
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO POLITICAL SIGNS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, while posting signs
2 in support of a political candidate on private property is an
3 individual's right and encourages a healthy democratic system,
4 political signs posted on public property can become unsightly,
5 long-term fixtures when unregulated. Candidate committees and
6 noncandidate committees issuing political signs to supporters
7 should be responsible for educating supporters on the legal and
8 appropriate venues for posting political signs and overseeing
9 timely removal if violations occur. The purpose of this Act is
10 to establish penalties for candidate committees and noncandidate
11 committees whose political signs are posted on public highways,
12 property, and venues.

13 SECTION 2. Section 264-77, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "§264-77 **Penalty.** (a) Any person violating this part
16 shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$500, or
17 imprisoned not more than one month, or both.



1 (b) Any candidate committee or noncandidate committee
2 whose political signs are posted in violation of this part shall
3 be fined not less than \$50 per offense.

4 For the purposes of this section:

5 "Candidate committee" has the same meaning as defined in
6 section 11-302.

7 "Noncandidate committee" has the same meaning as defined in
8 section 11-302.

9 "Political sign" means outdoor advertising that:

10 (1) Urges voters to vote for or against any person or
11 issue; and

12 (2) Is funded by a candidate committee or noncandidate
13 committee registered with the campaign spending
14 commission."

15 SECTION 3. Section 445-121, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 **"§445-121 Penalty.** (a) Any person violating any
18 provision of sections 445-111 to 445-121 shall be fined not less
19 than \$25 nor more than \$500, or imprisoned not more than one
20 month, or both.



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1 (b) In addition to subsection (a), any person acting
2 knowingly, who is either:

3 (1) Responsible for posting material in violation of
4 section 445-114; or

5 (2) The person organizing the event or the owner or
6 operator of the business advertised on the posted
7 material,

8 shall remove the material within seventy-two hours after receipt
9 of written notice of the posting or seventy-two hours after the
10 date of the event advertised on the posted material, whichever
11 occurs first. Failure to remove the posted material within the
12 time specified shall be punishable by an additional fine of not
13 less than \$100 nor more than \$200 per posted material, or
14 community service of not less than ten hours nor more than
15 twenty hours, or both. Such additional penalties shall not be
16 imposed unless the person received written notice of the posting
17 or was responsible for posting material in violation of section
18 445-114.

19 (c) Any candidate committee or noncandidate committee
20 whose political signs are posted in violation of this part shall
21 be fined not less than \$50 per offense.



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1 For the purposes of this section:

2 "Candidate committee" has the same meaning as defined in
3 section 11-302.

4 "Noncandidate committee" has the same meaning as defined in
5 section 11-302.

6 "Political sign" means outdoor advertising device that:

7 (1) Urges voters to vote for or against any person or
8 issue; and

9 (2) Is funded by a candidate committee or noncandidate
10 committee registered with the campaign spending
11 commission."

12 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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Report Title:

Political Signs; State Property; State Highways; Penalty

Description:

Defines political signs. Fines candidate committees and noncandidate committees whose political signs are found on state property or highways.

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