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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO LOBBYISTS.

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

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Amend the lobbyists law to eliminate outdated references to criminal violations and require an individual to demonstrate good cause for noncompliance; and
- (2) Clarify that the state ethics commission may assess an administrative fine pursuant to a settlement agreement.

SECTION 2. Section 97-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

"(a) Any person who:

- (1) ~~[Wilfully fails]~~ Fails to file any statement or report required by this chapter without reasonable cause shown;
- (2) ~~[Wilfully files]~~ Files a statement or report containing false information or material omission of any fact without reasonable cause shown;



1 (3) Engages in activities prohibited by section 97-5; or

2 (4) Fails to provide information required by section 97-2  
3 or 97-3;

4 shall be subject to an administrative fine imposed by the state  
5 ethics commission that shall not exceed \$1,000 for each  
6 violation of this chapter. All fines collected under this  
7 section shall be deposited into the general fund.

8 (b) No fine shall be assessed unless:

9 (1) The commission convenes a hearing in accordance with  
10 section 97-6(c) and chapter 91[+] and a decision has  
11 been rendered by the commission; or

12 (2) [~~A decision has been rendered by the commission.~~] The  
13 commission and the alleged violator agree to resolve  
14 any alleged violation prior to completion of the  
15 contested case process and the resolution includes  
16 payment of an administrative fine, restitution, or  
17 both."

18 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
19 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
20 begun before its effective date.



1       SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

State Ethics Commission Package; Lobbyists; Administrative  
Fines; Settlement Agreement

**Description:**

Amends the Lobbyists Law to eliminate outdated references to criminal violations and requires an individual to demonstrate good cause for noncompliance. Clarifies that the State Ethics Commission may require payment of an administrative fine or restitution pursuant to a settlement agreement. (SB2142 HD1)

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