

JAN 22 2008

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAMPAIGN SPENDING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a narrow
2 interpretation of current campaign spending law inadvertently
3 undermines the intent of the law by unduly restricting the types
4 of expenditures that candidates are allowed to make using
5 campaign contributions.

6 The purpose of the Act is to broaden the permitted uses by
7 clarifying that campaign and surplus funds may be used for
8 ordinary and customary expenses incurred in connection with a
9 candidate's duties as an elected state or county official.

10 SECTION 2. Section 11-200, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

12 "(b) Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding,
13 a candidate, campaign treasurer, or candidate's committee, as a
14 contribution:

15 (1) May purchase from its campaign fund not more than two
16 tickets for each event held by another candidate,



1 committee, or party whether or not the event
2 constitutes a fundraiser as defined in section 11-203;
3 (2) May use campaign funds for any ordinary and
4 [~~necessary~~] customary expenses incurred in connection
5 with the candidate's duties as a holder of an elected
6 state or county office, as the term is used in section
7 11-206(c); and
8 (3) May make contributions from its campaign fund to any
9 community service, educational, youth, recreational,
10 charitable, scientific, or literary organization;
11 provided that in any election cycle, the total amount
12 of all contributions from campaign funds and surplus
13 funds shall be no more than the maximum amount that
14 one person or other entity may contribute to that
15 candidate pursuant to section 11-204(a); provided
16 further that no contributions from campaign funds
17 shall be made from the date the candidate files
18 nomination papers to the date of the general
19 election."

20 SECTION 3. Section 11-206, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:



1 "(c) Surplus funds may be used after a general or special
2 election for:

3 (1) Any fundraising activity;

4 (2) Any other politically related activity sponsored by
5 the candidate;

6 (3) Any ordinary and [~~necessary~~] customary expenses
7 incurred in connection with the candidate's duties as
8 a holder of an elected state or county office; or

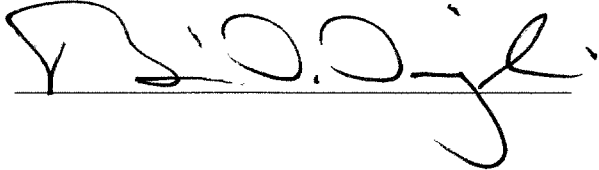
9 (4) Any contribution to any community service,
10 educational, youth, recreational, charitable,
11 scientific, or literary organization; provided that in
12 any election cycle, the total amount of all
13 contributions from campaign funds and surplus funds
14 shall be no more than the maximum amount that one
15 person or other entity may contribute to that
16 candidate pursuant to section 11-204(a); provided
17 further that no contributions from campaign funds
18 shall be made from the date the candidate files
19 nomination papers to the date of the general
20 election."

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



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

2

INTRODUCED BY: 



Report Title:

Campaign Spending; Contribution; Transfer; Surplus

Description:

Clarifies that "ordinary and customary" expenditures are allowable under campaign spending law.

