is a very bad and and especially wasteful concept.

Do not pass SB345.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:26:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Oppose

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:36:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharan Sadowski	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Re: SB345 I do not want my tax payer dollars to go to this.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:49:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jordan Hall	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:50:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

We need ZERO of our tax dollars going to get this corrupted 1 party state more democrats elected.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 1:51:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James K. Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 2:25:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I do not want more of my tax dollars going to support Democrat candidates. Too much already goes to support candidates that I would never voluntarily contribute to. It is not split down the middle between parties. So no!

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 2:33:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Giles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB345.

Paul Giles

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:02:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB345.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:35:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Janik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Richard Janik, Lihue, HI

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:51:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimdonghyeon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is kimdonghyeon, and I am writing in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

kimdonghyeon

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 4:54:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process. Mahalo.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 5:35:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gene Lamkin	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Oppose. Used Tax Dollars To Fund democrats.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 6:26:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eliel Starbright	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Eliel, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration! Eiel.,Kapaa

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:19:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Jennifer Lum, and I am writing in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Jennifer Lum, 'Ewa Beach

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:42:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
fred hofer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Fred Hofer, and I am writing in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Fred Hofer

Hilo

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 7:54:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB345. Anyone running for office should fund their own campaign with their own money or the financial assistance of individuals who support them. It should be their responsibility to drum up support for their campaign. If I don't know who this person is or they will not represent me or they have an agenda that I don't agree with, I don't want my tax dollars funding their campaign.

It's bad enough that we are already providing matching funds for candidates. We don't need to give them anything more.

But if the Senators who introduced this bill want to increase the funds to candidates, they can take it out of their own pockets.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:34:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

I strongly oppose SB345.

Kind regards,

Teri Kia Savaiinaea

District 45, Wai'anae Resident

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 8:35:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB345. Mahalo.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:05:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kencho Gurung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Kencho, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Kencho Gurung, Hilo

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:08:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathan Simonds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Jonathan and I am writing in STRONG support of SB51, Fully Funded Public Elections.

Implementing fully publicly funded elections can help restore trust and integrity in Hawaii's elections, which have historically depended on wealthy donors. The success of Hawai'i's partial public funding program and past pilot programs demonstrates that this approach can work, reducing undue influence and increasing voter trust in the electoral process.

Public financing levels the playing field, allowing more diverse and community-driven candidates to run for office without the barrier of big-money fundraising. It fosters a government that truly reflects the will of the people, rather than those with the deepest pockets and connections to influence.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Jonathan Simonds, Hilo

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:17:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reina Loughlin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill and waste of tax payers \$

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:35:34 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JarraeTehani Manasas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

JarraeTehani Manasas, Kailua Kona Hawai'i

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:36:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martin Dixon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:45:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dorinda Ohelo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:54:34 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Loughlin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:05:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Palma-Glennie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

Please support of SB345, a bill that will increase the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections. This program aligns with our constitution's directive to provide public funding for election campaigns.

i live in Kailua-Kona. Our island once had a trial go of public campaign financing as, i think, have other counties in our state have done. There were good parts of it and some that needed to be strengthened. One was that ALL elections need to be publicly financed to level the playing field. This is one part of the bill that i'm not clear on but know is necessary for a succesfful bill.

But without this kind of measure, less and less candidates not suported by special interests or their own deep pockets is likely to run for office, no less win.

Where there is public financing does continue, funding limits have remained unchanged for two decades. In that time, Hawai'i's cost of living has grown faster than the national average, impacting the true value of campaign funds. Updating the limits helps campaigns keep pace with rising expenses, such as printing, venue rentals, and advertising. That's why this bill is needed.

mahalo for voting "yes" on all campaign finance reform including SB345.

mahalo and best,

janice palma-glennie

kailua-kona

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 10:17:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Leake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is [David Leake and I am writing in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections. It's been two decades since the spending level was set, so this increase is essential.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

David Leake, Kaneohe

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:08:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB345.

no more raises until you can prove to the people that you deserve it. Learn to work with what you got before asking for more. With that, I oppose

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:28:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I ***OPPOSE*** bill **SB345**. Citizens of the State of Hawaii are already being taxed for everything, why should our tax dollars go to Democrat Candidates for office? You don't even listen to your own constituents.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 11:55:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Nanea Lo, and I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB345**, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii’s partial public financing program for elections.

This bill is a critical step in making our electoral process more accessible to grassroots candidates who are deeply connected to their communities. By raising the matching funds ratio to 2-to-1, we enable more diverse voices to run for office—voices that might otherwise struggle against the influence of big money in politics. Candidates who rely on smaller donations from everyday residents are more likely to focus on the real issues affecting our communities, such as the high cost of living, environmental protections, and Indigenous rights.

The partial public financing program has existed since 1978, but its funding limits have remained unchanged for over two decades. Meanwhile, the cost of living in Hawai‘i has skyrocketed, making it increasingly difficult for candidates to run competitive campaigns. SB345 ensures that campaign funds reflect the financial realities of today, covering essential costs like outreach materials, venue rentals, and advertising.

By strengthening this program, we uphold our state constitution’s directive to provide public funding for elections and reaffirm our commitment to a fair and representative democracy. I urge the committee to pass SB345 to support a political system that is truly by and for the people of Hawai‘i.

Me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo

Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826

Sierra Club of Hawai‘i Executive Committee Member

Board Member, Hawai‘i Workers Center

Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:32:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelvien Dixon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

this an unfiar finannce for democrats condidates. and hawaii can not handle giving more money right now

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 12:56:51 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KEALA FUNG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Keala Fung, and I am writing in STRONG support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Keala Fung, Honolulu

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:50:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luis Ma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While supporting political parties is a personal choice, there are potential disadvantages to giving more donations to the **Hawaii Democratic Party** that critics or opponents might highlight. Here are some concerns, framed in a neutral tone:

1. **Lack of Competitive Balance**:

Hawaii is already a heavily Democratic state, with the party dominating local and statewide elections. Increasing donations to the Democratic Party could further entrench one-party rule, reducing political competition and potentially leading to complacency or a lack of accountability among elected officials.

2. **Limited Impact on National Politics**:

Hawaii is a small state with only four electoral votes. Donors seeking to influence national politics might find their contributions have a greater impact in swing states or battleground regions where elections are more competitive and outcomes less predictable.

3. **Potential for Mismanagement**:

Like any political organization, the Hawaii Democratic Party could face criticism over how it allocates funds. Donors might worry about inefficiencies, lack of transparency, or funds being used for purposes that don't align with their priorities, such as internal party politics rather than voter outreach or policy initiatives.

4. **Neglect of Local Issues**:

Critics might argue that the party's focus on broader national Democratic priorities could overshadow unique local issues facing Hawaii, such as Native Hawaiian rights, environmental conservation, or the high cost of living. Donors may feel their money isn't addressing the specific needs of the state.

5. **Perception of Favoritism**:

Large donations to the Democratic Party could create the perception of undue influence, especially if donors are seen as expecting special treatment or access to policymakers. This could erode public trust in both the party and the political process.

6. **Opportunity Cost**:

Donors might consider whether their money could have a greater impact elsewhere, such as supporting nonpartisan community organizations, environmental groups, or initiatives directly addressing Hawaii's challenges. Political donations may not always translate into tangible outcomes for the community.

7. **Potential for Polarization**:

Increasing donations to one party could exacerbate political polarization in Hawaii, where a small but significant portion of the population identifies as Republican or independent. This could deepen divisions and hinder bipartisan cooperation on critical issues.

8. **Unintended Consequences**:

A heavily funded Democratic Party might push policies that some donors or residents disagree with, such as tax increases, regulatory changes, or shifts in land use policies. Donors should consider whether their contributions align with their personal values and the long-term interests of the state.

Conclusion:

While supporting the Hawaii Democratic Party may align with some donors' goals, it's important to weigh these potential disadvantages. Donors should carefully consider how their

contributions will be used, whether they align with local priorities, and if there are more effective ways to create positive change in Hawaii.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:52:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isis Usborne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Isis Usborne, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Isis Usborne, 96815

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:26:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB345. I do not want my tax money funding political candidates.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 7:43:34 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shani Hough	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose Bill SB345, this will lead to doubling the amount of our tax dollars being used to finance Democrat candidates for office.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:21:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I stand in opposition to Senate Bill 345 (SB345) due to its potential negative implications on Hawai'i's fiscal responsibility and the integrity of our electoral system. The bill proposes to allocate \$16 million annually from the state's general fund to election campaigns, which I see as an unnecessary fiscal burden at a time when critical public services like education, healthcare, and infrastructure are in dire need of funding. This expenditure could be wasteful if it does not lead to more diverse or quality candidates, as there's no guarantee that increasing the cap on public funds will yield the intended outcomes. Moreover, by doubling the matching fund ratio and increasing spending caps, SB345 might inadvertently escalate campaign costs, leading to an arms race of spending that contradicts the aim of controlling costs through public financing. The complexity introduced by these changes could overburden the Campaign Spending Commission, risking administrative errors and delays that might erode public trust in the electoral process. Additionally, the new funding structure could discourage small, individual donations, potentially reducing grassroots voter engagement as the impact of personal contributions appears diminished. There's also the risk of political bias, where changes in campaign finance laws might be manipulated to favor certain parties, challenging the equitable application of these new rules. Lastly, public funding might disproportionately benefit candidates already skilled in fundraising, not truly addressing the disparity in campaign finance. For these reasons, I urge a more balanced approach to campaign finance reform that does not compromise the state's fiscal health or the integrity of our elections, thus I strongly oppose Senate Bill 345.

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:23:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel R Freund	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e,

Others will give you lists of the benefits of partial public funding. All those benefits are lost if the legislature slanders by and lets inflation make the program meaningless. Please don't let that happen.

- Dan Freund, Kapaa

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:54:09 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose SB345. Do not use my tax dollars to facilitate this bill. I do not support the Democratic Party, we need to have FAIR elections.

Thank You.

Noela von Wiegandt

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:01:34 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Oppose

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:10:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lolita Keni	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill...I refuse to use anymore of my tax dollars, to fund candidates for office.

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 9:26:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann V Saffery	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Ann V Saffery, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Ann V Saffery

Pearl City, HI

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:19:59 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose.

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:29:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am in favor of this bill as the limits have been unchanged for two decades, and I like the idea of rewarding candidates who engage with the community directly as this compensation will incentivize candidates to be more in touch with community concerns. Mahalo.

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 10:33:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Noelle Lindenmann, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Noelle Lindenmann, Kailua-Kona

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:01:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Mr. Rhoads,

I am writting to OPPOSE SB 345. There is too much tax payer money being spent on various programs and the end results is no accountabilty. I ask you to not proceed with SB 345.

Thank you,

Jason Kimura

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 1:13:02 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Mahalo, Barbara Best, Wailuku

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 6:18:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Partial Public Financing Program needs all the help it can get.

LATE

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

My name is Kiana Otsuka, and I am writing in **STRONG support of SB345**, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Kiana Otsuka, Moanalua

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 8:30:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emelia Briscoe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Emelia, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Emelia Briscoe, Honolulu

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:14:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Michele Nihipali, and I am writing in **STRONG** support of SB345, which increases the amount of matching funds in Hawaii's partial public financing program for elections.

By increasing the expenditure cap and adjusting matching funds to 2 to 1, this measure reflects the economic realities of today and encourages more candidates to participate in the program. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the influence of big money in our election process.

Please support SB345. Mahalo for your consideration!

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:33:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lawrence Ford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am firmly in support of campaign spending partial public funding increase.

Lawrence Ford

LATE

SB-345

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 1:02:47 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/5/2025 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Choy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill