

JAN 25 2006

S.B. NO. 2438

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FUNDRAISERS AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Public perception that law making is influenced
2 by legislator's campaign fundraising should be eliminated.
3 During the legislative session, many individuals, businesses,
4 and groups see favorable action on bills from legislators. When
5 legislators solicit campaign donations from these stakeholders
6 while legislation is pending, the public has reason to mistrust
7 the law making process. As a result, the public becomes leery
8 that legislative votes are affected by fundraising activity.
9 Even with pure motive, public perception of the legislature is
10 lowered, along with public trust and confidence in elected
11 leaders.

12 In the past, bills to prohibit legislative fundraisers
13 during legislative session have been introduced. For example,
14 in 2003, a bill to require public disclosure of fundraising
15 events while the legislature is in session passed the senate,
16 but failed in the house of representatives.

17 The legislature believes that holding fundraisers after the
18 legislative session has concluded will reduce public suspicion,



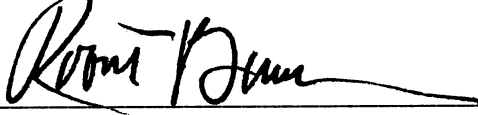
1 and result in increased public trust and confidence in our
2 elected leaders.

3 SECTION 2. Section 11-203, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 "(c) No fundraiser or fundraising activity shall be held
6 during the regular legislative session; further, no fundraiser
7 or fundraising shall be held at any other time unless a notice
8 of intent to hold the function is filed by the person in charge
9 of the function with the commission prior to the date of the
10 function setting forth the name and address of the person in
11 charge, the price per person, the date, hour, and place of the
12 affair and the method thereof."

13 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

15 INTRODUCED BY: 

By Request



SB 2438

Report Title:

Fund Raising; Prohibition During Legislative Session

Description:

Prohibits fundraisers and fundraising activity during the period of the regular legislative session.

