

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on  
Judiciary and Labor,

This serves as testimony for Bill SCR40. I believe that there should be a \$250 limit to how much people or corporations can donate to support politicians and their agendas. I understand that a similar proposal was passed in Tallahassee Florida last year. The welfare of the common good; has been ignored by politicians who are supported by large corporations such as biotech companies. Our country was founded on a democracy to serve the best interests of all people. Everyone should have a say in the laws that are to be governed. I ask you to please support this resolution to get money out of politics and take a stand against corruption.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeanmarie Smith

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:**  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SCR40 on Mar 30, 2015 09:20AM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 25, 2015 5:26:11 PM

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**SCR40**

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for JDL on Mar 30, 2015 09:20AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## **SCR40**

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for JDL on Mar 30, 2015 09:20AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kellen Smith	Wai'anae Neighborhood Board Hawaiian Affairs Committee Chair	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, Thomas Jefferson said, "I hope we shall crush in its birth the aristocracy of our moneyed corporations, which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength and bid defiance to the laws of our country." I suggested that Senator Shimabukuro submit this resolution because of the growing awareness that politicians are representing corporate sponsors over the general public. For example, we have witnessed this truth immensely as biotech companies lobby the legislature with contributions while the public's outcries for justice get ignored. It is time for a level playing field. Legislators must make decisions based on the good of the general public rather than their corporate welfare sponsors. Many of the corporations that lobby our government would not survive in a true free market without the aid of government. Should businesses succeed because of government aid or consumer buy in? Right now, the campaign contribution limit is \$6,000 for a senator. The State of Hawai'i Campaign Spending Commission reveals how corporate sponsors take advantage of this. A reasonable amount to level the playing field is \$250. A similar proposal has passed in Tallahassee, FL last year, and we hope to be the first state to take a stand against corruption in politics so the message will reverberate out to other states. Malama Pono, Kellen M. Smith Chair of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee for the Wai'anae Neighborhood Board

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**SCR40**

Submitted on: 3/26/2015

Testimony for JDL on Mar 30, 2015 09:20AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senators of the Judiciary Committee, I am in support of SCR40 to do a study regarding a \$250 cap on campaign contributions. I believe we need stronger regulations to protect the integrity of elections and to ensure that our elected officials are elected BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE and not just by the super wealthy and corporations. A modest cap would ensure our representatives are not beholden to special interests. Thank you for considering this measure. Mitsuko Hayakawa Pearl City Resident

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