

JAN 25 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

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 (2022) to
3 establish the commission to improve standards of conduct. The
4 resolution requests the commission ensure state laws and rules
5 relating to standards of conduct of public officers and
6 employees contain clear standards, enforcement, and penalties
7 and provide recommendations to increase awareness of, compliance
8 with, and deterrent effects of the code of ethics, lobbying
9 laws, campaign finance laws, and other relevant laws and rules.

10 Pursuant to House Resolution No. 9, the commission to
11 improve standards of conduct convened regularly throughout 2022
12 to diligently review, discuss, and consider the issues
13 presented, submitted an interim report to the house of
14 representatives outlining areas of immediate and long-term
15 focus, then continued its work with input from the public and
16 invited individuals and agencies to issue a final report with
17 various recommendations and accompanying proposed legislation.



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

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to implement
10 recommendations of the commission to improve standards of
11 conduct relating to the solicitation and acceptance of campaign
12 contributions by prohibiting state and county elected officials
13 from soliciting and accepting campaign contributions during any
14 regular session or special session of the state legislature.

15 SECTION 2. Section 11-357, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 "~~§11-357~~ **Contributions to candidate committees;**
18 **limits[-]; contributions to elected officials; when prohibited.**

19 (a) No person shall make contributions to:

20 (1) A candidate seeking nomination or election to a two-
21 year office or to a candidate committee in an



1 aggregate amount greater than \$2,000 during an
2 election period;

3 (2) A candidate seeking nomination or election to a four-
4 year nonstatewide office or to a candidate committee
5 in an aggregate amount greater than \$4,000 during an
6 election period; or

7 (3) A candidate seeking nomination or election to a four-
8 year statewide office or to a candidate committee in
9 an aggregate amount greater than \$6,000 during an
10 election period.

11 (b) For purposes of this section, the length of term of an
12 office shall be the usual length of term of the office as
13 unaffected by reapportionment, a special election to fill a
14 vacancy, or any other factor causing the term of the office the
15 candidate is seeking to be less than the usual length of term of
16 that office.

17 (c) During any regular session or special session of the
18 state legislature, including any extension of any regular
19 session or special session and any legislative recess days,
20 holidays, and weekends, no elected official as defined in



S.B. NO. 1420

Report Title:

Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct; Campaign Contributions; State Elected Officials; County Elected Officials; Legislative Sessions; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits state and county elected officials from soliciting and accepting campaign contributions during any regular session or special session of the state legislature, including any extension of any regular session or special session and any legislative recess days, holidays, and weekends.

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

