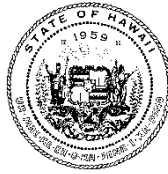


KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PHONE: (808) 586-0285
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WWW.HAWAII.GOV/CAMPAIGN

STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 23, 2026

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 **KI**

SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 1520, H.D.1, Relating to Campaign Finance.**
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 9:45 a.m.
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission (“Commission”) supports this bill with comments.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) §11-412(g) by changing the commencement of the statute of limitations period from the date of violation or date of filing of the report to the discovery of the offense by the Commission. The Commission believes changing the commencement date of the statute of limitations to the date of discovery of the violation will prevent candidates, candidate committees, and noncandidate committees from delaying proper reporting on campaign finance reports to avoid prosecution.

The Commission requests that this committee pass this measure with amendments.



Protect Democracy

Move Forward

www.indivisiblehawaii.org

info@indivisiblehawaii.org

To: Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee

Hearing Date/Time: 03-24 9:45AM

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of 1520 HD1

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

On behalf of Indivisible Hawai'i, I thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1520 HD1.

We support this bill because it clarifies that the five-year statute of limitations for criminal prosecutions of campaign finance violations begins when the offense is discovered by the Campaign Spending Commission and not when the alleged offense takes place.

Campaign finance violations are often concealed and may involve falsified reporting or complicated financial arrangements that are not immediately noticed. When the statute of limitations expires before violations are discovered, enforcement becomes impossible, and misconduct is unchecked. HB1520 HD1 addresses this issue by strengthening the deterrent power of our campaign finance laws and ensures that accountability will follow the discovery of a crime. This is essential for restoring and maintaining public confidence that our elections are fair and our officials are playing by the rules.

We thank you for supporting HB1520 HD1 and urge you to advance this bill.

Mahalo nui loa,

Marlene Thom

Indivisible Hawai'i Good Government and Secure Elections Team

The mission of the 14-chapter Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network (IHSN) is to protect Hawai'i and democracy by defending civil rights, communities and values, most importantly, Hawai'i's Constitutionally protected spirit of Aloha. In October 2025, IHSN with other partners turned out over 22,000 residents on all major islands to say No Dictators! and to stand up for democracy. This call-to-action was part of Indivisible national's mobilization of more than 7 million across the country as the voice of the people, committed to election integrity and to evolving as a place of equity, opportunity and peace.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 12:41:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eileen Hilton	Testifying for Windward Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TESTIMONY OF THE WINDWARD COALITION
IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB1520
Relating to Campaign Finance Law—Statute of Limitations

Hearing Date: 03/24/26

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

The Windward Coalition strongly supports HB1520, which changes the start of the “clock” for the five-year statute of limitations for criminal prosecutions of campaign finance violations so that it begins when the Campaign Spending Commission (CSC) discovers the offense rather than when the violation actually occurred.

We believe that HB1520 will:

Clarify that the five-year statute of limitations for criminal campaign finance violations starts upon discovery of the offense by the CSC, not at the time of the violation itself.

Improve accountability: Campaign finance violations are often concealed through misleading reports, shell entities, or delayed filings, so discovery may occur years after the conduct. A discovery-based clock gives prosecutors a realistic window to act.

Deter sophisticated violations: Knowing that the limitations period does not quietly expire while violations are hidden may discourage intentional schemes to evade disclosure or reporting rules.

Align better with other “concealed fraud” standards: In many legal contexts, statutes of limitations are tolled or tied to discovery when wrongdoing is actively concealed. HB1520 brings Hawai‘i’s campaign finance enforcement closer to that model.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to pass HB1520.

Mahalo,

Eileen Hilton, MD

President

Windward Coalition



MARCH 24, 2026

HOUSE BILL 1520 HD1

CURRENT REFERRAL: JDC

808-679-7454
kris@imuaalliance.org
www.imuaalliance.org
@imuaalliance

Kris Coffield,
President

David Negaard,
Director

Mireille Ellsworth,
Director

Justin Salisbury,
Director

Eileen Roco,
Director

Beatrice DeRego,
Director

Corey Rosenlee,
Director

Amy Zhao,
*Policy and Partnerships
Strategist*

POSITION: SUPPORT

Imua Alliance supports HB 1520 SH1, relating to campaign finance, which clarifies that the five-year statute of limitations for criminal prosecutions of campaign finance violations begins upon discovery of the offense by the Campaign Spending Commission

Imua Alliance is a Hawai'i-based organization dedicated to ending all forms of exploitation, including electoral abuse. Public trust in government is foundational to our democracy. When people believe that their institutions operate transparently, ethically, and in the public interest, they are more likely to engage in civic life and participate in elections.. Conversely, ethical lapses erode trust and, in turn, reduce civic participation.

Recent events have highlighted the need for stronger accountability measures. In late 2025 and early 2026, media reporting revealed that a federal corruption inquiry involving former legislators included an allegation that approximately \$35,000 was paid to an influential state lawmaker in 2022. The reporting has prompted widespread public concern, including petitions from hundreds of community members calling for a full legislative investigation and renewed accountability safeguards.

Multiple outlets have noted that the matter was investigated by federal authorities without a parallel public legislative review or robust public process, leaving many in the community questioning whether current ethical and disclosure systems are sufficient. The Hawai'i Attorney General's office is currently investigating the matter at the best of the community and legislative leaders, who have called for a hasty and thorough inquiry.

This scandal and the community response it has generated underscore the urgent need to strengthen transparency, disclosure, and conflict-of-interest rules for public officials. This measure will allow the Campaign Spending Commission ample time to investigate the potential \$35,000

campaign finance violation, which would otherwise be on the cusp of lapsing beyond the commission's statute of limitations given the inability of the commission to access information critical to examine the allegations to their fullest extent.

The alleged \$35,000 payment to an influential Hawai'i politician has also exposed a troubling gap in state-level accountability. As has been publicly discussed, the Hawai'i Campaign Spending Commission was unable to pursue enforcement action in part because the alleged conduct fell outside the Commission's current statute of limitations, leaving serious questions unanswered and undermining public confidence in our systems of electoral and government integrity.

This measure is ultimately about deciding who our state government represents: we, the people, or those who pay bribes behind closed doors to exploit our democracy. When the law prevents oversight bodies from even examining credible allegations of improper influence, the problem is not merely individual misconduct. It is a structural failure. This bill responds directly to this gap by strengthening transparency and accountability mechanisms, so that future allegations of this magnitude cannot evade scrutiny simply due to timing technicalities.

Passing this bill is essential to restoring communal trust and ensuring Hawai'i's campaign finance laws can respond meaningfully when the public most needs them.

With aloha,

Kris Coffield

President, Imua Alliance



**House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Strongly Supports: HB1520 HD1
Tuesday, March 24th, at 9:45 am; Conference Room 016**

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

HAPA strongly supports HB1520 HD1, which closes a critical loophole in Hawai'i's campaign finance laws by clarifying that the statute of limitations for criminal violations begins when the offense is discovered by the Campaign Spending Commission, not before.

Campaign finance violations are often concealed and may involve falsified reporting or complicated financial arrangements that are not immediately noticed. When the statute of limitations expires before violations are discovered, enforcement becomes impossible, and misconduct is unchecked.

HB1520 strengthens oversight, promotes fairness, and helps restore public trust in Hawai'i's elections. We urge the committee to pass this measure.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

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

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



**House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Strongly Supports: HB2050
Tuesday February 2nd, at 2 pm; Conference Room 235**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

HAPA strongly supports HB2050, modernizes Hawai'i's partial public campaign financing program by increasing expenditure limits, strengthening matching funds, and updating qualifying contribution thresholds for state and county elective offices

The current system no longer reflects the realities of today's political landscape and inadequate as a viable alternative to private fundraising. HB2050 addresses this problem by adjusting expenditure limits, increasing the amount of public funds available to participating candidates, and strengthening incentives to participate in the program.

Recent data underscores the need for these reforms. Since 1994, incumbents in the Hawai'i House have spent an average of nearly \$58,000 per election when adjusted for inflation, while challengers spent approximately \$16,500. This persistent imbalance has contributed to a reelection rate of roughly 90 percent for incumbents over the past decade. Public financing was intended to help level this playing field, but without updates, it cannot serve that purpose effectively.

HB2050 builds on prior reform efforts undertaken by the Legislature. In recent years, lawmakers have enacted several recommendations from the Foley Commission, including strengthening penalties for government fraud and reforming lobbying practices. However, we still have to make progress on reforms of expanding public financing and reducing candidates' dependence on large private donations. This measure helps close those gaps.

HB2050 represents a thoughtful and necessary update to Hawai'i's partial public financing system. It responds directly to inflation, campaign spending realities, and the public's desire for a more equitable and transparent electoral process. We respectfully urge you to support this measure.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



**House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: HB2052
Tuesday February 2nd, at 2 pm; Conference Room 235**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

HAPA supports HB2052, which aims to close the “pay-to-play” loophole. When individuals or entities with active financial relationships with the government are allowed to influence campaigns, it raises serious concerns about favoritism and access.

This bill strengthens existing prohibitions by expanding contribution bans to cover state and county contractors and grantees, as well as their officers and immediate family members, during the life of a contract or grant. These restrictions apply to contracts of \$100,000 or more for goods or services and \$250,000 or more for construction, reflecting the heightened risk of undue influence at higher funding levels.

Allowing individuals who financially benefit from public contracts or grants to contribute to political campaigns undermines public trust and creates the appearance that government decisions are influenced by money rather than merit. This bill helps ensure that contracts and grants are awarded based on public interest, not political contributions.

By closing these loopholes, this measure promotes transparency, accountability, and ethical governance, and reinforces the principle that Hawai'i's elections should not be influenced by those seeking or receiving public funds.

Mahalo for your support and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



**House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: HB1519
Tuesday February 2nd, at 2 pm; Conference Room 235**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

HAPA supports HB1519, which aims to close the “pay-to-play” loophole. When large public contracts and grants are awarded, the public deserves clear visibility into who benefits and who may have access to political decision-makers.

This bill strengthens existing prohibitions by expanding contribution bans to cover state or county grantees, including compensated officers and their immediate family members, during the life of a contract or grant. These restrictions apply to contracts of \$250,000 or more.

When large sums of public money are involved, the public deserves to know who is benefiting. HB1519 advances this core democratic value by requiring disclosure of the names of compensated officers and their immediate family members for state or county contractors and grantees receiving contracts or grants exceeding \$250,000. Transparency at this level helps prevent hidden conflicts of interest and reassures the public that government decisions are being made in the open.

HB 1519 affirms that public dollars must be accountable to the public, not shielded from scrutiny. By strengthening transparency and ethical standards, this bill helps restore confidence in Hawai'i's electoral and procurement systems.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



**House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SB2533
Wednesday February 3rd, at 9 am; Conference Room 16**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee,

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) submits testimony in strong support of SB2533.

We appreciate the important work of the Campaign Spending Commission and the key role it plays in protecting the integrity of our elections. As one of the State's main independent watchdogs, the Commission helps ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance with campaign finance laws that safeguard our democracy.

Public trust in government relies on strong, independent oversight. The Campaign Spending Commission, like the State Ethics Commission, the Auditor, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Legislative Reference Bureau, has important compliance and enforcement duties that require expertise, independence, and professionalism. However, the Commission's compensation has not kept up with other similar agencies.

SB2533 recognizes that effective oversight depends on recruiting and keeping experienced, highly qualified staff. Making the Commission's pay equal to that of similar agencies is not just fair; it is necessary for consistent, credible, and effective enforcement of campaign finance laws.

This bill invests in the integrity of Hawai'i's democracy. By strengthening the Campaign Spending Commission, SB2533 helps keep our elections transparent, accountable, and deserving of public trust.

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

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

LATE

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 1:36:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregory Misakian	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am in strong support of HB1520 HD1.

Gregory Misakian

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 8:25:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am testifying in strong support of HB1520, which would close a critical loophole in Hawai‘i’s campaign finance enforcement by starting the statute of limitations for criminal prosecutions upon the *discovery* of the offense, not the date of the violation.

Our campaign finance laws exist for a fundamental purpose: to ensure transparency, prevent corruption, and uphold public trust in our elections. But these laws are meaningless without meaningful enforcement. Currently, the five-year statute of limitations begins ticking from the date a violation occurs or a report is due, not from when it is uncovered. This creates a perverse incentive and a significant accountability gap.

A candidate or committee could deliberately conceal a serious campaign finance crime—such as illegal coordination, accepting improper contributions, or falsifying reports—knowing that if it remains hidden for five years, they will face no criminal consequence, even if the violation is later discovered. This is not hypothetical; sophisticated violations, especially those involving intent to deceive, can remain concealed well beyond five years, escaping justice entirely.

HB1520 fixes this flaw by aligning the clock with the principle of justice. It ensures that prosecutors and the Campaign Spending Commission have the time necessary to investigate and pursue criminal charges from the moment a violation is discovered. This change is not about extending timelines arbitrarily; it is about ensuring that the law can reach intentional, concealed wrongdoing.

This reform strengthens the deterrent power of our campaign finance laws. It tells everyone participating in our elections that there is no safe harbor in secrecy, and that accountability will follow the discovery of a crime. This is essential for restoring and maintaining public confidence that our elections are fair and our officials are playing by the rules.

For the integrity of our democracy and the principle that no one should be above the law, I urge you to pass HB1520.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:12:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:30:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill provides that the period of limitations for criminal prosecutions under campaign finance laws starts on discovery of the offense by the Campaign Spending Commission, rather than being limited to five years from the violation date or report filing date. This bill, if passed, could affect, for example, the investigation and prosecution of the alleged \$35,000 bribery case.

Thank you, Jane Aquino, Indivisible

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:32:52 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu, member of Indivisible

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:57:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Dickson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Judicial Committee,

I am writing in support of SB123. This bill provides that the period of limitations for criminal prosecutions under campaign finance laws starts upon discovery of the offense by the Campaign Spending Commission, rather than being limited to five years from the violation date or report filing date. This bill, if passed, could affect, for example, the investigation and prosecution of the alleged \$35,000 bribery case. There is no room in government for dishonesty. Legislation must be enacted in the best interest of a majority of citizens, not any individual, business, or corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Kathleen "kate" Dickson, Waikiki

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:12:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Wassell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday,

February 18, 2026 at 2 PM

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 329

Re: Testimony in

SUPPORT of HB 1546 HD1

Dear Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair, Rep. Tina Nakada Grandinetti, Vice Chair, and Members of Committee,

Members of Indivisible Hawai'i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 1546 HD1.

This bill, introduced at the request of a Kona physician, is intended to address the expected surge in the number of uninsured Hawaii residents with the expiration of ACA subsidies and changes in federal law and rules for Medicaid eligibility.

Medicaid and the ACA are good for everyone in Hawai'i. We are one small state system, one 'ohana, one risk pool, and the more residents who have decent health insurance coverage, the more health care costs remain lower for all of us. The reverse is also true. A higher # of uninsured in Hawai'i = a jump in premiums paid by all, incl. by public and private employers.

This bill is an investment to prevent state health care costs from skyrocketing. It would establish a three-year Health Coverage Continuity Pilot Program to assist individuals who have lost Medicaid health insurance coverage and lack access to other health insurance options. The program would provide two options for individuals in the State who lose their Medicaid insurance coverage and do not qualify for employer-sponsored insurance under the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act (1) The option to enroll in federally facilitated marketplace silver level plans for persons who qualify for federal advanced premium tax credits; and (2) An annual subsidy for persons who do not qualify for federal advanced premium tax credits and have acquired a high-deductible health plan to be used to cover the cost of preventive care. We strongly support this bill.

Sincerely,

JJ Wassell of

Indivisible Hawai'i Healthcare Team

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:17:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:49:47 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What a great bill. This puts more teeth in honesty in government. Ty Cullen and Kalani English shamed the legislature, and \$35,000 in a brown bag continues that. Please pass this bill.

lynne matusow

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 12:22:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support HB 1520.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 1:02:18 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessie L Gonsalves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support limitation of prosecution for campaign finance violation!

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 2:50:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:40:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT HB1520

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:12:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

Please close the huge loophole for campaign finance violations.

mahalo,

Cory Harden, Hilo

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 10:31:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Morrison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support that the period of limitations for criminal prosecutions under campaign finance laws starts on discovery of the offense by the Campaign Spending Commission, rather than being limited to five years from the violation date or report filing date.

Mahalo, Gail Morrison, Honolulu

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 9:45 am
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1520, HD1 - RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

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

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-time resident of Wailuku, Maui. I write to you today in support of HB 1520, HD1, relating to campaign finance. House Bill 1520 provides that the period of limitations for criminal prosecutions under campaign finance laws commences upon discovery of the offense by the Campaign Spending Commission, rather than being limited to five years from the violation date or report filing date.

I am sure the members of the Committee are aware of the New York Times article, "Inside the Late-Night Parties Where Hawaii Politicians Raked In Money," published in January, 2024, with the tagline, "[a]fter the state passed a law barring government contractors from donating to politicians, fund-raising parties showed just how completely the reform effort failed"¹. As a resident of Maui, at a time when my Lahaina neighbors were depending on the kindness of donations pouring in from around the world to help with recovery from the wildfire, an article highlighting apparent corruption in Hawaii to a national audience is something that needs remedy.

As an attorney licensed in the state of Hawai'i for over 25 years, it seems clear to me that this change in the start of the statute of limitations for prosecutions under campaign finance law to commence upon the discovery of the offense is in the public interest. The change provided for by HB 1520 will serve to discourage violations of the law as well as the unethical conduct surrounding keeping such violations secret. Hopefully, it will encourage persons with knowledge of offenses to come forward rather than wait for the statute of limitations to run out.

If passed, this bill should enhance public trust in our elected officials and restore faith in government. Based upon the foregoing, I request that you **vote in support of HB 1520, HD1**.

Mahalo nui for your efforts to improve upon Hawai'i's dark reputation for corruption.

Christine Andrews, J.D.
Wailuku, Maui

¹ Blaze Lovell, Eric Sagara & Irene Casado Sanchez. Inside the Late-Night Parties Where Hawaii Politicians Raked In Money. New York Times; January 17, 2024.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 1:44:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calvin Black	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a member of Indivisible. Thank you for supporting this bill.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 4:35:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of HB1520. I believe it will close a loophole that currently exists in our state's campaign finance laws, creates clarity, and will help with restoring trust in our elections, something that is desperately needed. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 8:16:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 8:26:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair; Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of Kapolei and a member of the Indivisible Hawai‘i Statewide Network. I am writing to provide strong support for HB1520 HD1, which closes a critical loophole in Hawai‘i’s campaign finance laws by clarifying that the statute of limitations for criminal violations begins when the offense is discovered by the Campaign Spending Commission, not before.

Our campaign finance laws exist to ensure transparency, prevent corruption, and uphold public trust in our elections. But these laws are meaningless without proper enforcement. HB1520 HD1 addresses the current flaw by ensuring that prosecutors and the Campaign Spending Commission have the time necessary to investigate and pursue criminal charges from the moment a violation is discovered. This reform strengthens the deterrent power of our campaign finance laws and ensures that accountability will follow the discovery of a crime. This is essential for restoring and maintaining public confidence that our elections are fair and our officials are playing by the rules.

I urge the committee to pass HB1520 HD1.

Respectfully,

Robert L. Justice, M.D.

LATE

HB-1520-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:37:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/24/2026 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you!