
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 strengthen public
2 trust in government by expanding the categories of boards and
3 commissions whose members are required to file public financial
4 disclosure statements under section 84-17, Hawaii Revised
5 Statutes, and by including in public disclosure requirements the
6 executive directors and executive officers for those boards and
7 commissions. Under existing law, public financial disclosure is
8 required for members of certain state boards and commissions
9 whose duties involve significant regulatory authority, fiduciary
10 responsibility, or oversight of substantial public resources.
11 However, several boards and commissions that manage large sums
12 of public funds, exercise significant financial discretion, or
13 make decisions with substantial economic impact are not
14 currently included in the statute's public disclosure
15 requirements.

16 This Act addresses that gap. It adds to the public
17 disclosure list:



1 (1) Members of additional boards and commissions that
2 oversee or control substantial state moneys,
3 investments, or expenditures; and

4 (2) The executive directors or executive officers of those
5 same boards and commissions, who, as state employees
6 entrusted with day-to-day financial or operational
7 authority, should be subject to the same transparency
8 expectations.

9 By including both members and chief executive officers of
10 influential boards and commissions, this Act ensures that the
11 individuals exercising the greatest influence over high-value
12 public resources are covered by uniform disclosure standards.
13 Public financial disclosure helps identify and prevent conflicts
14 of interest, promotes accountability, and reinforces the
15 public's confidence that state decision-makers act in the public
16 interest.

17 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require public
18 financial disclosure statements from members and executive
19 leadership of specified boards and commissions having broad
20 budgetary, investment, or expenditure authority.



1 SECTION 2. Section 84-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsections (b), (c), and (d) to read:

3 "(b) The disclosure of financial interests required by
4 this section shall be filed:

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

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

10 (3) Within thirty days of a person's election or
11 appointment to a state position enumerated in
12 subsection (c); or

13 (4) Within thirty days of separation from a state position
14 if a prior financial disclosure statement for the
15 position was not filed within [~~the one hundred eighty~~
16 ~~days~~] twelve months preceding the date of separation;

17 provided that candidates for state elective offices or the
18 constitutional convention shall file the required statements no
19 later than ten days after the nomination filing deadline
20 established pursuant to section 12-6.



1 (c) The following persons, regardless of the titles by
2 which the foregoing persons are designated, shall file annually
3 with the state ethics commission a disclosure of financial
4 interests:

5 (1) The governor, lieutenant governor, members of the
6 legislature, and delegates to the constitutional
7 convention; provided that delegates to the
8 constitutional convention shall only be required to
9 file initial disclosures;

10 (2) The directors and their deputies, the division chiefs,
11 the executive directors, and the executive
12 [secretaries] officers and their deputies, the
13 purchasing agents, and the fiscal officers[~~7~~
14 ~~regardless of the titles by which the foregoing~~
15 ~~persons are designated,~~] of every state agency and
16 department;

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

20 (4) The administrative director of the State, and the
21 assistants in the office of the governor and



- 1 lieutenant governor, other than persons employed in
2 clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;
- 3 (5) The hearings officers of every state agency and
4 department;
- 5 (6) The president, vice presidents, assistant vice
6 presidents, chancellors, and provosts of the
7 ~~[University]~~ university of Hawaii and its community
8 colleges;
- 9 (7) The superintendent, deputy ~~[superintendent]~~
10 superintendents, assistant superintendents, and
11 complex area superintendents~~[]~~ of the department of
12 education, and the state librarian~~[]~~ and deputy state
13 librarian of the ~~[department of education]~~ public
14 library system;
- 15 (8) The administrative director and deputy director of the
16 courts;
- 17 (9) The members of every state board or commission whose
18 original terms of office are for periods exceeding one
19 year and whose functions are not solely advisory;
- 20 (10) Candidates for state elective offices, including
21 candidates for election to the constitutional



1 convention; provided that candidates shall only be
2 required to file initial disclosures;

3 (11) The [~~administrator and assistant administrator~~] chief
4 executive officer and executive administrators of the
5 office of Hawaiian affairs; and

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

8 ~~(13) The members of the school facilities board appointed~~
9 ~~by the governor].~~

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

13 (1) The governor, lieutenant governor, members of the
14 legislature, candidates for and delegates to the
15 constitutional convention, trustees of the office of
16 Hawaiian affairs, and candidates for state elective
17 offices;

18 (2) The directors of the state departments and their
19 deputies, regardless of the titles by which the
20 foregoing persons are designated; provided that with
21 respect to the department of the attorney general, the



- 1 foregoing shall apply only to the attorney general and
2 the first deputy attorney general;
- 3 (3) The administrative director of the State;
- 4 (4) The president, vice presidents, assistant vice
5 presidents, chancellors, members of the board of
6 regents, and provosts of the [University] university
7 of Hawaii;
- 8 (5) The members of the board of education, superintendent,
9 and deputy [superintendent,] superintendents of the
10 department of education, and the state librarian[7]
11 and [~~deputy state librarian of the department of~~
12 ~~education;~~] the special assistant to the state
13 librarian of the public library system;
- 14 (6) The administrative director and deputy director of the
15 courts;
- 16 (7) The [~~administrator and assistant administrator~~] chief
17 executive officer and executive administrators of the
18 office of Hawaiian affairs; and
- 19 (8) The executive directors or executive officers, if
20 applicable, and board or commission members of the
21 following [~~state boards, commissions, and agencies~~]:



- 1 (A) The [~~board of directors of the~~] agribusiness
2 development corporation established under
3 section 163D-3;
- 4 (B) The board of agriculture and biosecurity
5 established under section 26-16;
- 6 (C) The state ethics commission established under
7 section 84-21;
- 8 (D) The Hawaii community development authority
9 established under section 206E-3;
- 10 (E) The Hawaiian homes commission established under
11 the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as
12 amended, and section 26-17;
- 13 (F) The [~~board of directors of the~~] Hawaii housing
14 finance and development corporation established
15 under section 201H-3;
- 16 (G) The board of land and natural resources
17 established under section 171-4;
- 18 (H) The state land use commission established under
19 section 205-1;
- 20 (I) The legacy land conservation commission
21 established under section 173A-2.4;



- 1 (J) The natural area reserves system commission
- 2 established under section 195-6;
- 3 (K) The [~~board of directors of the~~] natural energy
- 4 laboratory of Hawaii authority established under
- 5 section 227D-2;
- 6 (L) The [~~board of directors of the~~] Hawaii public
- 7 housing authority established under
- 8 section 356D-3;
- 9 (M) The public utilities commission established under
- 10 section 269-2;
- 11 (N) The commission on water resource management
- 12 established under section 174C-7; [~~and~~]
- 13 (O) The stadium authority established under
- 14 section 109-1[~~-~~];
- 15 (P) The employees' retirement system;
- 16 (Q) The Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust
- 17 fund;
- 18 (R) The Hawaii green infrastructure authority;
- 19 (S) The Hawaii technology development corporation;
- 20 and
- 21 (T) The school facilities authority."



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall apply only to financial
2 disclosure statements filed on or after July 1, 2027. Financial
3 disclosure statements that were confidential at the time of
4 filing shall remain confidential notwithstanding any amendments
5 made by this Act.

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

8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2027.



Report Title:

State Ethics Commission Package; Financial Disclosures;
Requirements

Description:

Expands the scope of persons who are subject to public financial disclosure requirements. Effective 7/1/2027. (HD1)

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

