THE SENATE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII S.B. NO. 408

JAN 2 0 2023

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAMPAIGN SPENDING.

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

1 The legislature finds that candidates for SECTION 1. 2 elected office, including incumbents, sometimes promote their candidacies by attending events held by nonprofit organizations. 3 4 The candidates are often invited to speak or appear before attendees, increasing the visibility of the candidates and their 5 campaigns among voters and contributors. Candidates may also 6 mingle among attendees to solicit votes or to discuss their 7 8 experiences as incumbents.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to authorize any 10 candidate committee, under certain circumstances, to expend 11 campaign funds to purchase a ticket for a candidate to attend an 12 event held by a nonprofit organization.

SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part XIII, subpart G, to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

# 16 "<u>§11-</u> <u>Candidate appearances; nonprofit organizations;</u> 17 events; tickets. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a



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## S.B. NO. 408

1	candidate committee may expend campaign funds to purchase a
2	ticket for the committee's candidate to attend any event hosted
3	by a nonprofit organization, regardless of whether the event
4	occurs during an election year; provided that at the event, the
5	candidate attempts to:
6	(1) Promote or solicit funds for the candidate's election
7	campaign; or
8	(2) Communicate to attendees about matters related to the
9	office the candidate holds as an incumbent."
10	SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
11	SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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NX -INTRODUCED BY



### S.B. NO. 408

### Report Title:

Elections; Candidates; Expenditures; Nonprofits; Tickets

#### Description:

Authorizes any candidate committee, under certain circumstances, to expend campaign funds to purchase a ticket for a candidate to attend a nonprofit organization's event.

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