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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC FUNDING FOR ELECTIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Act 244, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, is  
2 amended by amending section 8 to read as follows:  
3           "SECTION 8. **Certification of qualification for**  
4 **comprehensive public funds[-]; limit number of certified**  
5 **candidates.** (a) Candidates seeking certification as a  
6 comprehensive publicly funded candidate shall submit to the  
7 commission an application for certification that contains at  
8 least two hundred printed names, addresses, and signatures and  
9 qualifying contributions for the county of Hawaii from  
10 registered voters in the district for which the candidate seeks  
11 office no later than thirty days prior to the primary election,  
12 signed by the participating candidate and the participating  
13 candidate's campaign treasurer under penalty of perjury. The  
14 clerk for the county of Hawaii shall verify that at least two  
15 hundred signatures and qualifying contributions were received  
16 from registered voters in the district for which the candidate  
17 seeks office, that the candidate resides in the district from  
18 which election is sought as of the date of the filing of



1 nomination papers, and that the candidate is a registered voter  
2 in the district from which election is sought.

3 (b) The application shall also include any information  
4 deemed necessary and appropriate by the commission.

5 (c) The commission shall issue a decision to certify or  
6 deny certification of a candidate as a comprehensive publicly  
7 funded candidate within ten business days following receipt of  
8 the candidate's completed application for certification for  
9 comprehensive public funds, including verification of the  
10 information in subsection (a) by the clerk for the county of  
11 Hawaii.

12 (d) After a participating candidate is certified, the  
13 candidate's certification shall apply to both the primary and  
14 the general election, even if the candidate is unopposed in the  
15 primary election.

16 (e) Initial certification by the commission under  
17 subsection (c) and all determinations by the commission under  
18 this section are final and conclusive, except to the extent they  
19 are subject to examination and audit by the commission under  
20 section 10(a).

21 (f) The commission shall certify no more than fifteen  
22 candidates for comprehensive public funding for each election



1 period based upon the candidates' order of eligibility in  
2 qualifying for certification. For the purposes of this  
3 subsection, "election period" has the same meaning as defined in  
4 section 11-302, Hawaii Revised Statutes."

5 SECTION 2. Act 244, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008,  
6 section 12, is amended by amending subsections (c) and (d) to  
7 read as follows:

8 "(c) For primary elections subject to this part, the base  
9 amount of public funding shall be the average of the amount  
10 spent by the winning candidates in the previous two county  
11 council primary elections of [~~the same~~] every district, reduced  
12 by ten per cent.

13 (d) For general elections subject to this part, the base  
14 amount of public funding shall be the average of the amount  
15 spent by the winning candidates in the previous two county  
16 council general elections for [~~the same~~] every district, reduced  
17 by ten per cent."

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
21 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
22 2014-2015 to ensure the sufficiency of funds to certify



1 participating county of Hawaii council candidates during the  
2 next election and provide funding for comprehensive public  
3 funding for elections.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the campaign  
5 spending commission for the purposes of this Act.

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

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



**Report Title:**

Pilot Program; Hawaii County; Public Funding for Elections

**Description:**

Changes funding formula for the comprehensive public funding pilot project to average the amount of money used by winning candidates in the last two election periods for all county district races. Limits the number of candidates in the pilot program to fifteen per election period. Makes an appropriation of an unspecified amount to the Campaign Spending Commission.  
(SB381 HD1)

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

