
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION TO IMPROVE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.

1 WHEREAS, the strength and stability of our democratic
2 government rely on the public's trust in the government's
3 institutions and officers to act with prudence, integrity, and
4 good, ethical judgment; and
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6 WHEREAS, this body recognizes the consequences of a loss of
7 public trust in governmental institutions and their officers and
8 the resultant threats posed to an orderly, effective government;
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11 WHEREAS, this body notes that certain safeguards, including
12 ethics, lobbying, and campaign spending laws, are in place to
13 prevent this loss of public confidence in and good reputation of
14 governmental institutions and their officers; now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
17 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
18 of 2022, that a Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct is
19 hereby established; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose and duties of the
22 Commission shall be to:
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24 (1) Review and assess existing state laws and rules
25 relating to standards of conduct of public officers
26 and employees, including but not limited to:
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28 (A) The Code of Ethics under chapter 84, Hawaii
29 Revised Statutes;
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31 (B) Lobbying laws under chapter 97, Hawaii Revised
32 Statutes;
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H.R. NO. 9

1 (C) Campaign finance laws under chapter 11, Hawaii
2 Revised Statutes; and

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4 (D) Any other applicable laws and rules;

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6 (2) Ensure the state laws and rules reviewed and assessed
7 pursuant to paragraph (1) contain clear standards,
8 enforcement, and penalties; and

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10 (3) Provide recommendations to further the goals of the
11 Code of Ethics, lobbying laws, campaign finance laws,
12 and other applicable laws and rules that will increase
13 awareness of, compliance with, and deterrent effects
14 of those laws and rules; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission consist of the
17 following seven members who shall be appointed by the Speaker of
18 the House of Representatives:

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20 (1) Judge Daniel R. Foley (Ret.), who shall serve as
21 chair;

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23 (2) Robert D. Harris, Executive Director of the State
24 Ethics Commission;

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26 (3) Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director of the
27 Campaign Spending Commission;

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29 (4) Sandy Ma, Executive Director of Common Cause Hawaii;

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31 (5) Barbara C. Marumoto, Former State Representative;

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33 (6) Janet Mason, League of Women Voters of Hawaii; and

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35 (7) Florence T. Nakakuni, Former U.S. Attorney for the
36 District of Hawaii; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission is requested to
39 consult with the Department of the Attorney General and public
40 interest organizations with expertise in the areas of ethics,
41 campaign finance, and standards of conduct, such as the National
42 Conference of State Legislatures, Council of State Governments,



H.R. NO. 9

1 and Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School
2 of Law; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission is requested to
5 submit an interim report of findings and recommendations,
6 including any proposed legislation, to the House of
7 Representatives by March 31, 2022, and a final report, including
8 any proposed legislation, to the House of Representatives by
9 December 1, 2022; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to Robert D. Harris, Executive
13 Director of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission; the Chair of the
14 Hawaii State Ethics Commission; Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao,
15 Executive Director of the Campaign Spending Commission; Holly T.
16 Shikada, Acting Attorney General; the Chair of the Campaign
17 Spending Commission; Tim Storey, Executive Director of the
18 National Conference of State Legislatures; the Executive
19 Director of the Council of State Governments; the President of
20 the Brennan Center for Justice; Sandy Ma, Executive Director of
21 Common Cause Hawaii; the Board of the League of Women Voters of
22 Hawaii; Judge Daniel R. Foley (Ret.); Florence T. Nakakuni;
23 Barbara C. Marumoto; and Janet Mason.

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26 OFFERED BY: 

FEB 17 2022

