
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CANDIDATE COMMITTEE AND NONCANDIDATE COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the house of
2 representatives adopted House Resolution No. 9, Regular Session
3 of 2022, to establish the commission to improve standards of
4 conduct. The resolution requests the commission ensure state
5 laws and rules relating to standards of conduct of public
6 officers and employees contain clear standards, enforcement, and
7 penalties and provide recommendations to increase awareness of,
8 compliance with, and deterrent effects of the code of ethics,
9 lobbying laws, campaign finance laws, and other relevant laws
10 and rules.

11 Pursuant to House Resolution No. 9, the commission to
12 improve standards of conduct convened regularly throughout 2022
13 to diligently review, discuss, and consider the issues
14 presented, submitted an interim report to the house of
15 representatives outlining areas of immediate and long-term
16 focus, then continued its work with input from the public and



1 invited individuals and agencies to issue a final report with
2 various recommendations and accompanying proposed legislation.

3 The legislature also finds that the strength and stability
4 of our democratic government rely upon the public's trust in
5 government institutions, including the expectation that officers
6 act ethically with prudence, integrity, and sound judgement.
7 Therefore, an essential goal of the commission was to provide
8 recommendations that would help restore public trust in state
9 government and increase the level of transparency in its
10 operations and accountability of individuals.

11 Pursuant to state law, candidate committees and
12 noncandidate committees are required to file organizational
13 reports by certain deadlines. However, the legislature finds
14 that in every election, there are candidates and persons who
15 qualify as noncandidate committees who fail to register, thereby
16 preventing the public from seeing who is in charge of these
17 committees and their organizational reports.

18 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to implement
19 recommendations of the commission to improve standards of
20 conduct relating to campaign finance by requiring the campaign
21 spending commission to publish on its website the names of



1 candidate committees and noncandidate committees who fail to
2 properly file an organizational report.

3 SECTION 2. Section 11-322, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 **"§11-322 Organizational report, candidate committee. (a)**

6 The candidate committee organizational report shall include:

- 7 (1) The committee's name and address, including web page
8 address, if any;
- 9 (2) The candidate's name, address, and telephone number;
- 10 (3) The office being sought by the candidate, district,
11 and party affiliation;
- 12 (4) The chairperson's name and address and, if appointed,
13 the deputy chairperson's name and address;
- 14 (5) The treasurer's name and address and, if appointed,
15 all deputy treasurers' names and addresses;
- 16 (6) The name and address of each depository institution in
17 which the committee will maintain any of its accounts
18 and the applicable account number; and
- 19 (7) A certification by the candidate and treasurer of the
20 statements in the organizational report.



1 (b) Any change in information previously reported in the
2 organizational report shall be electronically filed with the
3 commission within ten days of the change being brought to the
4 attention of the committee chairperson or treasurer.

5 (c) The commission shall publish on its website the names
6 of all candidate committees who have failed to:

7 (1) File the organizational report; or

8 (2) Correct a report within two weeks from a notice to
9 correct provided by the commission."

10 SECTION 3. Section 11-323, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 **"§11-323 Organizational report, noncandidate committee.**

13 (a) The noncandidate committee organizational report shall
14 include:

15 (1) The committee's name, which shall incorporate the full
16 name of the sponsoring entity, if any. An acronym or
17 abbreviation may be used in other communications if
18 the acronym or abbreviation is commonly known or
19 clearly recognized by the general public. The
20 committee's name shall not include the name of a
21 candidate;



- 1 (2) The committee's address, including web page address,
2 if any;
- 3 (3) The area, scope, or jurisdiction of the committee;
- 4 (4) The name and address of the committee's sponsoring
5 entity. If the committee does not have a sponsoring
6 entity, the committee shall specify the trade,
7 profession, or primary interest of contributors to the
8 committee;
- 9 (5) The name, address, telephone number, occupation, and
10 principal place of business of the chairperson;
- 11 (6) The name, address, telephone number, occupation, and
12 principal place of business of the treasurer and any
13 other officers;
- 14 (7) An indication as to whether the committee was formed
15 to support or oppose a specific ballot question or
16 candidate and, if so, a brief description of the
17 question or the name of the candidate;
- 18 (8) An indication as to whether the committee is a
19 political party committee;



1 (9) The name, address, telephone number, occupation, and
2 principal place of business of the custodian of the
3 books and accounts;

4 (10) The name and address of the depository institution in
5 which the committee will maintain its campaign account
6 and each applicable account number; and

7 (11) A certification by the chairperson and treasurer of
8 the statements in the organizational report.

9 (b) Any change in information previously reported in the
10 organizational report shall be electronically filed with the
11 commission within ten days of the change being brought to the
12 attention of the committee chairperson or treasurer.

13 (c) The commission shall publish on its website the names
14 of all noncandidate committees who have failed to:

15 (1) File the organizational report; or

16 (2) Correct a report within two weeks from a notice to
17 correct provided by the commission."

18 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 5 This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 20 2023



H.B. NO. 729

Report Title:

Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct; Candidate Committees; Noncandidate Committees; Organizational Reports

Description:

Requires the campaign spending commission to publish on its website the names of candidate committees and noncandidate committees who fail to properly file an organizational report.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

