A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ARBITRATION.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 658A-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 "[+] §658A-12[+] Disclosure by arbitrator. (a) Before
- 4 accepting appointment, an individual who is requested to serve
- 5 as an arbitrator, after making a reasonable inquiry, shall
- 6 disclose to all parties to the agreement to arbitrate and
- 7 arbitration proceeding and to any other arbitrators any known
- 8 facts that a reasonable person would consider likely to affect
- 9 the impartiality of the arbitrator in the arbitration
- 10 proceeding, including:
- 11 (1) A known, direct, and material financial or personal

 12 interest in the outcome of the arbitration proceeding;
- 13 and
- 14 (2) An existing or past substantial relationship with any
- of the parties to the agreement to arbitrate or the
- arbitration proceeding, their counsel or
- 17 representatives, a witness, or another arbitrator.

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(b) An arbitrator has a continuing obligation to disclose 1 to all parties to the agreement to arbitrate and arbitration 2 proceeding and to any other arbitrators any facts that the 3 4 arbitrator learns after accepting appointment [which] that a 5 reasonable person would consider likely to affect the 6 impartiality of the arbitrator. 7 If an arbitrator discloses a fact required by 8 subsection (a) or (b) to be disclosed and a party timely objects 9 to the appointment or continued service of the arbitrator based 10 upon the fact disclosed, the objection may be a ground under 11 section 658A-23(a)(2) for vacating an award made by the 12 arbitrator. 13 [(d) If the arbitrator did not disclose a fact as required 14 by subsection (a) or (b), upon timely objection by a party, the court under section 658A 23(a)(2) may vacate an award. 15 16 (e) An arbitrator appointed as a neutral arbitrator who 17 does not disclose a known, direct, and material interest in the 18 outcome of the arbitration proceeding or a known, existing, and substantial relationship with a party is presumed to act with 19 20 evident partiality under section 658A 23(a)(2).]

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2 determines that the arbitrator did not disclose a fact required 3 by subsection (a) or (b) to be disclosed, the court may 4 determine that such failure to disclose constituted evident partiality and vacate an award made by the arbitrator pursuant 5 6 to section 658A-23(a)(2). 7 $\left[\frac{f}{f}\right]$ (e) If the parties to an arbitration proceeding 8 agree to the procedures of an arbitration organization or any 9 other procedures for challenges to arbitrators before an award 10 is made, substantial compliance with those procedures is a condition precedent to a motion to vacate an award on that 11

If the court, upon timely objection by a party,

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2059.

and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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ground under section 658A-23(a)(2)."

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Report Title:

Arbitration; Required Disclosure by Arbitrator

Description:

Clarifies provisions relating to required disclosures by arbitrators. Takes effect on 1/7/2059. (SD1)

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