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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the house of  
2 representatives adopted House Resolution No. 9 (2022) to  
3 establish the commission to improve standards of conduct. The  
4 resolution requests the commission ensure state laws and rules  
5 relating to standards of conduct of public officers and  
6 employees contain clear standards, enforcement, and penalties  
7 and provide recommendations to increase awareness of, compliance  
8 with, and deterrent effects of the code of ethics, lobbying  
9 laws, campaign finance laws, and other relevant laws and rules.

10           Pursuant to House Resolution No. 9, the commission to  
11 improve standards of conduct convened regularly throughout 2022  
12 to diligently review, discuss, and consider the issues  
13 presented, submitted an interim report to the house of  
14 representatives outlining areas of immediate and long-term  
15 focus, then continued its work with input from the public and  
16 invited individuals and agencies to issue a final report with  
17 various recommendations and accompanying proposed legislation.



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1           The legislature also finds that the strength and stability  
2 of our democratic government rely upon the public's trust in  
3 government institutions, including the expectation that officers  
4 act ethically with prudence, integrity, and sound judgement.  
5 Therefore, an essential goal of the commission was to provide  
6 recommendations that would help restore public trust in state  
7 government and increase the level of transparency in its  
8 operations and accountability of individuals.

9           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to implement  
10 recommendations of the commission to improve standards of  
11 conduct relating to the solicitation and acceptance of campaign  
12 contributions by prohibiting state and county elected officials  
13 from soliciting and accepting campaign contributions during any  
14 regular session or special session of the state legislature.

15           SECTION 2. Section 11-357, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17           "~~§~~11-357~~§~~ **Contributions to candidate committees;**  
18 **limits~~-~~; contributions to elected officials; when prohibited.**

19 (a) No person shall make contributions to:

20           (1) A candidate seeking nomination or election to a two-  
21 year office or to a candidate committee in an



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1           aggregate amount greater than \$2,000 during an  
2           election period;

3           (2) A candidate seeking nomination or election to a four-  
4           year nonstatewide office or to a candidate committee  
5           in an aggregate amount greater than \$4,000 during an  
6           election period; or

7           (3) A candidate seeking nomination or election to a four-  
8           year statewide office or to a candidate committee in  
9           an aggregate amount greater than \$6,000 during an  
10          election period.

11          (b) For purposes of this section, the length of term of an  
12 office shall be the usual length of term of the office as  
13 unaffected by reapportionment, a special election to fill a  
14 vacancy, or any other factor causing the term of the office the  
15 candidate is seeking to be less than the usual length of term of  
16 that office.

17          (c) During any regular session or special session of the  
18 state legislature, including any extension of any regular  
19 session or special session and any legislative recess days,  
20 holidays, and weekends, no elected official as defined in



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1 section 11-342(d) shall solicit or accept campaign contributions  
2 from any person."

3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



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**Report Title:**

Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct; Campaign Contributions; State Elected Officials; County Elected Officials; Legislative Sessions; Prohibition

**Description:**

Prohibits state and county elected officials from soliciting and accepting campaign contributions during any regular session or special session of the state legislature, including any extension of any regular session or special session and any legislative recess days, holidays, and weekends.

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

