

JAN 24 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to promote voter
2 awareness by:

3 (1) Authorizing the publishing of a candidate information
4 pamphlet in one or more legislative districts selected
5 by the chief elections officer in consultation with
6 the elections commission to be funded by a percentage
7 of new donations to candidate and noncandidate
8 committees that exceed five times the amount of
9 partial public funding spending limit; and

10 (2) Appropriating moneys to publish candidate information
11 pamphlets.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
13 as follows:

14 1. By adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
15 designated and to read:



1 "§11-A Voter education pamphlets. (a) The chief election
2 officer shall prepare, publish, and distribute voter education
3 pamphlets in one or more state legislative districts.

4 (b) The chief election officer shall select the district
5 or districts in which voter education pamphlets are distributed
6 in consultation with the elections commission based on the level
7 of candidate competitiveness, public interest, and availability
8 of funds.

9 (c) Voter education pamphlets shall be distributed through
10 the mail to all registered voters in the selected district or
11 districts; provided that a voter education pamphlet may be
12 distributed electronically to a registered voter who opts for
13 receipt electronically."

14 2. By adding a new section to part XIII to be
15 appropriately designated and to read:

16 "§11-B Voter education surcharge. (a) There shall be a
17 surcharge of _____ per cent on all donations in excess of \$500
18 to candidate or noncandidate committees with balances that
19 exceed five times the partial public funding spending limit.

20 (b) Moneys from the surcharge shall be deposited into the
21 Hawaii election campaign fund for the purpose of preparing,



1 publishing, and distributing voter education pamphlets pursuant
2 to section 11-A."

3 SECTION 3. Section 11-421, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsections (b) and (c) to read as follows:

5 "(b) The fund shall consist of:

6 (1) All moneys collected from persons who have designated
7 a portion of their income tax liability to the fund as
8 provided in section 235-102.5(a);

9 (2) Any general fund appropriations; ~~and~~

10 (3) All moneys collected through the voter education
11 surcharge as provided in section 11-B; and

12 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) Other moneys collected pursuant to this part.

13 (c) Moneys in the fund shall be paid to candidates by the
14 comptroller as prescribed in section 11-431 and may be used for
15 ~~the~~ :

16 (1) The commission's operating expenses, including staff
17 salaries and fringe benefits[-]; and

18 (2) Preparing, publishing, and distributing voter
19 education pamphlets as provided in section 11-A."

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the Hawaii
21 election campaign fund the sum of \$25,000 or so much thereof as



1 may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or
2 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021
3 for the preparation, publishing, and delivery of voter education
4 pamphlets in one or more state legislative districts; provided
5 that the chief election officer shall select the district or
6 districts in which voter education pamphlets are distributed in
7 consultation with the elections commission based on the level of
8 candidate competitiveness, public interest, and availability of
9 funds; provided further that voter education pamphlets shall be
10 distributed to all registered voters in the selected district or
11 districts as provided in section 2 of this Act.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the chief
13 election officer for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section
15 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
16 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
17 the new sections in this Act.


18 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019;
2 provided that sections 2 and 3 shall take effect on January 1,
3 2020.

4

INTRODUCED BY:





S.B. NO. 1481

Report Title:

Elections; Voter Education Pamphlets; Donations; Surcharge;
Chief Election Officer; Appropriation

Description:

Authorizes the publishing of a candidate information pamphlet in one or more legislative districts selected by the chief elections officer in consultation with the elections commission to be funded by a percentage of new donations to candidate and noncandidate committees that exceed five times the amount of partial public funding spending limit. Makes an appropriation to publish candidate information pamphlets.

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

