



League of Women Voters of Hawaii

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR □

Tuesday, February 26, 2013, Conference Room 016

Regarding SB 848

TESTIMONY: □ Anna Hoover, LWV Legislative Committee

Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports SB 848 Relating to Financial Disclosure requiring a legislator to disclose every source of yearly income that is \$25,000 or more, or that represents 25% or more of the legislator's annual income, when that source has an outcome in legislation.

Income in this amount from a single source that may have an interest in the outcome of legislation surely would be seen by members of the public as substantial and important in determining if the legislator has a conflict of interest when considering related measures.

This bill is a step to improve public confidence in government. Knowing the employer of an elected official helps citizens judge the quality of decision-making taking place. For government to work properly people must have faith in the integrity of its elected officials.

We ask you to pass this measure.

hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2013 11:18 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: barbarapolk@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB848 on Feb 26, 2013 10:00AM

SB848

Submitted on: 2/24/2013

Testimony for JDL on Feb 26, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara B. Polk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SB848 would allow legislators and the general public to be aware of major potential conflicts of interest between a legislator's finances and a bill before the legislature. This is not to imply that all such conflicts necessarily influence the vote of a legislator, but it does provide sunlight on factors that may enter into a legislator's decisions. I encourage the committee to amend the bill to clarify when and how such disclosure should be made. Ideally, the disclosure should be made to legislators and the public at the time of voting on an issue, and it should be filed with the Ethics Commission in January and at any other time during the legislative session that it becomes relevant. Thank you for considering these amendments.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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