
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHARITABLE SOLICITATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 467B-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending the definitions of "professional fund-
3 raising counsel" or "professional fundraising counsel" and
4 "solicit" and "solicitation" to read as follows:
5 ""Professional fund-raising counsel" or "professional
6 fundraising counsel" means any person who, for compensation,
7 plans, conducts, manages, advises, consults, or prepares
8 material for, or with respect to, the solicitation of
9 contributions in this State for a charitable organization, but
10 who actually solicits no contributions as a part of the person's
11 services, and who does not employ, procure, or engage any
12 compensated person to solicit contributions. The term shall not
13 include a bona fide volunteer, salaried officer, or employee of
14 a charitable organization[-], or a person if the only services
15 performed by the person are to plan, conduct, manage, advise,
16 consult, or prepare grant or subsidy application materials for a
17 charitable organization.



1 "Solicit" and "solicitation" mean a request directly or
2 indirectly for money, credit, property, financial assistance, or
3 thing of value on the plea or representation that the money,
4 credit, property, financial assistance, or thing of value, or
5 any portion thereof, will be used for a charitable purpose or to
6 benefit a charitable organization. These terms shall include
7 the following:

- 8 (1) Any oral or written request [†]; [†]
- 9 (2) The making of any announcement to any organization for
10 the purpose of further dissemination, including
11 announcements to the press, over the radio or
12 television, or by telephone, telegraph, or facsimile,
13 concerning an appeal or campaign by or for any
14 charitable organization or purpose [†]; [†]
- 15 (3) The distribution, circulation, posting, or publishing
16 of any handbill, written advertisement, or other
17 publication that directly or by implication seeks to
18 obtain public support [†]; [†]
- 19 (4) Where the sale or offer or attempted sale, of any
20 advertisement, advertising space, book, card, tag,
21 coupon, device, magazine, membership, merchandise,

1 subscription, flower, ticket, candy, cookies, or other
 2 tangible item in connection with which any appeal is
 3 made for any charitable organization or purpose; or
 4 where the name of any charitable organization is used
 5 or referred to in any appeal as an inducement or
 6 reason for making any sale; or where in connection
 7 with any sale, any statement is made that the whole or
 8 any part of the proceeds from any sale will be used
 9 for any charitable purpose or to benefit any
 10 charitable organization[+]; [+] and

11 (5) A request made through the use of receptacles for
 12 contributions such as honor boxes, vending machines,
 13 wishing wells, contribution boxes, and novelty
 14 machines, where a charitable appeal is used or
 15 referred to or implied as an inducement or reason to
 16 contribute.

17 A solicitation occurs whether or not the person making the
 18 solicitation receives any contribution. However, the term shall
 19 not include the submission of a grant or subsidy proposal or
 20 application to a governmental authority or any organization



1 exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
2 Revenue Code."

3 SECTION 2. Section 467B-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "[~~f~~]~~§467B-1.5~~[~~+~~] Professional solicitors; required
6 disclosures. [~~A professional solicitor who makes an oral~~
7 ~~solicitation by telephone, door to door, or otherwise shall~~
8 ~~furnish to each contributor, prior to collecting or attempting~~
9 ~~to collect any contribution, a written confirmation of the~~
10 ~~expected contribution, containing the following information~~
11 ~~clearly and conspicuously:~~

12 ~~(1) The full legal name, address, and telephone number of~~
13 ~~the individual professional solicitor who directly~~
14 ~~communicated with the contributor; and~~

15 ~~(2) A disclosure that the contribution is not tax-~~
16 ~~deductible, if applicable, or, if the professional~~
17 ~~solicitor maintains that the contribution is tax-~~
18 ~~deductible in whole or in part, the portion of the~~
19 ~~contribution that the professional solicitor maintains~~
20 ~~is tax deductible.]~~



1 (a) Every professional solicitor, and every employee or agent
2 thereof, who solicits contributions from a prospective donor or
3 contributor in this State shall at the outset of any oral or
4 written request for a contribution:

5 (1) Identify themselves by their true surname and first
6 name, and the name of their employer or the contractor
7 as the case may be, that is compensating the
8 individual making the solicitation;

9 (2) Identify the name of the professional solicitor
10 registered with the department of the attorney general
11 that has contracted with the charitable organization
12 to provide the solicitation services and, if the
13 individual is employed by a subcontractor, the name of
14 the registered subcontractor;

15 (3) Disclose that the person making the oral or written
16 request for a donation is being paid to make such
17 solicitation and the name of the charitable
18 organization on whose behalf the person making the
19 request is soliciting; and

20 (4) Disclose, orally and in writing, the fact that a copy
21 of the professional solicitor's registration data and



1 financial reports are available from the department of
2 the attorney general.

3 (b) A professional solicitor who makes an oral
4 solicitation by telephone, door-to-door, or otherwise, prior to
5 collecting or attempting to collect any contribution, shall
6 provide a written confirmation of the expected contribution and
7 clearly disclose that the contribution is not tax-deductible, if
8 applicable, or, if the professional solicitor maintains that the
9 contribution is tax-deductible in whole or in part, the portion
10 of the contribution that the professional solicitor maintains is
11 tax-deductible. The written confirmation shall also
12 conspicuously disclose the name and current address of the
13 registered professional solicitor."

14 SECTION 3. Section 467B-2.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) Every public benefit corporation domiciled in Hawaii
17 and every charitable organization not exempted by section
18 467B-11.5 shall register with the department prior to conducting
19 any solicitation of contributions or prior to having any
20 solicitation of contributions conducted on its behalf by others.
21 Two authorized officers of the charitable organization shall



1 sign the registration form and shall certify that the statements
2 therein are true and correct to the best of their knowledge
3 subject to penalties imposed by section 710-1063. A central or
4 parent organization that has received a group exemption letter
5 from the Internal Revenue Service may submit a consolidated
6 application for registration [~~may, at the option of the~~
7 ~~charitable organization, be submitted by a parent organization]~~
8 for itself and any or all of [~~its related foundations,~~
9 ~~supporting organizations, chapters, branches, or affiliates in~~
10 ~~this State.~~] the subordinate organizations covered under the
11 group exemption that are included in the central or parent
12 organization's annual information return to the Internal Revenue
13 Service."

14 SECTION 4. Section 467B-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) Within ninety days after a solicitation campaign or
17 event has been completed and on the anniversary of the
18 commencement of a solicitation campaign lasting more than one
19 year, a professional solicitor shall file with the attorney
20 general a financial report for the campaign, including gross
21 revenue and an itemization of all expenses incurred on a form



1 prescribed by the attorney general. The attorney general may
2 require the financial report to be submitted electronically.
3 This report shall be signed under penalty provided by section
4 710-1063 by the authorized contracting agent for the
5 professional solicitor [~~and two authorized officials of the~~
6 ~~charitable organization~~] and shall report gross revenue from
7 Hawaii donors and national gross revenue from a solicitation
8 activity or campaign. If a financial report required under this
9 section is not filed in a timely manner, an initial late filing
10 fee of \$100 shall be imposed, and an additional late filing fee
11 of \$20 per day shall be imposed, for each day during which the
12 violation continues; provided that the total fee amount imposed
13 under this subsection shall not exceed \$1,000. The attorney
14 general may waive all or part of the late filing fee imposed by
15 this subsection if there is a reasonable cause for the failure
16 to timely file. The professional solicitor shall provide a copy
17 of the financial report to the charitable organization to which
18 the financial report pertains within ten days of its submission
19 of the report to the attorney general. A professional solicitor
20 shall maintain during each solicitation campaign and for not
21 less than three years after the completion of that campaign the



1 following records, which shall be available for inspection upon
2 demand by the attorney general:

3 (1) The date and amount of each contribution received and
4 the name and address of each contributor;

5 (2) The name and residence of each employee, agent, or
6 other person involved in the solicitation;

7 (3) Records of all revenue received and expenses incurred
8 in the course of the solicitation campaign; and

9 (4) The location and account number of each bank or other
10 financial institution account in which the
11 professional solicitor has deposited revenue from the
12 solicitation campaign."

13 SECTION 5. Section 467B-5.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "§467B-5.5 Commercial co-venturer's charitable sales
16 promotions. (a) All charitable sales promotions by a
17 commercial co-venturer shall disclose the name of the commercial
18 co-venturer.

19 (b) Prior to the commencement of any charitable sales
20 promotion in this State conducted by a commercial co-venturer
21 using the name of a charitable organization, the commercial co-



1 venturer shall obtain the written consent of the charitable
2 organization whose name will be used during the charitable sales
3 promotion. The commercial co-venturer shall file a copy of the
4 written consent with the department not less than ten days prior
5 to the commencement of the charitable sales promotion within
6 this State. An authorized representative of the charitable
7 organization and the commercial co-venturer shall sign the
8 written consent, and the terms of the written consent shall
9 include the following:

- 10 (1) The goods or services to be offered to the public;
- 11 (2) The geographic area where, and the starting and final
12 date when, the offering is to be made;
- 13 (3) The manner in which the name of the charitable
14 organization is to be used, including any
15 representation to be made to the public as to the
16 amount or per cent per unit of goods or services
17 purchased or used that is to benefit the charitable
18 organization;
- 19 (4) A provision for a final accounting on a per unit basis
20 to be given by the commercial co-venturer to the
21 charitable organization and the date when it is to be



1 made[+], which date shall be no more than ninety days
2 after the end of the charitable sales promotion; and

3 (5) The date when and the manner in which the benefit is
4 to be conferred on the charitable organization.

5 (c) A final accounting for each charitable sales promotion
6 shall be prepared by the commercial co-venturer following the
7 completion of the promotion. A copy of the final accounting
8 shall be provided to the attorney general not more than twenty
9 days after the copy is requested by the attorney general. [A
10 ~~copy of the final accounting shall be provided to the charitable~~
11 ~~organization not more than twenty days after the copy is~~
12 ~~requested by the charitable organization.] The final accounting
13 shall be kept by the commercial co-venturer for a period of
14 three years, unless the commercial co-venturer and the
15 charitable organization mutually agree that the accounting
16 should be kept by the charitable organization instead of the
17 commercial co-venturer.~~

18 (d) A [~~fine~~] late filing fee of \$20 shall be imposed on a
19 commercial co-venturer who fails to file a written consent as
20 required by subsection (b), unless it is shown that the failure
21 is due to reasonable cause, for each day during which the



1 violation continues; provided that the total amount imposed
2 under this subsection shall not exceed \$1,000.

3 (e) The written consent required under subsection (b)
4 shall be signed by the authorized representative of the
5 commercial co-venturer and the charitable organization
6 certifying that the statements made therein are true and correct
7 to the best of their knowledge subject to penalties imposed by
8 section 710-1063. The attorney general may require the written
9 consent to be submitted electronically and may require the use
10 of electronic signatures.

11 (f) The attorney general may issue a cease and desist
12 order whenever the attorney general finds that a commercial co-
13 venturer has engaged in an act or practice that violates this
14 chapter.

15 (g) When the attorney general finds that a commercial co-
16 venturer has violated or is operating in violation of this
17 chapter, the attorney general may impose an administrative fine
18 not to exceed \$1,000 for each act that constitutes a violation
19 of this chapter and an additional penalty, not to exceed \$100
20 per day, for each day during which the violation continues. Any
21 person aggrieved by an action of the attorney general under this



1 section may request a hearing to review that action in
2 accordance with chapter 91 and rules adopted by the attorney
3 general. Any request for hearing shall be made within ten days
4 after the attorney general has served the person with notice of
5 the action, which notice shall be deemed effective upon
6 mailing."

7 SECTION 6. Section 467B-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended as follows:

9 1. By amending subsections (a) and (b) to read:

10 "(a) Every registered charitable organization [~~required to~~
11 ~~register pursuant to section 467B-2.1~~] shall annually file with
12 the department a report for its most recently completed fiscal
13 year. If the charitable organization files a Form 990 or 990-EZ
14 with the Internal Revenue Service, the annual report shall be a
15 copy of that Form 990 or 990-EZ. If the registered charitable
16 organization is required to file a Form 990-T with the Internal
17 Revenue Service, the annual report shall include a copy of that
18 Form 990-T. If a charitable organization is not required to
19 file a Form 990 or 990-EZ with the Internal Revenue Service, the
20 annual report shall contain all information prescribed by the
21 department. [~~The charitable organization shall file its annual~~



1 ~~report not later than the fifteenth day of the fifth month~~
2 ~~following the close of its fiscal year.]~~ The annual report for
3 a charitable organization that files a Form 990 or 990-EZ shall
4 be electronically submitted to the department within ten
5 business days of the date that the organization files the form
6 with the Internal Revenue Service. The annual report for a
7 charitable organization that files a Form 990-N or that is not
8 required to file a Form 990 or 990-EZ shall be electronically
9 submitted to the department no later than the fifteenth day of
10 the fifth month following the close of its fiscal year. An
11 authorized officer or agent of the charitable organization shall
12 sign the annual report and shall certify that the statements
13 therein are true and correct to the best of the officer's or
14 agent's knowledge subject to penalties imposed by section 710-
15 1063. A charitable organization that has obtained an extension
16 of time to file a Form 990 or 990-EZ from the Internal Revenue
17 Service [may obtain an extension of time to file the annual
18 report with the department, by filing with the department a copy
19 of the Internal Revenue Service's approved extension of time to
20 file.] shall provide a copy to the attorney general within
21 twenty days after the copy is requested by the attorney general.



1 The annual report shall be accompanied by a filing fee as
 2 prescribed by subsection (d). The department shall accept,
 3 under conditions prescribed by the attorney general, a copy or
 4 duplicate original of financial statements, reports, or returns
 5 filed by the charitable organization with the Internal Revenue
 6 Service or another state having requirements similar to the
 7 provisions of this section; provided that the attorney general
 8 may prescribe the form of the annual financial report for
 9 charitable organizations that file the Form 990-N with the
 10 Internal Revenue Service, or who are not required to file a Form
 11 990 or 990-EZ with the Internal Revenue Service.

12 (b) A charitable organization with [~~gross revenue~~]
 13 contributions in excess of \$500,000 in the year covered by the
 14 annual financial report and a charitable organization required
 15 to obtain an audit report by a governmental authority or a third
 16 party shall include with its annual financial report, an audit
 17 report, prepared in accordance with generally accepted
 18 accounting principles, by a certified public accountant [~~7~~]
 19 ~~provided that any charitable organization shall include with its~~
 20 ~~annual financial report an audit report, prepared in accordance~~
 21 ~~with generally accepted accounting principles, by a certified~~



1 ~~public accountant if required to do so by a governmental~~
2 ~~authority or a third party. For the purpose of this subsection,~~
3 ~~"gross revenue" does not include grants or fees from government~~
4 ~~agencies or revenue derived from funds held in trust for the~~
5 ~~benefit of the organization]."~~

6 2. By amending subsections (d) and (e) to read:

7 "(d) Each charitable organization filing a report required
8 by this section shall pay a filing fee to the department based
9 on the total amount of its gross revenues during the time
10 covered by the report at the close of the calendar or fiscal
11 year adopted by the charitable organization as follows:

- 12 (1) [~~\$10,~~] \$0, if less than \$25,000;
- 13 (2) \$25, if \$25,000 but less than \$50,000;
- 14 (3) \$50, if \$50,000 but less than \$100,000;
- 15 (4) \$100, if \$100,000 but less than \$250,000;
- 16 (5) \$150, if \$250,000 but less than \$500,000;
- 17 (6) \$200, if \$500,000 but less than \$1,000,000;
- 18 (7) \$250, if \$1,000,000 but less than \$2,000,000;
- 19 (8) \$350, if \$2,000,000 but less than \$5,000,000; or
- 20 (9) \$600, if \$5,000,000 or more.



1 (e) If a return, report, or filing fee required under this
2 section is not filed or paid, taking into account any extension
3 of time for filing, unless it is shown that the failure is due
4 to reasonable cause, a ~~[fine]~~ late filing fee of \$20 shall be
5 imposed for each day during which the violation continues;
6 provided that the total amount imposed under this subsection
7 shall not exceed \$1,000."

8 SECTION 7. Section 467B-11.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§467B-11.5 Charitable organizations exempted from
11 registration and financial disclosure requirements. The
12 following charitable organizations shall not be subject to
13 sections 467B-2.1 and 467B-6.5, if the organization submits
14 ~~[information as the department may require to substantiate an~~
15 ~~exemption under this section.]~~ an application for an exemption
16 to the department and the department approves the organization's
17 application:

18 (1) Any duly organized religious corporation, institution,
19 or society that is exempt from filing Form 990 with
20 the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to sections



1 6033(a)(3)(A)(i) and (iii) and 6033(a)(3)(C)(i) of the
2 Internal Revenue Code, as amended;
3 (2) Parent-teacher associations;
4 (3) Any educational institution that is licensed or
5 accredited by any of the following licensing or
6 accrediting organizations:
7 (A) Hawaii Association of Independent Schools;
8 (B) Hawaii Council of Private Schools;
9 (C) Western Association of Schools and Colleges;
10 (D) Middle States Association of Colleges and
11 Schools;
12 (E) New England Association of Schools and Colleges;
13 (F) North Central Association of Colleges and
14 Schools;
15 (G) Northwest Commission on Colleges and
16 Universities;
17 (H) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
18 [~~or~~]
19 (I) The National Association for the Education of
20 Young Children; or



- 1 (J) The Northwest Accreditation Commission for
2 Primary and Secondary Schools;
3 and any organization exempt from taxation under
4 section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
5 expressly authorized by, and having an established
6 identity with~~[, such]~~ an educational institution~~[,]~~
7 accredited by one of the foregoing accrediting
8 agencies; provided that the organization's
9 solicitation of contributions is primarily directed to
10 the students, alumni, faculty, and trustees of the
11 institutions and their respective families;
12 (4) Any nonprofit hospital licensed by the State or any
13 similar provision of the laws of any other state;
14 (5) Any corporation established by an act of the United
15 States Congress that is required by federal law to
16 submit to Congress annual reports, fully audited by
17 the United States Department of Defense, of its
18 activities including itemized accounts of all receipts
19 and expenditures;
20 (6) Any agency of this State, another state, or the
21 federal government; and



1 (7) Any charitable organization that normally receives
2 less than \$25,000 in contributions annually, if the
3 organization does not employ or compensate a
4 professional solicitor or professional fundraising
5 counsel. For purposes of this paragraph, an
6 organization normally receives less than \$25,000 in
7 contributions annually if, during the immediately
8 preceding three fiscal years, it received, on average,
9 less than \$25,000 in contributions.

10 The attorney general may require the application for exemption
11 to be filed electronically with the department and may require
12 the use of electronic signatures."

13 SECTION 8. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
15 begun before its effective date.

16 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2030.



Report Title:

Charitable Solicitation; Professional Solicitors; Required
Disclosures; Donors; Registration; Reports

Description:

Amends Hawaii's charitable registration and solicitation law to require affirmative disclosures to donors by professional solicitors; clarify exemptions from registration; authorize the Department of the Attorney General to issue cease and desist orders and impose administrative fines; and make other technical amendments. (SB2812 HD2)

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