
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PARTIAL PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it has been two
2 decades since the amount of funds available to candidates in
3 Hawaii's partial public financing program were last amended.

4 The purpose of this Act is to increase:

5 (1) The amount of funds available to candidates who
6 qualify to participate in the partial public financing
7 program, including candidates for the board of
8 trustees of the office of Hawaiian affairs, who run
9 state-wide;

10 (2) The minimum amount of qualifying contributions certain
11 candidates must receive to participate in the program;
12 and

13 (3) Matching fund payments from \$1 for each \$1 of
14 qualifying contributions in excess of the minimum
15 qualifying contribution amounts to \$2 for each \$1 of
16 excess qualifying contributions.



1 SECTION 2. Section 11-425, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§11-425 Maximum amount of public funds available to**
4 **candidate.** (a) The maximum amount of public funds available in
5 each election to a candidate for [the]:

6 (1) The office of governor, lieutenant governor, or mayor
7 of the city and county of Honolulu or county of Hawaii
8 shall not exceed ~~[ten]~~ fifteen per cent ~~[of the~~
9 ~~expenditure limit established in section 11-423(d) for~~
10 ~~each election.~~

11 ~~(b) The maximum amount of public funds available in each~~
12 ~~election to a candidate for the];~~

13 (2) The office of state senator, state representative,
14 mayor of the county of Kauai or county of Maui, county
15 council member, and prosecuting attorney shall not
16 exceed ~~[fifteen]~~ 22.5 per cent ~~[of the expenditure~~
17 ~~limit established in section 11-423(d) for each~~
18 ~~election.~~

19 ~~(c) For the]; or~~



1 (3) The office of Hawaiian affairs~~[, the maximum amount of~~
2 ~~public funds available to a candidate]~~ shall not
3 exceed ~~[\$1,500 in any election year.]~~ ten per cent,
4 of the expenditure limit established in section 11-423(d) for
5 each election.

6 [~~(d)~~ ~~For all other offices, the maximum amount of public~~
7 ~~funds available to a candidate shall not exceed \$100 in any~~
8 ~~election year.~~

9 ~~(e)]~~ (b) Each candidate who qualified for the maximum
10 amount of public funding in any primary election and who is a
11 candidate for a subsequent general election shall apply with the
12 commission to be qualified to receive the maximum amount of
13 public funds as provided in this section for the respective
14 general election.

15 (c) For purposes of this section, "qualified" means
16 meeting the qualifying campaign contribution requirements of
17 section 11-429."

18 SECTION 3. Section 11-429, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

20 "(a) As a condition of receiving public funds for a
21 primary or general election, a candidate shall not be unopposed



1 in any election for which public funds are sought, shall have
2 filed an affidavit with the commission pursuant to section
3 11-423 to voluntarily limit the candidate's campaign
4 expenditures, and shall be in receipt of the following sum of
5 qualifying contributions from individual residents of Hawaii:

6 (1) For the office of governor--qualifying contributions
7 that in the aggregate exceed \$100,000;

8 (2) For the office of lieutenant governor--qualifying
9 contributions that in the aggregate exceed \$50,000;

10 (3) For the office of mayor for each respective county:

11 (A) County of Honolulu--qualifying contributions that
12 in the aggregate exceed \$50,000;

13 (B) County of Hawaii--qualifying contributions that
14 in the aggregate exceed \$15,000;

15 (C) County of Maui--qualifying contributions that in
16 the aggregate exceed \$10,000; and

17 (D) County of Kauai--qualifying contributions that in
18 the aggregate exceed \$5,000;

19 (4) For the office of prosecuting attorney for each
20 respective county:



- 1 (A) County of Honolulu--qualifying contributions that
2 in the aggregate exceed [~~\$30,000~~] \$25,000;
- 3 (B) County of Hawaii--qualifying contributions that
4 in the aggregate exceed [~~\$10,000~~] \$5,000; and
- 5 (C) County of Kauai--qualifying contributions that in
6 the aggregate exceed [~~\$5,000~~] \$3,000;
- 7 (5) For the office of county council--for each respective
8 county:
- 9 (A) County of Honolulu--qualifying contributions that
10 in the aggregate exceed \$5,000;
- 11 (B) County of Hawaii--qualifying contributions that
12 in the aggregate exceed \$1,500;
- 13 (C) County of Maui--qualifying contributions that in
14 the aggregate exceed [~~\$5,000~~] \$4,000; and
- 15 (D) County of Kauai--qualifying contributions that in
16 the aggregate exceed \$3,000;
- 17 (6) For the office of state senator--qualifying
18 contributions that[~~7~~] in the aggregate exceed \$2,500;
- 19 (7) For the office of state representative--qualifying
20 contributions that[~~7~~] in the aggregate[~~7~~] exceed
21 \$1,500;



- 1 (8) For the office of Hawaiian affairs--qualifying
2 contributions that~~[r]~~ in the aggregate~~[r]~~ exceed
3 ~~[\$1,500r]~~ \$5,000; and
- 4 (9) For all other offices, qualifying contributions that,
5 in the aggregate, exceed \$500.
- 6 (b) A candidate shall obtain the minimum qualifying
7 contribution amount set forth in subsection (a) once for the
8 election period.
- 9 ~~[(1)]~~ If the candidate obtains the minimum qualifying
10 contribution amount, the candidate ~~[is]~~ shall be eligible to
11 receive:
- 12 ~~[(A)]~~ (1) The minimum payment in an amount equal to the
13 minimum qualifying contribution amounts; and
- 14 ~~[(B)]~~ (2) Payments of ~~[\$1]~~ \$2 for each \$1 of qualifying
15 contributions in excess of the minimum qualifying
16 contribution amounts~~[r]and~~
- 17 ~~[(2)]~~.
- 18 A candidate shall have at least one other qualified
19 candidate as an opponent for the primary or general election to
20 receive public funds for that election."



1 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
3 begun before its effective date.

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

6 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

7



Report Title:

Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission Package; Partial Public Financing

Description:

Increases the amount of partial public financing available for all offices. Increases the minimum amount of qualifying contributions certain candidates must receive to participate in the program. Increases the matching fund payments for excess qualifying contributions. (HD1)

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

