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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LOBBYISTS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that public disclosure  
2 and transparency of lobbying activities of all types are  
3 critical to further accountability, enhance public trust, and  
4 reduce the existence and perception of undue influence in  
5 government policy making. The purpose of this Act is to  
6 increase government transparency.

7           SECTION 2. Section 97-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9           "**§97-1 Definitions.** When used in this chapter:

10           [~~(1)~~] "Administrative action" means the proposal, drafting,  
11 consideration, amendment, enactment, or defeat by any  
12 administrative agency of any rule, regulation, or other action  
13 governed by section 91-3.

14           [~~(2)~~] "Administrative agency" means a commission, board,  
15 agency, or other body, or official in the state government that  
16 is not a part of the legislative or judicial branch.



1        "Contractual relationship" means the business relationship  
2 between two or more parties, under which the parties make  
3 promises to each other, the breach of which the law provides a  
4 remedy, or the performance of which the law recognizes as a  
5 duty.

6        [~~3~~] "Contribution" includes a gift, subscription,  
7 forgiveness of a loan, advance, or deposit of money, or anything  
8 of value and includes a contract, promise, or agreement, whether  
9 or not enforceable, to make a contribution.

10       [~~4~~] "Expenditure" includes a payment, distribution,  
11 forgiveness of a loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money, or  
12 anything of value and includes a contract, promise, or  
13 agreement, whether or not enforceable, to make an expenditure.  
14 "Expenditure" also includes compensation or other consideration  
15 paid to a lobbyist for the performance of lobbying services.  
16 "Expenditure" excludes the expenses of preparing written  
17 testimony and exhibits for a hearing before the legislature or  
18 an administrative agency.

19       [~~5~~] "Legislative action" means the sponsorship, drafting,  
20 introduction, consideration, modification, enactment, or defeat  
21 of any bill, resolution, amendment, report, nomination,



1 appointment, or any other matter pending or proposed in the  
2 legislature.

3 ~~[(6) "Lobbyist" means any individual who for pay or other  
4 consideration engages in lobbying in excess of five hours in any  
5 month of any reporting period described in section 97-3 or  
6 spends more than \$750 lobbying during any reporting period  
7 described in section 97-3.~~

8 ~~(7)]~~ "Lobbying" means communicating directly or through an  
9 agent, or soliciting others to communicate, with any official in  
10 the legislative or executive branch, for the purpose of  
11 attempting to influence legislative or administrative action or  
12 a ballot issue.

13 "Lobbyist" means any individual who for pay or other  
14 consideration engages in lobbying in excess of five hours in any  
15 month of any reporting period described in section 97-3 or  
16 spends more than \$750 lobbying during any reporting period  
17 described in section 97-3.

18 ~~[(8)]~~ "Person" means a corporation, individual, union,  
19 association, firm, sole proprietorship, partnership, committee,  
20 club, or any other organization or a representative of a group  
21 of persons acting in concert."



1 SECTION 3. Section 97-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending the title and subsections (a) to (c) to read  
3 as follows:

4 **"§97-3 Contributions, contractual relationships, and**  
5 **expenditures; statement.** (a) The following persons shall file  
6 a statement of expenditures and contractual relationships with  
7 the state ethics commission on March 31, May 31, and January 31  
8 of each year and within thirty days after adjournment sine die  
9 of any special session of the legislature:

- 10 (1) Each lobbyist;
- 11 (2) Each person who spends \$750 or more of the person's or  
12 any other person's money in any six-month period for  
13 the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or  
14 administrative action or a ballot issue by  
15 communicating or urging others to communicate with  
16 public officials; provided that any amounts expended  
17 for travel costs, including incidental meals and  
18 lodging, shall not be included in the tallying of the  
19 \$750; and
- 20 (3) Each person who employs or contracts for the services  
21 of one or more lobbyists, whether independently or



1 jointly with other persons. If the person is an  
2 industry, trade, or professional association, only the  
3 association is the employer of the lobbyist.

4 (b) The March 31 report shall cover the period from  
5 January 1 through the last day of February. The May 31 report  
6 shall cover the period from March 1 through April 30. The  
7 January 31 report shall cover the period from May 1 through  
8 December 31 of the previous year. The report to be filed within  
9 thirty days after adjournment sine die of a special session of  
10 the legislature shall cover the period from May 1 through  
11 adjournment sine die of that special session and shall apply to  
12 and include only those expenditures and contributions that  
13 relate to legislative action considered during that special  
14 session[+] and those contractual relationships that existed with  
15 members of the legislature from May 1 through adjournment sine  
16 die of that special session.

17 (c) The statement shall contain the following information:

18 (1) The name and address of each person with respect to  
19 whom expenditures for the purpose of lobbying in the  
20 total sum of \$25 or more per day was made by the



- 1 person filing the statement during the statement  
2 period and the amount or value of such expenditure;
- 3 (2) The name and address of each person with respect to  
4 whom expenditures for the purpose of lobbying in the  
5 aggregate of \$150 or more was made by the person  
6 filing the statement during the statement period and  
7 the amount or value of such expenditures;
- 8 (3) The total sum or value of all expenditures for the  
9 purpose of lobbying made by the person filing the  
10 statement during the statement period in excess of  
11 \$750 during the statement period; provided that the  
12 sum or value of each expenditure is itemized in the  
13 following categories, as applicable:
- 14 (A) Preparation and distribution of lobbying  
15 materials;
  - 16 (B) Media advertising;
  - 17 (C) Compensation paid to lobbyists;
  - 18 (D) Fees paid to consultants or services;
  - 19 (E) Entertainment and events;
  - 20 (F) Receptions, meals, food, and beverages;
  - 21 (G) Gifts;



- 1 (H) Loans; and
- 2 (I) Other disbursements;
- 3 (4) The name and address of each person making
- 4 contributions to the person filing the statement for
- 5 the purpose of lobbying in the total sum of \$25 or
- 6 more during the statement period and the amount or
- 7 value of such contributions; [~~and~~]
- 8 (5) The subject area of the legislative and administrative
- 9 action which was supported or opposed by the person
- 10 filing the statement during the statement period[-];
- 11 and
- 12 (6) Any contractual relationship in existence during the
- 13 statement period between the lobbyist or person filing
- 14 the statement, as applicable, and a member of the
- 15 legislature, a governor-appointed executive of a
- 16 principal department, or a mayor-appointed county
- 17 cabinet member; the name of the parties to the
- 18 contract; services or products provided; and the
- 19 amount of any money exchanged pursuant to the
- 20 contract."



# S.B. NO. 507

1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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# S.B. NO. 507

**Report Title:**

Ethics; Disclosure; Lobbyists; Contractual Relationships

**Description:**

Requires lobbyists and persons, including a corporation, union, association, firm, sole proprietorship, partnership, organization, or committee, to file a report to the state ethics commission to disclose contractual relationships between the lobbyist or person filing the statement and a member of the legislature, a governor-appointed executive of a principal department, or a mayor-appointed county cabinet member.

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

