
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that candidates for
2 public office are generally prohibited from appearing in any
3 public service announcement or government-funded advertisement
4 under section 11-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which is intended
5 to address any unfair advantage in election campaigns for
6 candidates who enjoy a public presence due to their official
7 capacities. However, the prohibition does not apply to the
8 appearance of candidates in neighborhood board meetings, which
9 are regularly broadcast on local television programming. There
10 have been reports of neighborhood board members in meetings
11 broadcast on television referencing their election candidacies
12 or otherwise making comments that provide an unfair advantage
13 over election opponents who do not have similar exposure to the
14 public.

15 The purpose of this Act is to promote fairness in elections
16 by deeming a neighborhood board member to have resigned from the
17 board upon becoming a candidate for any state or county elective
18 office.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§11- Neighborhood board members deemed to have
5 resigned from office upon candidacy for elective state or county
6 office. Any member of a county neighborhood board who becomes a
7 candidate for any elective state or county office shall be
8 deemed to have resigned from the member's seat on the board."

9 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 18 2013



H.B. NO. 556

Report Title:

Neighborhood Boards; State or County Elective Office; Resign-to-run

Description:

Deems a neighborhood board member to have resigned from the board upon becoming a candidate for any state or county elective office.

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