S.B. NO. 232/

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that elections conducted
- 2 by mail are an effective method of reducing costs and increasing
- 3 voter participation in the election process. In recent mail-
- 4 only elections, many voters cast ballots early, and thus were
- 5 not informed of the candidates' campaign contribution reports
- 6 because state reporting deadlines are determined by the regular
- 7 polling place elections date.
- 8 The purpose of this Act is to require candidates in mail-
- 9 only elections to file campaign contribution reports prior to
- 10 the first day that mailed ballots may be accepted pursuant to an
- 11 election proclamation.
- 12 SECTION 2. Section 11-207.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
- "(a) Each candidate, candidate's committee, or committee,
- 15 that within the period of fourteen calendar days through four
- 16 calendar days prior to a primary, special primary, general, or
- 17 special general election, makes contributions aggregating more

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| 1 | than \$500, or receives contributions from any person or entity | | | |
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| 2 | aggregating more than \$500, shall file a report with the | | | |
| 3 | commission three calendar days prior to the election $[-]$; | | | |
| 4 | provided that for any election conducted by mail, in conformance | | | |
| 5 | with section 11-91.5, each candidate, candidate's committee, or | | | |
| 6 | committee shall also file a report with the commission three | | | |
| 7 | calendar days prior to the first day that mailed ballots may be | | | |
| 8 | accepted pursuant to an election proclamation." | | | |
| 9 | SECTION 3. Section 11-212, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is | | | |
| 10 | amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows: | | | |
| 11 | "(a)(1) The candidate committee of each candidate whose name | | | |
| 12 | will appear on the ballot in the immediately | | | |
| 13 | succeeding election shall file a preliminary report. | | | |
| 14 | Preliminary reports shall be filed on the following | | | |
| 15 | dates: | | | |
| 16 | (A) July thirty-first of the year of the primary | | | |
| 17 | election; | | | |
| 18 | (B) Ten calendar days prior to each primary and | | | |
| 19 | initial special election; and | | | |
| 20 | (C) Ten calendar days prior to a special or general | | | |
| 21 | election. | | | |

| 1 | (2) | The candidate committee of each candidate whose name |
|----|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 | | will appear on a ballot for any election conducted by |
| 3 | | mail, in conformance with section 11-91.5, shall file |
| 4 | | a preliminary report. Preliminary reports shall be |
| 5 | | filed ten calendar days prior to the first day that |
| 6 | | mailed ballots may be accepted pursuant to an election |
| 7 | | proclamation. |
| 8 | [-(2)-] | (3) Each report shall be certified pursuant to |
| 9 | | section 11-195 and shall contain the following |
| 10 | | information which shall be current through June 30 |
| 11 | | prior to the filing of the report filed on the |
| 12 | | thirty-first of July and fifth calendar day prior to |

the filing of other preliminary reports:

- (A) The aggregate sum of all contributions and other campaign receipts received;
- (B) The amount and date of deposit of the contribution and the name and address of each donor who contributes an aggregate of more than \$100 during an election period, which has not previously been reported; provided that if all the information is not on file, the contribution

| 1 | | shall be returned to the donor within thirty days |
|----|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 2 | | of deposit; |
| 3 | (C) | The amount and date of deposit of each |
| 4 | | contribution and the name, address, employer, and |
| 5 | | occupation of each donor who contributes an |
| 6 | | aggregate of \$1,000 or more during an election |
| 7 | | period, which has not previously been reported; |
| 8 | | provided that if all the information is not on |
| 9 | | file, the contribution shall be returned to the |
| 10 | | donor within thirty days of deposit; |
| 11 | (D) | All expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by |
| 12 | | or for a candidate, including the name and |
| 13 | | address of each payee and the amount, date, and |
| 14 | | purpose of each expenditure; and |
| 15 | (E) | A current statement of the balance on hand or |
| 16 | | deficit." |
| 17 | SECTION 4 | . This Act does not affect rights and duties that |
| 18 | matured, penal | ties that were incurred, and proceedings that were |
| 19 | begun before i | ts effective date. |
| 20 | SECTION 5 | . Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed |
| 21 | and stricken. | New statutory material is underscored. |

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1 This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

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Report Title:

Elections by Mail; Reports; Filing Deadlines

Description:

Requires that for any election conducted by mail, candidates must file contribution reports prior to the first day that mailed ballots may be accepted pursuant to an election proclamation.

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