### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PASS-THROUGH ENTITY TAXATION.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 50, Session Laws
- 2 of Hawaii 2023 (Act 50), was intended to help Hawaii's small
- 3 businesses by allowing taxpayers to deduct Hawaii state income
- 4 taxes paid on their federal income tax returns. These
- 5 deductions from federal taxable income were eliminated through
- 6 changes to the federal tax code in 2017, which deprived Hawaii
- 7 taxpayers of significant federal tax benefits.
- 8 Under Act 50, the entity level tax was calculated by
- 9 applying the eleven per cent rate, highest individual income tax
- 10 rate, to the income to be distributed. Members receive a
- 11 nonrefundable income tax credit that may not be carried forward
- 12 to a subsequent year if the credit exceeds the tax liability.
- 13 The high tax rate and inability to carry the credit forward made
- 14 it difficult for many small businesses to benefit from Act 50 as
- 15 originally intended.
- 16 The purpose of this Act is to reduce the pass-through
- 17 entity level tax rate and to allow the tax credit to be carried



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- 1 forward to subsequent years to allow more small businesses
- 2 owners to benefit from the entity level tax election that Act 50
- 3 provided.
- 4 SECTION 2. Section 235-51.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 5 amended as follows:
- 6 1. By amending subsection (b) to read:
- 7 "(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,
- 8 the following tax is imposed on each electing pass-through
- 9 entity: the sum of all member's distributive shares and
- 10 guaranteed payments of Hawaii taxable income as calculated under
- 11 this chapter, multiplied by [the highest rate of tax applicable
- 12 to the individual under section 235-51; ] nine per cent; provided
- 13 that the distributive shares and guaranteed payments of members
- 14 who are corporations, partnerships, S corporations, tax-exempt
- 15 entities, and other taxpayers designated by the department shall
- 16 not be included in the sum and shall not be subject to the tax
- 17 under this section. If the income calculated pursuant to this
- 18 subsection reflects a net loss for the electing pass-through
- 19 entity, the net loss may be carried forward to subsequent tax
- 20 years for as long as the electing pass-through entity elects to
- 21 be subject to the tax pursuant to this section until exhausted."

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- 1 2. By amending subsection (e) to read:
- 2 "(e) Each member of an electing pass-through entity whose
- 3 distributive share or quaranteed payment of Hawaii taxable
- 4 income is subject to tax under this section shall be entitled to
- 5 a nonrefundable credit equal to the member's share of the tax
- $oldsymbol{6}$  paid pursuant to this section. If the amount of the credit
- 7 authorized by this subsection exceeds the member's tax liability
- 8 imposed pursuant to this chapter, [the excess amount shall not
- 9 be refundable to the member.] the excess of the credit over
- 10 liability may be used as a credit against the member's income
- 11 tax liability in subsequent years until exhausted. Any member
- 12 claiming a credit shall not be entitled to deduct from the
- 13 member's Hawaii state taxable income those amounts of Hawaii
- 14 state income taxes paid by the member on the member's
- 15 distributive share or quaranteed payment of income from the
- 16 electing pass-through entity."
- 17 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

- 1 SECTION 4. This Act, upon its approval, shall apply to
- 2 taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 18 2024

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### Report Title:

Taxation; Pass-through Entity; S Corporations; Partnerships

### Description:

Reduces the pass-through entity level tax rate and allows the tax credit to be carried forward to subsequent years.

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