



Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Chair Gil Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro

Wednesday 2/18/2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 016  
SB996 Relating to Ethics

TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT  
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

---

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee:

**Common Cause Hawaii supports SB996.**

SB996 would appropriate funds to the state ethics commission to design and develop a system that allows filers to electronically file required statements and reports with the state ethics commission.

Currently, any "electronic filing" that the Ethics Commission requires (e.g. lobbyist expenditures) is in an antiquated format. That is: these reports can be filed via emailing a pdf form online, which is not searchable, and its data cannot be extracted in spreadsheet formats-- thus making it more difficult for interested citizens to analyze available data. Ideally, we would have an electronic system that would require electronic filing and data input capabilities that would give citizens the ability to search, extract, and analyze data filed with the Ethics Commission. We feel that SB996 would give the Ethics Commission the resources and flexibility to set this sort of system up.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony **supporting SB996.**