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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the 1978  
2 constitutional convention believed that "public officers and  
3 employees must exhibit the highest standards of ethical conduct  
4 and that these standards come from the personal integrity of  
5 each individual in government." Thereafter the legislature  
6 established standards of ethical conduct for legislators and  
7 employees by enactment of chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes.  
8 These standards seek to preserve the public's confidence in the  
9 actions and integrity of the Legislature.

10           However, conflicts of interest, and the appearance of  
11 conflicts of interest, may arise when individuals who intern or  
12 volunteer in a legislator's office receive compensation from a  
13 private employer or entity.

14           The purpose of this Act is to advance the public trust by  
15 increasing government transparency and accountability by  
16 restricting individuals from receiving privately-funded  
17 compensation for interning or volunteering with the legislature.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
3 read as follows:

4 "§84- Legislative interns; compensation from private  
5 employers and other private entities. No person shall receive  
6 any compensation from a private employer or other private entity  
7 for the person's internship with the legislature; provided that  
8 compensation from a private university or school shall be  
9 permitted if the person is a student of the university or school  
10 and receives academic credit for the internship.

11 For the purposes of this section, "internship" shall mean  
12 any work, including volunteer work, performed for the  
13 legislature by an individual who is not an employee of the  
14 State."

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

18 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

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

**Report Title:**

Ethics; Legislative Interns and Volunteers

**Description:**

Amends ethics law to prohibit private employers or other private entities from compensating legislative internships. (HB601 HD1)

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

