

FEB 17 2009

S.R. NO. 27

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE COUNTIES AMEND THEIR CHARTERS OR ORDINANCES  
TO REQUIRE CANDIDATES FOR COUNTY ELECTIVE OFFICES TO FILE  
FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS ON THE SAME DATE AS  
NOMINATION PAPERS.

1 WHEREAS, article XIV of the Hawaii Constitution states,  
2 "The people of Hawaii believe that public officers and employees  
3 must exhibit the highest standards of ethical conduct and that  
4 these standards come from the personal integrity of each  
5 individual in government"; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, the best interests of the State and its people are  
8 served by good governmental practices that promote a culture of  
9 transparency and fairness; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, an informed electorate is essential to the  
12 effective functioning of the democratic process; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, local governments make decisions, expend  
15 resources, and create policies in a way that has a direct and  
16 immediate impact on the lives of Hawaii's residents; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, the financial and economic interests of persons  
19 who seek elected office are relevant to those individuals'  
20 qualification to hold the public trust; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, early disclosure of candidates' financial and  
23 economic interests promotes transparency and encourages an  
24 informed electorate by making relevant information available to  
25 the public from the earliest possible date; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, standardized rules across jurisdictions within the  
28 State encourage equal treatment of candidates for local office  
29 as well as provide an equal opportunity for all voters to make  
30 informed decisions about their local governments; now,  
31 therefore,

32  
33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,



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1 that the County of Hawaii, the County of Kauai, the County of  
2 Maui, and the City and County of Honolulu are respectfully urged  
3 to amend their respective county codes or ordinances to require  
4 that candidates for county elective office file financial  
5 disclosure statements on the same date as candidate nomination  
6 papers; and

7  
8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of each county and to the  
10 respective chairs of each county council.  
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12  
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