

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 3:28:47 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Sugimura	Testifying for Hawaii Council of Community Associations	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT SB1678 HD1



**HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
P. O. Box 29213
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-1613
E-MAIL: STEVEGHI@GMAIL.COM**

March 20, 2026

Honorable Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Honorable Sen. Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT OF HB1678 HD1; Hearing: March 24, 2026 at 9:35 a.m.

Dear Sen. Keohokalole, Chair, Sen. Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill. The Hawaii State Association of Parliamentarians (“HSAP”) has been providing professional parliamentary expertise to Hawaii since 1964.

I am the chair of the HSAP Legislative Committee. I’m also an experienced Professional Registered Parliamentarian who has worked with condominium and community associations every year since I began my parliamentary practice in 1983 (more than 2,200 meetings in 42 years). I was also a member of the Blue Ribbon Recodification Advisory Committee that presented the recodification of Chapter 514B to the legislature in 2004.

This testimony is provided as part of HSAP’s effort to assist the community based upon our collective experiences with the bylaws and meetings of numerous condominiums, cooperatives, and planned community associations.

This testimony is presented in SUPPORT OF HB1678 HD1.

Summary of Bill:

This measure clarifies the cumulative voting requirements for association elections in planned community associations and condominium associations. Specifically, this measure clarifies that:

1. In association elections by cumulative voting in accordance with the bylaws, cumulative voting rights apply to **all** candidates regardless of whether they are nominated; and
2. Individual votes are used in cumulative voting.

When cumulative voting is used, it is commonly done in association elections by secret ballot.

More secret ballot information is found in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th ed.) 45:18. It states:

“Voting by Ballot. Voting by *ballot* (also known as *secret ballot*) is used when secrecy of the members' votes is desired. A ballot vote is a vote taken by instruments, such as slips of paper or electronic devices,³ by which members can indicate their choices without revealing how individual members have voted. On a ballot vote in an election or other vote involving multiple possible choices, members are able to write in or fill in a vote for any eligible person or choice and are not confined to voting for or against candidates that appear on the ballot.” *[Footnote 3, relating to black and white balls, omitted.]*

Therefore, the secret ballot has two components. They are:

1. the voters' choices must be secret and cannot be revealed, and
2. the voters must have the ability to write in or fill in a vote for any eligible person.

References to “nominees” are changed to “candidates” in HRS §514B-124.5 and a definition of the term “candidate” has been added to both HRS §514B-124.5 and HRS §421J-3.2 which includes both nominees and write-in candidates.

These changes are intended to ensure that write-in candidates are eligible to be elected when cumulative voting is utilized. This is consistent with Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th ed.). These changes will also help to ensure that nominations cannot be closed early as a tactic to prevent persons from being elected as write-in candidates.

SUMMARY

We request that HB1678 HD1 be approved by the Committee. It is a good bill and greatly improves the current statutes which need to be updated to protect the rights of members using cumulative voting. HB1678 was previously approved in the House with one comment and the remainder of the written testimony in support.

If you require any additional information, your call is most welcome. I may be contacted via phone: 808-423-6766 or through e-mail: Steveghi@Gmail.com. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely,

Steve Glanstein

Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian
Chair, HSAP Legislative Committee

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 2:18:46 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Emery	Testifying for Associa	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support.

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 2:51:29 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Idor Harris	Testifying for Honolulu Tower	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honolulu Tower is a 396 unit condominium located at Beretania and Maunakea Streets on the edge of Chinatown.

The board supports language that clarifies that in condo elections cumulative voting rights apply to all candidates.

Cumulative voting is permitted in our governing documents.

Idor Harris, Resident Manager

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 4:02:38 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Testifying for Palehua Townhouses Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our Association supports HB1678. Our bylaws allow for cumulative voting. This bill helps clarify this issue. Please pass the bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., President

LATE

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 1:31:49 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Glanstein	Testifying for AOAOLakeview Sands	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Keohokalole, Chair, Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I realize my testimony is late, but it was still recommended that I submit it. I support H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. This bill is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. Generally when a secret ballot is used, it's a right of members to also write in (eligible) candidates of their choosing. I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

Mahalo,

Rachel Glanstein, PRP

TESTIMONY OF DAVE ERDMAN
Private Citizen, Condominium Owner, and Board Member
Tuesday, March 24, 2026 – 9:35 a.m.
Conference Room 229

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

IN SUPPORT OF HB 1678, HD1 – RELATING TO ASSOCIATIONS

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dave Erdman. I am submitting testimony in support of HB 1678, HD1, as a private citizen, condominium owner, and board member involved with multiple condominium associations in Hawai'i.

This measure provides important clarification regarding cumulative voting in condominium and planned community association elections. Specifically, the bill confirms that cumulative voting rights apply to all candidates, including write-in candidates, and clarifies that individual votes may be allocated among any or all candidates.

These clarifications help ensure fairness, transparency, and consistency in association elections. In practice, cumulative voting is intended to provide members with flexibility in allocating their votes and to allow minority interests to be represented. Explicitly including write-in candidates strengthens the integrity of the election process and helps avoid procedural disputes that can arise when bylaws or statutes are interpreted inconsistently.

From a governance perspective, clear statutory language reduces confusion for volunteer board members, property managers, and association members. It also helps prevent challenges to election results and promotes confidence in association leadership.

Many condominium associations rely on volunteer leadership, and straightforward election procedures are essential to maintaining participation and trust. This measure provides clarity without imposing new mandates, while reinforcing member voting rights already contemplated under cumulative voting systems.

For these reasons, **I respectfully support HB 1678, HD1.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 4:34:36 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Keohokalole, Chair, Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I support H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. This bill is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

Sincerely,

Anne Anderson

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 5:37:24 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mary freeman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Keohokalole, Chair, Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I support H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. This bill is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

Mary Freeman

Ewa Beach

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 7:14:22 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joe M Taylor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Keohokalole, Chair, Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I support H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. This bill is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 7:55:29 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurence Chapman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Keohokalole, Chair, Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I support H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. This bill is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 9:38:12 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Wassel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Keohokalole, Chair, Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I support H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. This bill is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Wassel

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:05:01 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

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

Comments:

I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian, who runs our annual association meetings, the latest one was on March 12, and keeps htings on track.

Lynne Matusow

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:30:48 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lance S. Fujisaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT OF HB1678 HD1; Hearing: March 24, 2026 at 9:35 a.m.

Dear Sen. Keohokalole, Chair, Sen. Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

H.B. No. 1678 H.D.1. is needed to clarify that in elections held by cumulative voting, write-in candidates are eligible for election. Therefore, I support this bill and I join in the testimony of Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Lance Fujisaki

HB-1678-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 4:37:15 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/24/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Watson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please SUPPORT H.B. 1678, H.D. 1.

HRS 421J-6 requires the use of Robert’s Rules of Order (RONR) at meetings for Planned Community Association meetings. RONR allows write-in candidates in elections. Therefore, this bill is consistent with Robert’s, will uphold the laws of HRS for PCAs, and clarify - for the public who are less educated in parliamentary procedure - that write-in candidates in elections by cumulative voting are allowed.

This bill was drafted by Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian, who has vast knowledge of both RONR and HRS 514B (as a contributing author) which also requires the use of RONR.

Being employed by Mr. Glanstein, I have conducted PCA meetings in Hawaii for over 12 years. This bill is welcomed to support clarifying the parliamentary procedures for the public!

Please SUPPORT H.B. 1678 H.D. 1.