A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICE.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that candidates for 1 public office are generally prohibited from appearing in any 2 3 public service announcement or government-funded advertisement under section 11-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which is intended 4 to address any unfair advantage in election campaigns for 5 candidates who enjoy a public presence due to their official 6 capacities. However, the prohibition does not apply to the 7 appearance of neighborhood board members who are seeking 8 election to another elective office. Under existing law, 9 sitting neighborhood board members are allowed to continue to 10 participate in neighborhood board meetings, which are regularly 11 broadcast on local television programming. There have been 12 reports of neighborhood board members referencing their election 13 candidacies or otherwise making comments that provide an unfair 14 15 advantage over election opponents who do not have similar 16 exposure to the public at televised neighborhood board meetings. 17 The purpose of this Act is to promote fairness in elections 18 by deeming a neighborhood board member to have resigned from the



- 1 board upon becoming a candidate for any state or county elective
- 2 office.
- 3 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
- 4 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
- 5 read as follows:
- 6 "\$11- Neighborhood board members deemed to have
- 7 resigned from office upon candidacy for elective state or county
- 8 office. Any member of a county neighborhood board who becomes a
- 9 candidate for any elective state or county office shall be
- 10 deemed to have resigned from the member's seat on the board."
- 11 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

HB LRB 14-0527.doc

H.B. NO. 2089

Report Title:

Neighborhood Boards; State or County Elective Office; Resign-to-Run

Description:

Deems a neighborhood board member to have resigned from the board upon becoming a candidate for any state or county elective office.

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