



State of Hawaii

Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission

committed to integrity & transparency in political campaigns

Since the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark Citizens United decision in 2010, there has been a nationwide concern about the influence of big money being raised and spent on campaigns. Increasingly, wealthy individuals, lobbyists, political action committees, Super PACs and ballot issue committees are using their substantial financial resources to promote candidates and statewide policies. The Campaign Spending Commission is committed to maintaining integrity and transparency in political campaigns by making sure everyone has the opportunity to "follow the money" that finances the campaigns of local candidates.

The Commission serves Hawaii by:

- **[Protecting the integrity of the political campaign process](#)**
Through education and enforcement of Hawaii's campaign spending laws, the Campaign Spending Commission helps to ensure that campaign donations and expenditures are lawful and transparent.
- **[Making campaign data accessible](#)**
Through its online data base, anyone can access valuable campaign information about candidates running for office in Hawaii and follow the campaign spending activities of political action committees, Super PACs, and ballot issue committees. The Campaign Spending Commission's user friendly website offers applications that provide spreadsheets, colorful graphics and pie/bar charts to show who is giving money to candidates and how the money is being spent. Key facts provided include: if donors are individuals or organizations; how much each donor contributed; if a campaign is self-financed; and if contributions are from in-state or out-of-state donors. This information allows users to compare the campaign finance profile of each candidate running in their district or county so that they can make more informed decisions at the polls on Election Day.
- **[Administering a public campaign funding program](#)**
The Campaign Spending Commission administers a public financing program to permit candidates to qualify for public funds to run for office. This lessens a candidate's need to rely on private donors or special interest groups to finance his or her campaign.