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To: [Standards of Conduct](#)
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We have elected officials and big-money campaign donors under indictment. We have two state legislators who have pleaded guilty to accepting bribes. We have obscenely high campaign account balances, approaching \$ 1 million held by some legislators. And we have as a regular occurrence legislators fundraising directly from special interests poised to benefit from the votes of those same legislators.

I request that the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct recommend to the incoming 2023 legislature and to our new governor all 5 of the below reforms:

***The full public funding for all State and County elections in Hawai'i.**

***Banning the solicitation or acceptance of campaign donations during the legislative session.**

***Reducing the cap on campaign donations** from from \$6,000, \$4,000 and \$2,000 to \$100, \$100, and \$100. Montana caps their maximum donation for state legislative races at \$180 per election.

***Banning contributions from corporations and unions** as 21 other states now do.

***Limit candidate campaign war chests.** This is done in Alaska where candidates can only carry forward a small portion of their campaign account from one election to the next. This law was upheld by the Alaska Supreme Court which noted that when a candidate who is unopposed raises money and squirrels it away for a future election, they are effectively circumventing donation limits for that future election.

All 5 are important, but the reform that makes all other reforms possible is the public funding of elections. Ban and limit big-money special interests and replace it with public funds to be used to elect public servants beholden only to the public.

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