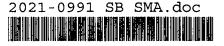
JAN 2 7 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that voters become
- 2 confused and disturbed when candidates for public office
- 3 employ unfair, unethical, and dishonest campaign practices.
- 4 The legislature wishes to encourage candidates to conduct
- 5 their campaigns consistent with the code of fair campaign
- 6 practices, which was previously adopted and used by the
- 7 campaign spending commission.
- 8 The purpose of this Act is to adopt the code of fair
- 9 campaign practices that candidates may use as a guide for their
- 10 election campaigns.
- 11 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
- 12 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
- 13 read as follows:
- 14 "§5- Fair campaign practices. (a) Candidates for
- 15 public office are encouraged to conduct their campaigns
- 16 consistent with fair campaign practices that preserve the
- 17 basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play in



1	election campaigns. A candidate may pledge to conduct their
2	campaign consistent with the code of fair campaign practices
3	in paragraph (b).
4	(b) Code of fair campaign practices. Every candidate has
5	a civic duty to observe and uphold basic principles of decency,
6	honesty, and fair play so that, after vigorously contested but
7	fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their
8	constitutional right to a free and informed choice that
9	expresses their will. Candidates for public office may make the
10	following pledge:
11	(1) I shall conduct my campaign openly and publicly,
12	discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my
13	record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and
14	criticizing without fear and without malice the record
15	and policies of my opponents and their political
16	parties that merit such criticism;
17	(2) I shall not use campaign material relating to any
18	candidate's election that misrepresents, distorts, or
19	otherwise falsifies the facts regarding the candidate
20	(3) I shall refrain from the use of personal vilification
21	character defamation, or any other form of scurrilous

1		personal attacks on any candidate or the candidate's
2		<pre>family;</pre>
3	(4)	I shall condemn any dishonest or unethical practice
4		that tends to corrupt or undermine our American system
5		of free elections or that hampers or prevents the full
6		and free expression of the will of the voters;
7	(5)	I shall condemn any appeal to prejudice based on race,
8		sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, or
9		age;
10	(6)	I shall not coerce election help or campaign
11		contributions for myself or for any other candidate
12		from my employees or my subordinates;
13	(7)	I shall accept full responsibility for the conduct of
14		those persons working directly in my campaign and
15		shall pledge immediate action against retaining any
16		person who violates any provision of this Code or the
17		laws governing elections;
18	(8)	I shall not originate or spread any malicious or
19		unfounded accusations against any candidate that are
20		aimed at creating or exploiting doubts on the part of

1	the public as to the candidate's loyalty and
2	patriotism; and
3	(9) I shall immediately and publicly repudiate support
4	deriving from any individual or group, acting on
5	behalf of my candidacy, who resorts to the methods and
6	tactics contrary to the code of fair campaign
7	practices."
8	SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
9	SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
10	INTRODUCED BY: Wilken

Report Title:

Election Campaigns; Code of Fair Campaign Practices

Description:

Adopts the code of fair campaign practices encouraging candidates to agree and pledge to conduct their campaigns consistent with the code.

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