

Coming soon

- Become an Election Day Volunteer! It takes thousands of volunteers across the state (at the polls, making deliveries, and at the Control Center on Oahu) to make sure our elections run smoothly. We'll send out more info soon, but if you are ready to sign up or want to learn more, <http://elections.hawaii.gov/voters/volunteer/>
- We are still on standby in case President Trump crosses the redline and fires Special Counsel Robert Mueller, (or his boss Rod Rosenstein) who is heading the Russia investigation. If this happens, there are planned protests across Hawaii that you can participate in and tell the President that no one is above the law. To find a protest near you and sign up for alerts (though we hope not) visit <https://www.trumpisnotabovethelaw.org>

Spring 2018

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Find recordings and photos from our events at:

<https://www.commoncause.org/hawaii/about-us/past-events/>

And for more frequent event updates, Like Us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CommonCauseHawaii/>

Civil Café

New for 2018, we held a panel discussion series in partnership with Honolulu Civil Beat. The panel included various legislators and representatives from Common Cause and Civil Beat—discussing legislation and answering your questions. You can watch recordings [on Civil Beat's Youtube page](#). Our third and final Civil Café event was on May 2, and featured Speaker Scott Saiki and Majority Leader Senator Kalani English. Mahalo to those who joined us and submitted questions.



A packed house at our Legislative Wrap Up event with Civil Beat

Student March

We proudly marched to support the dozens of high school and middle school students who organized and led the March for



Student Organizers at Ala Moana. Average age: 15

Our Lives event at Ala Moana Beach Park. The rainy weather did not dampen their spirits and instead left the crowd inspired to continue working to make the world a better place. We are in communication with these young, emerging leaders and look forward to seeing what their next steps will be as we come together to advocate for change.

Youth Voter Registration Project

In an effort to encourage more youth civic engagement, we have partnered with Kanu Hawaii and each school's Service

Learning Center, to pilot peer-to-peer voter registration programs at Kapiolani Community College and University of Hawaii at Manoa. The program trains student "civic ambassadors" how to register people to vote. The ambassadors work on their public speaking and persuasion skills when they "pitch" voter registration at campus events and class visits, and have those interested complete registration forms on the spot. At the time of this writing, students surpassed their goal and registered over 200 new voters during this semester and are considering new ways to engage the community with candidate questionnaires or forums.

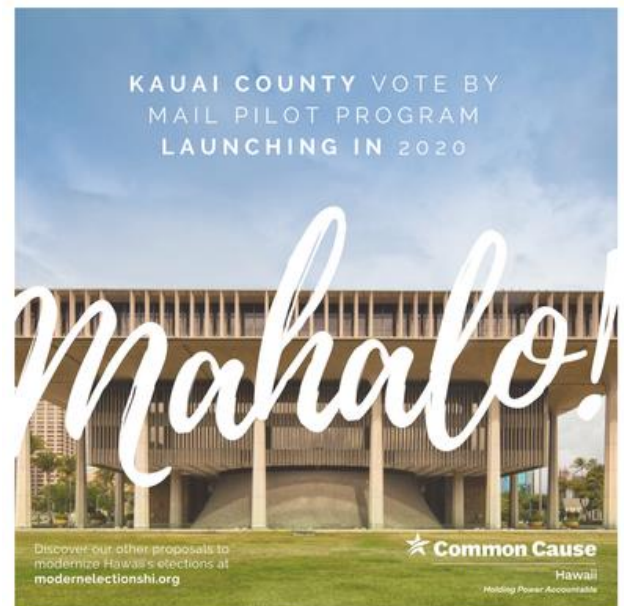
ADVOCACY

The 2018 legislative session was definitely one for the books. While we had a win with Vote By Mail, legislators attempted to curb transparency and public participation by employing practices like "gut and replace" and creating "franken-bills". Thanks to you the worst bills did not survive, but it is imperative we remain vigilant and speak up against such terrible practices. Check out highlights from the 2018 Hawaii State Legislative session below, and read our full legislative update here:

<https://www.commoncause.org/hawaii/legislative-priorities/>

Voting

Vote By Mail (VBM): After years of discussion and advocating for VBM, legislators took action and established a pilot program for Kauai County in 2020! [HB1401](#) (2017). While we were advocating for a statewide VBM program, we are hopeful that this pilot program is just the first step. Mahalo to



everyone who called, submitted testimony, and wrote letters to editor. Progress on this issue would not have happened without you.

Mahalo for your continued support!

Next on our list? We will monitor the pilot program and assist where we are able. In the meantime, [Automatic Voter Registration](#) remains a priority. Currently elections and transportation officials are working on a secure transfer system to share voter registration information. We will update you as progress is made and more information becomes available.

Transparency

Office of Information Practices: As highlighted by the Civil Beat Law Center for Public Integrity, there are [serious delays](#) at the Office of Information Practices (OIP), with decisions taking an average of 2 years to be made. While we're disappointed in the failure of [SB3092](#), which would have required OIP to resolve all public complaints within 6 months, are grateful that OIP's budget request was approved. Mahalo to those who supported OIP's request. We will continue to advocate for more resources for OIP and continue conversations with community stakeholders including the public, the media, and government agencies, as we look for ways to resolve these issues.

Ethics

One of the most important tools that helps us identify potential conflicts of interest are financial disclosure statements for elected officials, certain state employees, and board and commission members. This year, legislators attempted to redact financial disclosures of powerful boards and commissions such as the Board of Land and Natural Resources and Public Utilities Commission, claiming that this would help fill vacancies. With your support, we strongly opposed, and while it came down to the wire, these bills were defeated ([SB2609](#)).

THANK YOU!



Common Cause Hawaii Board members, staff, and intern

In the last newsletter, we called upon your generosity to raise \$5,000, which was matched dollar-for-dollar by a generous donor, in our first ever Hawaii matching gift campaign. Once again you came through in a big way, allowing us to exceed our goal. Your contributions directly support our advocacy efforts and assist in the expansion of our outreach programs. If you would like to contribute, please visit hi.commoncause.org to donate online or send a check to 307A Kamani St. Honolulu, HI 96813.