

To: Judiciary  
Committee

Capitol, Room CR016

Hearing  
Place: Hawaii State

Re: Testimony in

STRONG SUPPORT of SB2466

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2466 which would only allow termination of the Chief Elections Officer for Cause.

The Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii is very concerned that the election process in Hawaii will be politized denying kupuna their right to vote and tampering with the current voting process.

Kupuna value the ability to use mail voting and participate with easy-to-follow procedures. For many Kupuna, voting is highly valued as a right they have enjoyed over their voting lives.

Please approve this Bill,

Sincerely,

Larry Smith

Chairperson of the Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

Member of Hawaii Indivisible



Senate Committee on Judiciary (JDC)  
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

February 13, 2016, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 016  
SB2466 — Relating to the Chief Election Officer

TESTIMONY

Amy Monk, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports BILL NUMBER SB2466.**

SB2466 specifies that the Chief Election Officer who passes the probationary period may only be terminated for cause.

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii believes in free and fair elections unhampered by harassment or intimidation. In the past, our concern was to protect voters, but in recent years we have seen election workers subjected to harassment and intimidation. This will provide the Chief Election Officer with the same protection as civil servants.

We recall that in 2020, two Georgia election workers were falsely accused of election fraud, their lives were threatened forcing them to go into hiding. Many states have seen attempts to cast doubt on election results using false claims of election fraud, often resulting in harassment of election workers.

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) reports that 39 states and Washington, D.C., have laws specifically addressing protections for election officials and poll workers. Thirty-five states criminalized intimidation or interference with election workers. Twenty-four of these states and Washington, D.C., enacted or updated their laws since 2020. NCSL did not find statutes specifically protecting election workers in Hawaii.

League requests that the measure take effect upon passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

**LATE**

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 9:02:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jamie Detwiler	Testifying for Hawaiian Islands Republican Women	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

We strongly OPPOSE SB2466.

The current statutes as written sufficiently address the hiring and terminating of the Chief Elections Officer.

Please vote NO on SB2466.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Detwiler

Hawaiian Islands Republican Women



Protect Democracy  
Move Forward

[www.indivisiblehawaii.org](http://www.indivisiblehawaii.org)  
[info@indivisiblehawaii.org](mailto:info@indivisiblehawaii.org)

**LATE**

**To:** Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee  
**Hearing Date/Time:** 02-13-26 9:00AM  
**Place:** Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
**Re:** Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB2466

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 SB2466.

We support this bill because the position of Chief Election Officer is critical to the certification of elections. As long as he or she has passed the standard state probationary period, the Chief Election Officer should be protected from termination due to arbitrary or partisan reasons.

With disinformation being spread by groups seeking to sow distrust in our elections, it is imperative that we take all prudent measures to protect election officials who have proven to be trustworthy and effective. SB2466 is a major step to that end and will assure the public that our elections are overseen and protected by competent and ethical officials.

We thank you for supporting SB2466 and urge you to adopt 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.*

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:24:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Estrella S Marin	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

My name is Estrella Marin and I live here on Oahu. I do support this bill and find it useful for the checks and balcnes.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:40:55 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mark Van Horne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:43:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaymen Laupola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

S.B. 2466 provides an important safeguard for the independence of Hawai'i's election administration. Limiting termination of the Chief Elections Officer to "for cause" after probation helps prevent arbitrary or politicized removals and promotes continuity, professionalism, and public trust in our elections system.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:45:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2466.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:45:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Chief Elections Officer should only be terminated for cause. The Elections Commission should not use this office for political maneuvering.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:50:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for hearing this bill.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:57:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support. Thank you

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:13:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support.  
Judith White, Kapaa

member, Kauai Indivisible

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:55:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please help ensure the integrity of the election process in Hawai'i by passing this bill Thank you.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:57:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 9:43:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tanya Dean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for your support of this important measure.

- from a member of Indivisible Hawai'i

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:19:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

**This bill Specifies that the Chief Elections Officer who passes the standard state probationary period may only be terminated for cause. This bill is meant to constrain the Elections Commission in calling for the removal of Chief Elections Officer Scott Nago, as was done by a 3-member panel in August 2025.**

**Both Sen Rhoads and Rep Tarnas support this bill. Related to HB1552 and SB2143.**

Jane Aquino Indivisible Hawaii

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 11:01:48 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roger Hamada	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB2466.

The threat of election tampering undermines the foundation of representative government. We must eliminate the possibility of or perception that a partisan Election Commission can influence the behavior of the chief elections officer by threatening removal from their job merely for political reasons.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 11:42:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Debra Bringman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While I understand the intent of SB2466 to ensure stability in the Office of Elections, I am concerned that the bill protects the Chief Election Officer from removal except “for cause” without providing a clear or functional definition of what “cause” entails. In a year when election discrepancies and questions about audit authority have already created uncertainty, leaving “cause” undefined risks limiting accountability at a time when transparency is essential. A more precise definition would help ensure that the Elections Commission can appropriately exercise its oversight responsibilities while maintaining public trust in the election system.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:38:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jody Weidemann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is needed to constrain the Elections Commission in calling for the removal of Chief Elections Officer Scott Nago, as was done by a 3-member panel in August 2025.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:22:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dave Patrick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an individual citizen and as a member of Indivisible West Oahu, I support this Bill which specifies that the Chief Elections Officer who passes the standard state probationary period may only be terminated for cause. This bill is meant to constrain the Elections Commission in calling for the removal of Chief Elections Officer Scott Nago, as was done by a 3-member panel in August 2025. We must support fair elections.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:43:33 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathleen Dickson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely, the chief election officer should only be terminated for cause.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:11:41 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:58:51 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you -- I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:38:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Kahn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We should do everything we can to protect free and fair elections.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:57:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ron Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill which prevents maga fanatics from sneaking in an attack on our election integrity.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:19:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Kamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a registered voter, private citizen, and member of Indivisible, I strongly support SB 2466. Enacting laws such as this are essential to protect the integrity of our elections. Mahalo.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:53:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We don't need politics to get involved.Actions are either legal or illegal. As we know, if these laws are not on the books, then some will take advantage,

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:25:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of SB2466. I think codifying this statute into state law is a good idea. Mahalo for your consideration.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:57:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcela Montalto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Requiring that a chief election officer may only be terminated for cause helps protect the independence and integrity of the electoral process. Elections must be administered impartially, without fear of political retaliation or undue influence.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:57:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2466.

At the monthly Elections Commission meetings the public has exposed multiple reasons for removing the current Elections Officer yet, not only does the Commission fail to act on all the Election Officer's proven failures to meet standards, the Elections Officer gets a raise and keeps his job.

When he failed to follow the law on auditing the actual ballots, he ran to the legislature to get the law changed so he won't have to follow lawful procedures that were put in place to give the public confidence in the election process. Because of the compromised actions of the Elections Officer and the lack of action by the Election Commission that has ignored the requests by the one Commissioner who has repeatedly exposed the Election Officer's incompetence (accidental or intentional), the residents of Hawaii suffer.

Even though the public has documented numerous "causes" for termination during Election Commission meetings - our state continues to let the Elections Officer oversee one of the most important functions of the state.

The Elections Officer must be accountable to the public. He hasn't been... and with this bill, he, and those who follow him never will be held accountable for failures.

Do not pass SB2466.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:57:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marguerite Koster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a resident of Kaka'ako and wish to show my support for SB2466, which specifies that the Chief Election officer who passes the standard state probationary period may only be terminated for cause.

Mahalo,

Marguerite Koster

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:48:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kiana Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing as an individual in strong support of SB2466. As attacks on the integrity of free and fair American elections increase, it is vital we take steps to safeguard our own elections from bad actors. Mahalo.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:33:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you!

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:56:34 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a citizen of Hawaii and as a member of Indivisible Hawaii and Common Cause, I strongly support this bill. The chief election officer should be non-partisan and should not be subjected to removal for partisan political reasons. The officer should only be removed for cause.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:51:55 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Denize Machit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill clears up an obvious issue that needed clearing up. Our officials should only be removed from office for cause to protect them and to protect us. Let's call it 'due process' for government jobs. This bill will help reduce removing officials for purely political reasons.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 10:13:01 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB2466.

Mahalo,

Kanani Kai

Member Indivisible Hawaii

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 11:29:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please accept this as testimony in strong support of SB2466.

Lynne Matusow

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 1:23:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Smart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB 2466. Unlike many states, Hawaii lacks an elected officer, such as Secretary of State, to oversee our elections. Instead, Hawaii has an appointed Elections Commission board. This board conducts public hearings, but the public has little input into the overall conduct and integrity of our elections.

The Elections Commission has powers under HRS 11-7.5 to oversee elections in Hawaii, including (5) the employing of a chief elections officer, (6) holding hearings on the performance of the chief elections officer, and (7) advising the chief elections officer. In performing these duties it is clear that the chief elections officer must be responsive to the Elections Commission.

In order to faithfully execute its duties, the legislature has wisely provided at HRS 11-6

"(g) The chief election officer is an at-will employee. The elections commission shall provide written notification of any removal and state the reason for the removal"

This bill, if enacted, would make the chief elections officer a tenured civil service employee unaccountable to the Elections Commission. Do not degrade the accountability and integrity of our elections by moving this bill.

Scott Smart

Mililani HI

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 9:00 AM  
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT - SB 2466, RELATING TO THE CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER.**

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 SB 2466**, Relating to the Chief Election Officer, which specifies that the Chief Election officer who passes the standard state probationary period may only be terminated for cause.

As Marc Elias, noted elections and voting rights attorney has noted in Democracy Docket, anti-democratic forces are engaged in efforts to suppress the vote and interfere in our elections. This is something we witnessed here in Hawai'i when the Elections Commission voted to ask the Legislature to consider returning Hawai'i to one-day, in-person voting, getting rid of mail-in voting altogether, and narrowly rejected a proposal to fire the chief election officer, Scott Nago.<sup>1</sup> It is frankly terrifying to think that extreme members of the Election Commission are making deliberate efforts to restrict voting options and fabricating doubt in our elections. I, myself, relied on mail-in voting in the 2024 election because I was on the mainland dealing with family matters at the time of the election. I do not want my vote suppressed over completely unfounded fears related to the security of mail-in voting and misinformation about election fraud.

SB 2466 is intended to constrain the Elections Commission's authority to fire Scott Nago, the current Chief Election Officer, as was recommended by a three-member panel last August. The goal of anti-democratic forces is to subvert faith in our elections as a means of suppressing the vote and allowing election outcomes to be contested. For excellent resources on the overall subject of subverting elections as a tenant of the authoritarian playbook, I direct you to Democracy Docket and to Protect Democracy.

In the context of Hawaii elections, there were allegations of vote count discrepancy brought forward by certain members of the Elections Commission. A 220-page report from Election Commissioners Osterkamp, McAdam and Kahiolani Papalimu determined however that "a purported discrepancy of more than 19,000 ballots<sup>2</sup>" between Hawai'i County and the state in the 2024 general election was unfounded. The report stated, "we find a complete lack of credible evidence to support the claim of a significant ballot discrepancy."

The report added, "When we encourage voters to pursue conspiracies or to believe that government workers are hiding ballots or creating new ones, we significantly damage the system on which our democracy depends." We must be ever-vigilant against outside influences attempting to hijack state control over elections, subvert the will of the voters, and create doubt over the security of our elections. It is, again, a noted antidemocratic strategy to sow doubt about elections as a means of suppressing the vote and undermining democracy. I **support SB 2466** as a necessary measure to protect the role of the Chief Election Officer from unfounded attacks and ensure he may only be terminated for cause.

Mahalo for supporting efforts to protect our elections,

Christine Andrews, JD  
Wailuku, Maui

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<sup>1</sup> Chad Blair, Honolulu Civil Beat, "Elections Commission Wants State Auditor To Examine Hawai'i's 2024 Vote," Oct. 1, 2025. <https://www.civilbeat.org/2025/10/elections-commission-wants-state-auditor-to-examine-hawai%CA%BBis-2024-vote/>

<sup>2</sup> State of Hawaii Elections Commission, Permitted Interaction Group Report on Purported Big Island Ballot Discrepancy, Sept. 29, 2025, <https://elections.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025-10-01-EC-Supplemental-Meeting-Packet.pdf>

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:59:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Calvin Black	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 8:04:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Wassell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It makes sense to me that chief elections officer should only be terminated for cause.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 8:50:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I respectfully submit testimony in **opposition** to SB 2466.

This measure would restrict the Elections Commission’s authority by providing that, after the probationary period, the Chief Elections Officer may only be terminated “for cause.” While stability in election administration is important, this bill moves in the wrong direction at the wrong time.

Hawai‘i’s election system depends not only on independence, but on public confidence. When concerns arise regarding compliance with election laws, ballot handling, transparency, or administrative decision-making, the Elections Commission must retain meaningful authority to act in the best interest of the public. Codifying heightened employment protections without simultaneously strengthening accountability mechanisms risks insulating the Chief Elections Officer from necessary corrective action.

The bill does not define “for cause,” does not create clearer performance standards, and does not enhance oversight or transparency. Instead, it narrows the Commission’s discretion while offering no additional tools to ensure statutory compliance or restore public trust.

The Elections Commission already conducts performance evaluations and public hearings regarding reappointment. If the Legislature wishes to improve election administration, it should focus on clearer performance metrics, reporting requirements, audit authority, and transparency safeguards—not expanded job protections.

Again, I remain **opposed** to this bill.

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 7:29:16 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janet Teare	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is of utmost importance that our chief Elections officer be protected from partisan attempts to be replaced.

Thank you for supporting this bill.

I am a member of East Hawaii Indivisible.

**LATE**

**SB-2466**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 10:02:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

MAGA members have made the Election Commission an ugly mess. Doing everything possible to remove our RIGHT TO VOTE.