
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]~~ donations shall be made from the date
9 the candidate files nomination papers to the date of
10 the general election[+] unless the candidate is
11 declared to be duly and legally elected to the office
12 for which the person is a candidate pursuant to
13 section 12-41 or deemed and declared to be duly and
14 legally elected to the office for which the person is
15 a candidate pursuant to section 12-42;
- 16 (4) To make donations to any public school or public
17 library; provided that in any election period, the
18 total amount of all contributions shall be no more
19 than twice the maximum amount that one person may
20 contribute to that candidate pursuant to section 11-
21 357; provided further that any donation under this



1 paragraph shall not be aggregated with or imputed
2 toward any limitation on donations pursuant to
3 paragraph (3);

4 (5) To award scholarships to full-time students attending
5 an institution of higher education or a vocational
6 education school in a program leading to a degree,
7 certificate, or other recognized educational
8 credential; provided that in any election period, the
9 total amount of all scholarships awarded shall be no
10 more than twice the maximum amount that one person may
11 contribute to that candidate pursuant to section 11-
12 357; provided further that no awards shall be made
13 from the filing deadline for nomination papers to the
14 date of the general election[+] unless the candidate
15 is declared to be duly and legally elected to the
16 office for which the person is a candidate pursuant to
17 section 12-41 or deemed and declared to be duly and
18 legally elected to the office for which the person is
19 a candidate pursuant to section 12-42;

20 (6) To purchase not more than two tickets for each event
21 held by another candidate or committee, regardless of



1 whether [~~or not~~] the event constitutes a fundraiser as
2 defined in section 11-342;

3 (7) To make contributions to the candidate's party so long
4 as the contributions are not earmarked for another
5 candidate; or

6 (8) To pay for ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in
7 connection with the candidate's duties as a holder of
8 an office, including expenses incurred for memberships
9 in civic or community groups."

10 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2059.

13



Report Title:

Elections; Campaign Finance; Restrictions on Use of Campaign Funds

Description:

Establishes an exemption from the prohibition against using election campaign funds to make charitable donations or to award scholarships during the period from the filing of nomination papers to the date of the general election, for candidates who are already declared elected to office after running unopposed in an election or who would be unopposed in the general election. Takes effect on 1/7/2059. (SD1)

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