

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2827**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR - 5 2026**

RE: S.B. No. 2528  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2528, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PARTIAL PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to facilitate the partial public financing of elections by making certain amendments to applicable law.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Increases the aggregate expenditure limits for candidates whose campaigns are partially publicly financed;
- (2) Increases the maximum amount of public funding available to candidates;
- (3) Changes minimum qualifying contribution requirements for candidates for certain offices; and
- (4) Appropriates an unspecified sum into the Hawaii election campaign fund.



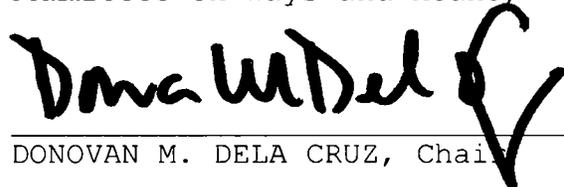
Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission, Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action, League of Women Voters of Hawaii, HULI PAC, Imua Alliance, Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network, and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from KahuPuna and one individual.

Your Committee finds that that the public financing of campaigns allows a broader array of candidates to seek public office and to focus on voter outreach instead of the solicitation of funds from donors. Your Committee believes that the amendments made by this measure to the State's partial public financing program will help to further equalize the electoral playing field.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2528, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2528, SDI	JDC, WAM	3/2/2026		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	13	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; margin-top:10px;"> </div>				
Distribution:             Original             Yellow             Pink File with Committee Report             Committee             Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes