

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

July 6, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Thirty First State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

I am transmitting herewith SB404 HD2 CD1, without my approval and with the statement of objections relating to the measure.

SB404 HD2 CD1

RELATING TO ELECTIONEERING COMMUNICATIONS.

Sincerely,

DAVID YNGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS HONOLULU July 6, 2021

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 404

Honorable Members Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 404, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Electioneering Communications."

The purposes of this bill are to (1) exempt candidates and candidate committees from having to file electioneering communication statements of information; (2) reduce the aggregate amount that can be spent on electioneering communications before a statement of information must be filed from \$2,000 to \$1,000; (3) reduce the electioneering communications reporting requirement to just one statement of information to be filed upon meeting the \$1,000 in aggregate spending; (4) revise the definition of "electioneering communication" to include any advertisement sent by mail, rather than just by bulk mail; and (5) clarify that an electioneering communication does not include communication that is an actual expenditure.

This bill is objectionable because it exempts candidate and candidate committees from the heightened twenty-four-hour reporting requirements, resulting in less information being provided to the public <u>prior</u> to election day. Furthermore, for noncandidate committees, the bill reduces the annual electioneering communication reporting requirement to just one report to be filed upon meeting the \$1,000 in aggregate spending threshold and any spending beyond the initial \$1,000 will not have to be reported, resulting in less information being provided to the public <u>prior</u> to election day.

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For the foregoing reasons, I am returning Senate Bill No. 404 without my approval.

Respectfully,

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor of Hawai'i