
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to promote
2 governmental transparency and strengthen public confidence in
3 the State's appointments process by requiring that nominees to
4 certain state positions requiring senate confirmation file
5 financial disclosure statements prior to their confirmation
6 hearings.

7 Under existing law, individuals appointed to certain state
8 positions must file financial disclosure statements within
9 thirty days of their appointment. However, this deadline often
10 results in disclosure statements becoming publicly available
11 only after the senate conducts its confirmation hearings,
12 limiting the ability of senators and the public to review
13 potential conflicts of interest in advance.

14 This Act ensures that financial disclosure statements for
15 nominees subject to senate confirmation are filed in a timely
16 manner, facilitating meaningful public review. In addition,
17 this Act modernizes existing statutory financial disclosure



1 requirements by aligning legislative disclosures with
2 information already provided in lobbyist expenditure statements.

3 SECTION 2. Section 84-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "§84-17 Requirements of disclosure. (a) For the purposes
6 of this section, "disclosure period" refers to the period from
7 January 1 of the preceding calendar year to the time of the
8 filing of the employee's or legislator's disclosure of financial
9 interests.

10 (b) The disclosure of financial interests required by this
11 section shall be filed:

12 (1) By any person enumerated in subsection (c), except a
13 member of the legislature, between January 1 and
14 May 31 of each year;

15 (2) By a member of the legislature between January 1 and
16 January 31 of each year;

17 (3) Within thirty days of a person's election or
18 appointment to a state position enumerated in
19 subsection (c); or

20 (4) Within thirty days of separation from a state position
21 if a prior financial disclosure statement for the



1 position was not filed within the one hundred eighty
2 days preceding the date of separation;
3 provided that candidates for state elective offices or the
4 constitutional convention shall file the required statements no
5 later than ten days after the nomination filing deadline
6 established pursuant to section 12-6[-]; provided further that
7 persons nominated to a position subject to senate confirmation,
8 excluding state court justices and judges, shall file the
9 required statements no later than five days after being
10 nominated or five days before the first confirmation hearing,
11 whichever occurs first.

12 (c) The following persons shall file annually with the
13 state ethics commission a disclosure of financial interests:

14 (1) The governor, lieutenant governor, members of the
15 legislature, and delegates to the constitutional
16 convention; provided that delegates to the
17 constitutional convention shall only be required to
18 file initial disclosures;

19 (2) The directors and their deputies, the division chiefs,
20 the executive directors and the executive secretaries
21 and their deputies, the purchasing agents, and the



1 fiscal officers, regardless of the titles by which the
2 foregoing persons are designated, of every state
3 agency and department;

4 (3) The permanent employees of the legislature and its
5 service agencies, other than persons employed in
6 clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;

7 (4) The administrative director of the State, and the
8 assistants in the office of the governor and
9 lieutenant governor, other than persons employed in
10 clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;

11 (5) The hearings officers of every state agency and
12 department;

13 (6) The president, vice presidents, assistant vice
14 presidents, chancellors, and provosts of the
15 University of Hawaii and its community colleges;

16 (7) The superintendent, deputy superintendent, assistant
17 superintendents, complex area superintendents, state
18 librarian, and deputy state librarian of the
19 department of education;

20 (8) The administrative director and deputy director of the
21 courts;



(9) The members of every state board or commission whose original terms of office are for periods exceeding one year and whose functions are not solely advisory;

(10) Candidates for state elective offices, including candidates for election to the constitutional convention; provided that candidates shall only be required to file initial disclosures;

(11) The administrator and assistant administrator of the office of Hawaiian affairs;

(12) The Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site chief operating officer; ~~and~~

(13) The members of the school facilities board appointed by the governor~~[-]~~; and

(14) Persons nominated to a position subject to senate confirmation, excluding state court justices and judges; provided that nominees shall only be required to file initial disclosures in advance of their confirmation hearings.

(d) The financial disclosure statements of the following persons shall be public records and available for inspection and duplication:



- 1 (1) The governor, lieutenant governor, members of the
2 legislature, candidates for and delegates to the
3 constitutional convention, trustees of the office of
4 Hawaiian affairs, [~~and~~] candidates for state elective
5 offices[+], and nominees for state positions subject
6 to senate confirmation, excluding state court justices
7 and judges;
- 8 (2) The directors of the state departments and their
9 deputies, regardless of the titles by which the
10 foregoing persons are designated; provided that with
11 respect to the department of the attorney general, the
12 foregoing shall apply only to the attorney general and
13 the first deputy attorney general;
- 14 (3) The administrative director of the State;
- 15 (4) The president, vice presidents, assistant vice
16 presidents, chancellors, members of the board of
17 regents, and provosts of the University of Hawaii;
- 18 (5) The members of the board of education, superintendent,
19 deputy superintendent, state librarian, and deputy
20 state librarian of the department of education;



(6) The administrative director and deputy director of the courts;

(7) The administrator and assistant administrator of the office of Hawaiian affairs; and

(8) The members of the following state boards, commissions, and agencies:

(A) The board of directors of the agribusiness development corporation established under section 163D-3;

(B) The board of agriculture and biosecurity established under section 26-16;

(C) The state ethics commission established under section 84-21;

(D) The Hawaii community development authority established under section 206E-3;

(E) The Hawaiian homes commission established under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended, and section 26-17;

(F) The board of directors of the Hawaii housing finance and development corporation established under section 201H-3;



- 1 (G) The board of land and natural resources
2 established under section 171-4;
- 3 (H) The state land use commission established under
4 section 205-1;
- 5 (I) The legacy land conservation commission
6 established under section 173A-2.4;
- 7 (J) The natural area reserves system commission
8 established under section 195-6;
- 9 (K) The board of directors of the natural energy
10 laboratory of Hawaii authority established under
11 section 227D-2;
- 12 (L) The board of directors of the Hawaii public
13 housing authority established under section
14 356D-3;
- 15 (M) The public utilities commission established under
16 section 269-2;
- 17 (N) The commission on water resource management
18 established under section 174C-7; and
- 19 (O) The stadium authority established under section
20 109-1.



1 (e) The information on the financial disclosure statements
2 shall be confidential, except as provided in subsection (d).
3 The commission shall not release the contents of the disclosures
4 except as may be permitted pursuant to this chapter. The
5 unauthorized release of any confidential financial disclosure
6 statement information shall be a violation of this chapter.

7 (f) Candidates for state elective offices, including
8 candidates for election to the constitutional convention, shall
9 only be required to disclose their own financial interests. The
10 disclosures of financial interests of all other persons
11 designated in subsection (c) shall state, in addition to the
12 financial interests of the person disclosing, the financial
13 interests of the person's spouse and dependent children. All
14 disclosures shall include:

- 15 (1) The source and amount of all income of \$1,000 or more
16 received, for services rendered, by the person in the
17 person's own name or by any other person for the
18 person's use or benefit during the preceding calendar
19 year and the nature of the services rendered; provided
20 that required disclosure under this paragraph for the
21 income source of the spouse or dependent child of a



1 person subject to subsection (d) shall be limited to
2 the name of the business or other qualifying source of
3 income, and need not include the income source's
4 address; provided further that other information that
5 may be privileged by law or individual items of
6 compensation that constitute a portion of the gross
7 income of the business or profession from which the
8 person derives income need not be disclosed;

9 (2) The amount and identity of every ownership or
10 beneficial interest held during the disclosure period
11 in any business having a value of \$5,000 or more or
12 equal to ten per cent of the ownership of the business
13 and, if the interest was transferred during the
14 disclosure period, the date of the transfer; provided
15 that an interest in the form of an account in a
16 federal or state regulated financial institution, an
17 interest in the form of a policy in a mutual insurance
18 company, or individual items in a mutual fund or a
19 blind trust, if the mutual fund or blind trust has
20 been disclosed pursuant to this paragraph, need not be
21 disclosed;



1 (3) Every officership, directorship, trusteeship, or other
2 fiduciary relationship held in a business during the
3 disclosure period, the term of office and the annual
4 compensation;

5 (4) The name of each creditor to whom the value of \$3,000
6 or more was owed during the disclosure period and the
7 original amount and amount outstanding; provided that
8 debts arising out of retail installment transactions
9 for the purchase of consumer goods need not be
10 disclosed;

11 (5) The street address and, if available, the tax map key
12 number, and the value of any real property in which
13 the person holds an interest whose value is \$10,000 or
14 more, and, if the interest was transferred or obtained
15 during the disclosure period, a statement of the
16 amount and nature of the consideration received or
17 paid in exchange for such interest, and the name of
18 the person furnishing or receiving the consideration;
19 provided that disclosure shall not be required of the
20 street address and tax map key number of the person's
21 residence;



1 (6) The names of clients assisted or represented before
2 state agencies, except in ministerial matters, for a
3 fee or compensation during the disclosure period and
4 the names of the state agencies involved; and

5 (7) The amount and identity of every creditor interest in
6 an insolvent business held during the disclosure
7 period having a value of \$5,000 or more.

8 (g) In addition to the disclosures required under
9 subsection (f), each ~~[member of the legislature]~~ legislator
10 shall also disclose the name of any person that is subject to
11 section 97-3 and that is:

12 (1) A business partner of the ~~[member,]~~ legislator;

13 (2) An employer of the ~~[member,]~~ legislator;

14 (3) An officer or director of the ~~[member's]~~ legislator's
15 employer; or

16 (4) A client of the ~~[member, member's partner,]~~
17 legislator, legislator's spouse, or [member's] the
18 legislator's employer, [who is on the lobbyist list
19 and not just a client with a lobbyist, where the
20 client] who filed a statement of expenditures pursuant



1 to section 97-3 and provided at least \$5,000 of income
2 during the preceding calendar year.

3 As used in this subsection[+]

4 ~~"Member" means a member of the legislature.~~

5 ~~"Member's partner" means a member's]~~, "legislator's spouse"
6 means a legislator's spouse under chapter 572, civil union
7 partner under chapter 572B, or reciprocal beneficiary under
8 chapter 572C.

9 (h) Where an amount is required to be reported, the person
10 disclosing may indicate whether the amount is at least \$1,000
11 but less than \$10,000; at least \$10,000 but less than \$25,000;
12 at least \$25,000 but less than \$50,000; at least \$50,000 but
13 less than \$100,000; at least \$100,000 but less than \$150,000; at
14 least \$150,000 but less than \$250,000; at least \$250,000 but
15 less than \$500,000; at least \$500,000 but less than \$750,000; at
16 least \$750,000 but less than \$1,000,000; or \$1,000,000 or more.
17 An amount of stock may be reported by number of shares.

18 (i) The state ethics commission shall provide a method for
19 filing financial disclosure statements. The commission may
20 require that financial disclosure statements be filed
21 electronically.



1 (j) Failure of a legislator, a delegate to the
2 constitutional convention, or an employee to file a disclosure
3 of financial interests as required by this section shall be a
4 violation of this chapter. Any legislator, delegate to a
5 constitutional convention, or employee who fails to file a
6 disclosure of financial interests when due may be assessed an
7 administrative fine of \$50. The state ethics commission, upon
8 the expiration of the time allowed for filing, may post on its
9 website for public inspection a list of all persons who have
10 failed to file financial disclosure statements. The state
11 ethics commission shall notify a person, by in-person service,
12 electronic mail to the person's state electronic mail address,
13 or first-class mail, of the failure to file, and, if applicable,
14 the administrative fine. If a disclosure of financial interests
15 has not been filed within thirty days after the original
16 deadline, in addition to any initial administrative fine that
17 may have been assessed, an administrative fine of \$250 may be
18 assessed.

19 (k) The chief election officer, upon receipt of the
20 nomination paper of any person seeking a state elective office,
21 including the office of delegate to the constitutional



1 convention, shall notify the state ethics commission of the name
2 of the candidate for state office and the date on which the
3 person filed the nomination paper. Any candidate who fails to
4 file a disclosure of financial interests when due may be
5 assessed an administrative fine of \$50. The state ethics
6 commission, upon the expiration of the time allowed for filing,
7 may post on its website for public inspection a list of all
8 candidates who have failed to file financial disclosure
9 statements. The state ethics commission shall notify a
10 candidate, by in-person service, electronic mail to the
11 candidate's electronic mail address listed with the office of
12 elections, or first-class mail, of the failure to file and, if
13 applicable, the administrative fine. If a disclosure of
14 financial interests has not been filed within thirty days after
15 the original deadline, in addition to any initial administrative
16 fine that may have been assessed, an administrative fine of \$250
17 may be assessed.

18 (1) Administrative fines assessed pursuant to this section
19 may be enforced using the procedure provided in section
20 84-31(g).



1 [+] (m) [+] All administrative fines collected under this
2 section shall be deposited into the general fund. Any
3 administrative fine for the late filing of a disclosure of
4 financial interests shall be in addition to any other action the
5 state ethics commission may take pursuant to this chapter. The
6 state ethics commission may waive any administrative fines
7 authorized pursuant to this section for good cause shown.

8 [+] (n) [+] The state ethics commission may investigate,
9 initiate, or receive charges on whether a candidate's financial
10 disclosure statement discloses the financial interests required
11 to be disclosed. After proceeding in conformance with section
12 84-31, the state ethics commission may issue a decision on
13 whether a candidate has complied with subsection (f). This
14 decision shall be a matter of public record."

15 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
17 begun before its effective date.

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



H.B. NO. 2108

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

2

INTRODUCED BY: *Nedra K. Parker*
By Request

JAN 23 2026



H.B. NO. 2108

Report Title:

State Ethics Commission Package; Financial Disclosures;
Requirements

Description:

Expands the scope of persons who are required to file financial disclosures to include certain gubernatorial nominees subject to Senate confirmation. Makes technical amendments relating to legislators.

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

