
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MANDATORY LOBBYIST TRAINING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that requiring all
2 lobbyists to be educated on the State's lobbying laws and ethics
3 code is in the State's best interests. Regular training by the
4 state ethics commission will ensure that all persons engaged in
5 lobbying activities are aware of current laws, which will
6 increase the public's confidence in state government.

7 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to improve
8 standards of conduct by requiring the state ethics commission to
9 establish and administer a lobbyist training course and making
10 the lobbyist training course mandatory for all lobbyists who are
11 required to register under chapter 97, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 97, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
13 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
14 read as follows:

15 "§97- Mandatory lobbyist training. (a) Before
16 registering pursuant to section 97-2, each lobbyist shall



1 complete the lobbyist training course administered by the state
2 ethics commission.

3 (b) Registered lobbyists shall repeat the lobbyist
4 training course required by this section at least once every two
5 years.

6 (c) A lobbyist shall certify completion of the lobbyist
7 training course at the time of registering or renewing
8 registration and shall maintain all certificates or other
9 documentation of completion for a period of six years from the
10 date of registration or renewal.

11 (d) For good cause shown, the state ethics commission may
12 grant a lobbyist an extension of time to complete the training
13 course required by this section.

14 (e) The state ethics commission shall develop and conduct
15 online and live training courses that explain state lobbying
16 laws under this chapter and relevant ethics laws under chapter
17 84. Live training courses may be conducted in person or via
18 videoconference, as necessary, to accommodate all persons who
19 are required to complete the course."

20 SECTION 3. Section 97-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:



1 "(b) Each lobbyist shall provide and certify the following
2 ~~[information]~~:

3 (1) The name, mailing address, and business telephone
4 number of the lobbyist~~[-]~~;

5 (2) The name and principal place of business of each
6 person by whom the lobbyist is retained or employed or
7 on whose behalf the lobbyist appears or works and a
8 written authorization to act as a lobbyist from each
9 person by whom the lobbyist is employed or with whom
10 the lobbyist contracts~~[-]~~;

11 (3) The subject areas on which the lobbyist expects to
12 lobby~~[-]~~; and

13 (4) Documentation confirming the lobbyist's completion of
14 the mandatory lobbyist training course pursuant to
15 section 97-_____."

16 SECTION 4. Section 97-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18 "(a) Any person who:

19 (1) Negligently fails to file any statement or report
20 required by this chapter;



1 (2) Negligently files a statement or report containing
2 false information or material omission of any fact;
3 (3) Engages in activities prohibited by section 97-5; or
4 (4) Fails to provide information required by section 97-2,
5 including documentation confirming completion of the
6 mandatory lobbyist training course, or 97-3;
7 shall be subject to an administrative fine imposed by the state
8 ethics commission that shall not exceed \$1,000 for each
9 violation of this chapter. All fines collected under this
10 section shall be deposited into the general fund."

11 SECTION 5. In the absence of good cause shown, each
12 lobbyist who is registered with the state ethics commission as
13 of the effective date of this Act shall complete the lobbyist
14 training course required by section 2 of this Act, within six
15 months following the effective date of this Act, and at least
16 once every two years thereafter.

17 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

2

INTRODUCED BY:



By Request
JAN 17 2023



H.B. NO. 138

Report Title:

Ethics Commission Package; Mandatory Lobbyist Training

Description:

Requires the State Ethics Commission to establish and administer a lobbyist training course and makes the lobbyist training course mandatory for all lobbyists.

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

