### A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR COUNTY ETHICS.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the house of 2 representatives adopted House Resolution No. 9, Regular Session 3 of 2022, to establish the commission to improve standards of 4 conduct. The resolution requests the commission ensure state 5 laws and rules relating to standards of conduct of public 6 officers and employees contain clear standards, enforcement, and 7 penalties and provide recommendations to increase awareness of, 8 compliance with, and deterrent effects of the code of ethics, 9 lobbying laws, campaign finance laws, and other relevant laws 10 and rules.

Pursuant to House Resolution No. 9, the commission to improve standards of conduct convened regularly throughout 2022 to diligently review, discuss, and consider the issues presented, submitted an interim report to the house of representatives outlining areas of immediate and long-term focus, then continued its work with input from the public and

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1 invited individuals and agencies to issue a final report with 2 various recommendations and accompanying proposed legislation. 3 The legislature also finds that the strength and stability of our democratic government rely upon the public's trust in 4 government institutions, including the expectation that officers 5 6 act ethically with prudence, integrity, and sound judgement. 7 Therefore, an essential goal of the commission was to provide 8 recommendations that would help restore public trust in state 9 government and increase the level of transparency in its 10 operations and accountability of individuals.

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to implement 12 recommendations of the commission to improve standards of 13 conduct relating to adequate funding for county ethics boards. 14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ 15 or so 16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 as a 17 grant-in-aid to the board of ethics of the county of Kauai. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the county of 18 19 Kauai for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general 21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so

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1	much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 as a
2	grant-in-aid to the board of ethics of the county of Maui.
3	The sum appropriated shall be expended by the county of
4	Maui for the purposes of this Act.
5	SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
6	revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
7	much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 as a
8	grant-in-aid to the board of ethics of the county of Hawaii.
9	The sum appropriated shall be expended by the county of
10	Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.
11	SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.
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INTRODUCED BY:



#### Report Title:

Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct; Counties; Ethics Boards; Grant-in-aid; Appropriation

#### Description:

Provides grants in aid to several counties' boards of ethics.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

