
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VIOLATIONS OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-410, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (h) to read as follows:

3 "(h) ~~[This section]~~ Subsections (a) through (f) shall not
4 apply to any person who, ~~[prior to]~~ before the commencement of
5 proceedings under this section, has paid or agreed to pay the
6 fines prescribed by sections 11-340 and 11-391(b)."

7 SECTION 2. Section 11-411, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "~~[§]11-411[§]~~ **Criminal referral.** ~~[In lieu of]~~ In
10 addition to an administrative determination that a violation of
11 this part has been committed, the commission may refer the
12 complaint to the attorney general or county prosecutor at any
13 time ~~[it]~~ the commission believes the respondent may have
14 recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally committed a violation."

15 SECTION 3. Section 11-412, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 "~~[§]11-412[§]~~ **Criminal prosecution.** (a) Any person who
18 recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally violates any provision



1 of this part shall be guilty of a misdemeanor~~[r]~~, unless another
2 criminal penalty is specified.

3 (b) Any person who knowingly or intentionally falsifies
4 any report required by this part with the intent to circumvent
5 the law or deceive the commission or who violates section 11-352
6 or 11-353 shall be guilty of a class C felony. A person charged
7 with a class C felony shall not be eligible for a deferred
8 acceptance of guilty plea or nolo contendere plea under
9 chapter 853.

10 (c) Any person who intentionally provides false
11 information concerning the name or address of the person paying
12 for an advertisement that is subject to the requirements of
13 section 11-391 shall be guilty of a class C felony.

14 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) A person who is convicted under this section
15 shall be disqualified from holding elective public office for a
16 period of ~~[four]~~ ten years from the date of conviction.

17 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) For purposes of prosecution for violation of
18 this part, the offices of the attorney general and the
19 prosecuting attorney of the respective counties shall be deemed
20 to have concurrent jurisdiction to be exercised as follows:



1 (1) Prosecution shall commence with a written request from
2 the commission ~~[ex]~~, upon the issuance of an order of
3 the court~~[+]~~, or upon the exercise of the law
4 enforcement authority of the attorney general or
5 prosecuting attorney; provided that prosecution may
6 commence ~~[prior to]~~ before any proceeding initiated by
7 the commission or final determination;

8 (2) In the case of statewide offices, parties, or issues,
9 the attorney general or the prosecuting attorney for
10 the city and county of Honolulu shall prosecute any
11 violation; and

12 (3) In the case of all other offices, parties, or issues,
13 the attorney general or the prosecuting attorney for
14 the respective county shall prosecute any violation.

15 ~~[In]~~ If prosecution is commenced by a written request from
16 the commission, the ~~[commission's choice of]~~ commission, in
17 choosing the prosecuting agency, ~~[it]~~ shall be guided by whether
18 any ~~[conflicting]~~ conflict of interest exists between the agency
19 and its appointive authority.

20 ~~[+e+]~~ (f) The court shall give priority to the expeditious
21 processing of prosecutions under this section.



1 ~~[({f})]~~ (g) Prosecution for violations of this part shall
2 not commence after five years have elapsed from the date of the
3 violation or date of filing of the report covering the period in
4 which the violation occurred, whichever is later.

5 ~~[(g) This section shall not apply to any person who, prior
6 to the commencement of proceedings under this section, has paid
7 or agreed to pay the fines prescribed by sections 11-340 and
8 11-391(b).]~~ "

9 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
10 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
11 begun before its effective date.

12 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Campaign Spending; Advertisements; False Information;
Enforcement; Criminal Penalties

Description:

Makes intentionally providing false information concerning the name or address of a person paying for a campaign advertisement a class C felony. Authorizes criminal prosecution for campaign finance law violations in addition to criminal fines. Increases the period during which a person convicted for a criminal violation of campaign finance law is disqualified from holding elective office. Authorizes the Attorney General or Prosecuting Attorney to commence prosecution of campaign finance law violations. (CD1)

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