
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 as follows:

5 1. By amending subsections (b) through (d) to read:

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

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

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

13 (3) Within thirty days of a person's election or
14 appointment to a state position enumerated in
15 subsection (c); or

16 (4) Within thirty days of separation from a state position
17 if a prior financial disclosure statement for the
18 position was not filed within the one hundred eighty
19 days preceding the date of separation;

20 provided that candidates for state elective offices or the
21 constitutional convention shall file the required statements no



1 later than ten days after the nomination filing deadline
2 established pursuant to section 12-6[-]; provided further that
3 persons nominated to a position subject to senate confirmation
4 shall file the required statements no later than five days after
5 being nominated or five days before the first confirmation
6 hearing, whichever occurs first.

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

- 9 (1) The governor, lieutenant governor, members of the
10 legislature, and delegates to the constitutional
11 convention; provided that delegates to the
12 constitutional convention shall only be required to
13 file initial disclosures;
- 14 (2) The directors and their deputies, the division chiefs,
15 the executive directors and the executive secretaries
16 and their deputies, the purchasing agents, and the
17 fiscal officers, regardless of the titles by which the
18 foregoing persons are designated, of every state
19 agency and department;



- 1 (3) The permanent employees of the legislature and its
2 service agencies, other than persons employed in
3 clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;
- 4 (4) The administrative director of the State, and the
5 assistants in the office of the governor and
6 lieutenant governor, other than persons employed in
7 clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;
- 8 (5) The hearings officers of every state agency and
9 department;
- 10 (6) The president, vice presidents, assistant vice
11 presidents, chancellors, and provosts of the
12 [~~University~~] university of Hawaii and its community
13 colleges;
- 14 (7) The superintendent, deputy superintendent, assistant
15 superintendents, complex area superintendents, state
16 librarian, and deputy state librarian of the
17 department of education;
- 18 (8) The administrative director and deputy director of the
19 courts;



- 1 (9) The members of every state board or commission whose
2 original terms of office are for periods exceeding one
3 year and whose functions are not solely advisory;
- 4 (10) Candidates for state elective offices, including
5 candidates for election to the constitutional
6 convention; provided that candidates shall only be
7 required to file initial disclosures;
- 8 (11) The administrator and assistant administrator of the
9 office of Hawaiian affairs;
- 10 (12) The Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site chief
11 operating officer; ~~and~~
- 12 (13) The members of the school facilities board appointed
13 by the governor~~[+]~~; and
- 14 (14) Persons nominated to a position subject to senate
15 confirmation; provided that nominees shall only be
16 required to file initial disclosures in advance of
17 their confirmation hearings.
- 18 (d) The financial disclosure statements of the following
19 persons shall be public records and available for inspection and
20 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;
- 7 (2) The directors of the state departments and their
8 deputies, regardless of the titles by which the
9 foregoing persons are designated; provided that with
10 respect to the department of the attorney general, the
11 foregoing shall apply only to the attorney general and
12 the first deputy attorney general;
- 13 (3) The administrative director of the State;
- 14 (4) The president, vice presidents, assistant vice
15 presidents, chancellors, members of the board of
16 regents, and provosts of the [~~University~~] university
17 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;



- 1 (6) The administrative director and deputy director of the
- 2 courts;
- 3 (7) The administrator and assistant administrator of the
- 4 office of Hawaiian affairs; and
- 5 (8) The members of the following state boards,
- 6 commissions, and agencies:
- 7 (A) The board of directors of the agribusiness
- 8 development corporation established under
- 9 section 163D-3;
- 10 (B) The board of agriculture and biosecurity
- 11 established under section 26-16;
- 12 (C) The state ethics commission established under
- 13 section 84-21;
- 14 (D) The Hawaii community development authority
- 15 established under section 206E-3;
- 16 (E) The Hawaiian homes commission established under
- 17 the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as
- 18 amended, and section 26-17;
- 19 (F) The board of directors of the Hawaii housing
- 20 finance and development corporation established
- 21 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
- 14 section 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
- 20 section 109-1."

21 2. By amending subsection (g) to read:



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

- 5 (1) A business partner of the [~~member,~~] legislator;
6 (2) An employer of the [~~member,~~] legislator;
7 (3) An officer or director of the [~~member's~~] legislator's
8 employer; or
9 (4) A client of the [~~member, member's partner,~~]
10 legislator, legislator's spouse, or [member's] the
11 legislator's employer, [who is on the lobbyist list
12 and not just a client with a lobbyist, where the
13 client] who filed a statement of expenditures pursuant
14 to section 97-3 and provided at least \$5,000 of income
15 during the preceding calendar year.

16 As used in this subsection[+]

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

18 ~~"Member's partner" means a member's], "legislator's spouse"~~
19 means a legislator's spouse under chapter 572, civil union
20 partner under chapter 572B, or reciprocal beneficiary under
21 chapter 572C."



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

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

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2027.



S.B. NO. 2248
S.D. 2

Report Title:

State Ethics Commission Package; Financial Disclosures;
Requirements

Description:

Expands the scope of persons who are required to file financial disclosures to include gubernatorial nominees subject to Senate confirmation. Makes technical amendments relating to legislators. (SD2)

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

