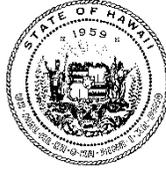


KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PHONE: (808) 586-0285
FAX: (808) 586-0288
WWW.HAWAII.GOV/CAMPAIGN

STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 13, 2026

TO: The Honorable Daniel Holt, Chair
House Committee on Legislative Management

The Honorable Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair
House Committee on Legislative Management

Members of the House Committee on Legislative Management

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

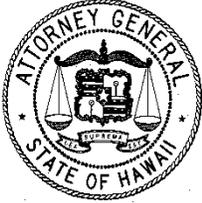
SUBJECT: **Testimony on H.B. No. 2184, Relating to Lawmaker Safety.**
House Committee on Legislative Management
Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 430 & Videoconference

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission (“Commission”) has strong concerns with the administration of this bill.

Hawaii campaign finance laws exist to provide transparency to the public relating to candidates, candidate committees, and noncandidate committees. To ensure transparency, Hawaii campaign finance laws require full disclosure of names and addresses of candidates, candidate committees, and contributors. This bill, however, would require the Commission to redact information that is otherwise required by campaign finance law.

The Commission notes the bill is silent on whether it must continue to redact the residential addresses of former elected officials who have not terminated their registration with the Commission. In addition, the Commission notes that this bill does not appear to apply to officials appointed by the Governor to fill a vacant seat. The Commission further notes it needs additional time to discuss the impacts of this bill with the vendor responsible for modernizing the Commission’s electronic filing system and therefore requests a delayed effective date.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our concerns.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 2184, RELATING TO LAWMAKER SAFETY.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

DATE: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 430

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Jung Min (Charles) Lee, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Holt and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to protect the safety and privacy of members of the Legislature by making their residence addresses confidential in certain election-related records, including voter registration records maintained by county clerks, searchable databases maintained by the Campaign Spending Commission, and nomination papers made available for public inspection.

As drafted, the bill's coverage and implementation trigger do not appear to align. On the one hand, the bill provides that confidentiality applies to "any member of the legislature, whether elected or appointed" at page 3, line 10. On the other hand, the bill directs county clerks to implement confidentiality measures "no later than three days after a person is declared duly and legally elected pursuant to chapter 12," at page 3, line 18. Because an appointed legislator is not "declared . . . elected," this timing and trigger wording may not clearly require prompt protection for appointees, and may lead to inconsistent implementation across jurisdictions. The same "declared . . . elected" trigger also appears in the provision addressing the Campaign Spending Commission's searchable database at page 4, line 19, which may similarly create ambiguity regarding appointed legislators. To ensure the bill functions as intended, the Committee may wish to amend the trigger wording to cover both pathways to office (e.g., upon certification of election or appointment and qualification, or upon taking office).

In addition, the bill appears to contain an internal cross-reference issue that could create uncertainty in operation. Section 7 at page 11, lines 2-3, references amendments to section 12-3 "by section 4 of this Act", but section 4 amends section 11-331, and section 5 amends section 12-3. Clarifying this cross-reference would reduce ambiguity and help ensure the intended savings wording operates correctly.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



February 17, 2026

Position: **SUPPORT** of **HB2184**, Relating to Lawmaker Safety

To: Representative Daniel Holt, Chair
Representative Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Legislative Management

From: Llasmin Chaine, LSW, Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB2184**, Relating to Lawmaker Safety

Hearing: Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 430, State Capitol

The Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women is committed to advancing gender equity, safety, and the wellbeing of women and girls across the state. The Commission **supports HB2184**, as it addresses the unique challenges faced by women in public service and prohibits the public disclosure of legislators' personal contact information in voter registration affidavits, nomination papers, and campaign committee databases, given the implications for privacy, health, and safety.

Protecting the personal information of public officials is **an important measure to prevent harassment, threats, and other safety risks**, which disproportionately affect women and marginalized groups in public life. Research and best practices in the field of gender equity suggest that privacy protections can help foster a safer environment, encouraging broader participation and retention of women in leadership positions, **aligning with the Commission's goal of fostering diverse leadership**.

We encourage the Legislature to consider broader privacy protections for all candidates and public officials, particularly those who may face heightened risks due to social categorizations. These measures would further support a safe, inclusive, and participatory political environment in Hawaii.

We respectfully urge this Committee to **pass HB2184**. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.



Committee on Legislative Management
Chair Daniel Holt, Vice Chair Sean Quinlan
Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 2:00pm
Room 430
HB2184 – RELATING TO LAWMAKER SAFETY.

TESTIMONY

Judith Mills Wong, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Holt, Vice Chair Quinlan, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB2184

In recognition of the fact that personal threats, political violence and intimidation toward public officials are on the rise across the nation, we find it is vitally important to protect the representatives of the people. Serving as legislator should not subject someone to political violence or threats of political violence.

HB2184 allows a legislator to protect their private information if they elect to do so. This affords the legislator a layer of safety that is sadly needed in this heightened threat environment of our current politics. For this reason, we support HB 2184 and urge its passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



Feb. 18, 2026

Rep. Daniel Holt
Legislative Management Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI

Re: House Bill 2184

Chair Holt and Committee Members:

Over the years, particularly after reapportionment, the news media have reported about complaints about candidates for the state Legislature not living in the district they want to or actually do represent.

This measure would make that task more difficult by automatically removing legislators' addresses from documents without them having to show life-threatening circumstances.

Even with the bill's provision:

“(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the disclosure of a residence address when required for purposes of nomination papers, nomination paper challenges, election contests, or the determination of the qualifications of members of the legislature pursuant to article III, section 12, of the Hawaii State Constitution.”

It would appear to create another obstacle to the reporting of candidates or legislators not living in their districts. Will these nomination papers be readily available to the voting public and news media?

Legislators' home addresses for election purposes should be readily available for the public or voters to help determine whether the lawmakers live in the district they represent.

For that reason, we have grave reservations about this bill.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Stirling Morita
President
Hawaii Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 9:21:56 AM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Let's protect those who serve. - Dan Freund, Kapaa

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 3:39:04 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Lu Kelley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

I support SB2184. This bill prohibits the public disclosure of legislators' personal contact information in a voter's affidavit of registration, nomination papers, and electronic database for campaign committees. I support it!

Thank you,

Mary Lu Kelley

Koloa, Kauai

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 8:38:53 AM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Barrows	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The bill title sounds good, but the content is mostly on privacy act information. I do not beleive that passing the bill would provide meaningful safety measures for law makers since all the suggested information that it requires to be withheld are readily available on line. Anybody with limited computer knowledge can easily search and find information on almost anyone, especially in Hawaii.

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 1:30:28 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jay Franzone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Regardless of political party, this bill is about respect, safety, and ensuring that a lawmaker's service doesn't put them or their family at undue personal risk.

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 2:30:31 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terriann Mohideen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In an environment of increased political violence and threats against lawmakers, it does not matter what political party a legislator belongs to - they and their family should not be put at additional risk because of their service to our community. I support this bill. Mahalo.

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 4:53:16 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elna Nagasako	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

I support this bill given the increase in violence against elected officials. It restricts the availability of lawmakers' personal addresses online while still ensuring that addresses are available for validation of voter registration and nomination. Lawmakers should be able to do their jobs without being exposed to undue personal risk.

Mahalo,
Elna Nagasako
Makiki

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/18/2026 8:52:13 AM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2184

Submitted on: 2/18/2026 11:51:48 AM

Testimony for LMG on 2/18/2026 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel C. Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is good to provide protection for the personal information of legislators.

Good to pass the bill.

Daniel C. Smith

Pearl City