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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 11-381, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3           "(a) Campaign funds may be used by a candidate, treasurer,  
4 or candidate committee:

5           (1) For any purpose directly related:

6           (A) In the case of the candidate, to the candidate's  
7                 own campaign; or

8           (B) In the case of a candidate committee or treasurer  
9                 of a candidate committee, to the campaign of the  
10                candidate, question, or issue with which they are  
11                directly associated;

12          (2) To purchase or lease consumer goods, vehicles,  
13                 equipment, and services that provide a mixed benefit  
14                 to the candidate. The candidate, however, shall  
15                 reimburse the candidate's candidate committee for the  
16                 candidate's personal use of these items unless the  
17                 personal use is de minimis;



1           (3) To make donations to any community service,  
2                    educational, youth, recreational, charitable,  
3                    scientific, or literary organization; provided that in  
4                    any election period, the total amount of all donations  
5                    shall be no more than twice the maximum amount that  
6                    one person may contribute to that candidate pursuant  
7                    to section 11-357; provided further that no  
8                    contributions shall be made from the date the  
9                    candidate files nomination papers to the date of the  
10                  general election;

11           (4) To make donations to any public school or public  
12                    library; provided that in any election period, the  
13                    total amount of all contributions shall be no more  
14                    than twice the maximum amount that one person may  
15                    contribute to that candidate pursuant to section 11-  
16                    357; provided further that any donation under this  
17                    paragraph shall not be aggregated with or imputed  
18                    toward any limitation on donations pursuant to  
19                    paragraph (3);

20           (5) To award scholarships to full-time students attending  
21                    an institution of higher education or a vocational



1 education school in a program leading to a degree,  
2 certificate, or other recognized educational  
3 credential; provided that in any election period, the  
4 total amount of all scholarships awarded shall be no  
5 more than twice the maximum amount that one person may  
6 contribute to that candidate pursuant to section 11-  
7 357; provided further that no awards shall be made  
8 from the filing deadline for nomination papers to the  
9 date of the general election;

10 (6) ~~[To purchase not more than two tickets for each event~~  
11 ~~held by another candidate or committee, whether or not~~  
12 ~~the event constitutes a fundraiser as defined in~~  
13 ~~section 11-342,]~~ To make contributions to any  
14 candidate committee up to the threshold amounts set by  
15 this chapter;

16 (7) To make contributions to the candidate's party so long  
17 as the contributions are not earmarked for another  
18 candidate; or

19 (8) To pay for ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in  
20 connection with the candidate's duties as a holder of  
21 an office[-]; provided that expenses incurred for



1           memberships in civic or community groups or for  
 2           protocol gifts shall be no more than twice the maximum  
 3           amount that one person may contribute to that  
 4           candidate pursuant to section 11-357."

5           SECTION 2. Section 11-382, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 6 amended to read as follows:

7           "[+]§11-382[+] Prohibited uses of campaign funds.

8 Campaign funds shall not be used:

- 9           (1) To support the campaigns of candidates other than the  
 10           candidate with which they are directly associated[+],  
 11           except as provided for under section 11-381;
- 12           (2) To campaign against any other candidate not directly  
 13           opposing the candidate with which they are directly  
 14           associated; or
- 15           (3) For personal expenses."

16           SECTION 3. Section 11-421, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 17 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

18           "(c) Moneys in the fund shall be paid to candidates by the  
 19 comptroller as prescribed in section 11-431 [~~and may be used for~~  
 20 ~~the commission's operating expenses, including staff salaries~~  
 21 ~~and fringe benefits]~~."



1 SECTION 4. The legislature determines that there is in the  
2 campaign spending trust fund at least \$ in excess of the  
3 requirements of the fund. Until June 30, 2017, the director of  
4 finance is authorized to transfer from the campaign spending  
5 trust fund to the general fund the sum of \$ or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017.

7 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
10 campaign spending commission's operating expenses, including  
11 staff salaries.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the campaign  
13 spending commission for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.



**Report Title:**

Campaign Finance; Campaign Spending Commission; Operating Expenses; Appropriation

**Description:**

Amends the permitted uses of campaign funds to include contributions to other candidate committees. Limits the amount of campaign funds that may be spent by an elected official on memberships in civic or community groups or on protocol gifts to twice the allowable individual contribution amount.

Appropriates moneys to the Campaign Spending Commission for operating expenses. Transfers excess trust funds to the general fund. (HB2156 HD2)

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

