STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2989

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 1 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2405

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 2405 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize an election candidate, treasurer, or candidate committee to use campaign funds for the candidate's child care and vital household dependent care costs under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission, ACLU of Hawaii, Vote Mama Foundation, AAUW of Hawaii, Women's Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, and one individual.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that balancing family obligations with a political campaign is a difficult task for many political candidates. Women, who are often caregivers, are disproportionately impacted by these challenges, and so are single parents. These individuals can face additional difficulty as political candidates if they lack access to child care. Existing law provides for candidates to utilize their campaign funds for a number of expenses, including donations to public schools and libraries, scholarships for higher education, and consumer goods

for mixed benefit of the candidate. Therefore, this measure expands permissible uses of campaign funds to include child care to provide candidates an opportunity to engage in campaign activity in a fair and equitable way.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2405 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary,

Hal Phank

KARL RHOADS, Chair

The Senate Thirty-Second Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral: Date:				
SB 2405	HHS, JDC 02 16 24				
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)		V			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)					
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.					
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A	١.				
AWA, Brenton				V	
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TOTAL		3	Φ	l	1
Recommendation:					
<u>V</u> Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original File with Committee Re	Yellow Pink Goldenrod port Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes