



GOV. MSG. NO. 1120

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

April 19, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate,  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

✓ The Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on April 19, 2023, the following bill was signed into law:

HB138

RELATING TO MANDATORY LOBBYIST  
TRAINING.  
**ACT 020**

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on APR 19 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023  
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 178

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MANDATORY LOBBYIST TRAINING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that requiring all  
2 lobbyists to be educated on the State's lobbying laws and ethics  
3 code is in the State's best interests. Regular training by the  
4 state ethics commission will ensure that all persons engaged in  
5 lobbying activities are aware of current laws, which will  
6 increase the public's confidence in state government.

7           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to improve  
8 standards of conduct by requiring the state ethics commission to  
9 establish and administer a lobbyist training course and making  
10 the lobbyist training course mandatory for all lobbyists who are  
11 required to register under chapter 97, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 97, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
13 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
14 read as follows:

15           "§97-       Mandatory lobbyist training. (a) Before  
16 registering pursuant to section 97-2, each lobbyist shall



1 complete the lobbyist training course administered by the state  
2 ethics commission.

3 (b) Registered lobbyists shall repeat the lobbyist  
4 training course required by this section at least once every two  
5 years.

6 (c) A lobbyist shall certify completion of the lobbyist  
7 training course at the time of registering or renewing  
8 registration and shall maintain all certificates or other  
9 documentation of completion for a period of six years from the  
10 date of registration or renewal.

11 (d) For good cause shown, the state ethics commission may  
12 grant a lobbyist an extension of time to complete the training  
13 course required by this section.

14 (e) The state ethics commission shall develop and conduct  
15 online and live training courses that explain state lobbying  
16 laws under this chapter and relevant ethics laws under chapter  
17 84. Live training courses may be conducted in person or via  
18 videoconference, as necessary, to accommodate all persons who  
19 are required to complete the course."

20 SECTION 3. Section 97-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:



1           "(b) Each lobbyist shall provide and certify the following  
2 ~~[information]~~:

3           (1) The name, mailing address, and business telephone  
4           number of the lobbyist[-];

5           (2) The name and principal place of business of each  
6           person by whom the lobbyist is retained or employed or  
7           on whose behalf the lobbyist appears or works and a  
8           written authorization to act as a lobbyist from each  
9           person by whom the lobbyist is employed or with whom  
10          the lobbyist contracts[-];

11          (3) The subject areas on which the lobbyist expects to  
12          lobby[-]; and

13          (4) Documentation confirming the lobbyist's completion of  
14          the mandatory lobbyist training course pursuant to  
15          section 97-\_\_\_\_\_."

16          SECTION 4. Section 97-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18          "(a) Any person who:

19          (1) Negligently fails to file any statement or report  
20          required by this chapter;



1           (2) Negligently files a statement or report containing  
2           false information or material omission of any fact;  
3           (3) Engages in activities prohibited by section 97-5; or  
4           (4) Fails to provide information required by section 97-2,  
5           including documentation confirming completion of the  
6           mandatory lobbyist training course, or 97-3;  
7 shall be subject to an administrative fine imposed by the state  
8 ethics commission that shall not exceed \$1,000 for each  
9 violation of this chapter. All fines collected under this  
10 section shall be deposited into the general fund."


11           SECTION 5. In the absence of good cause shown, each  
12 lobbyist who is registered with the state ethics commission as  
13 of the effective date of this Act shall complete the lobbyist  
14 training course required by section 2 of this Act, within six  
15 months following the effective date of this Act, and at least  
16 once every two years thereafter.

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

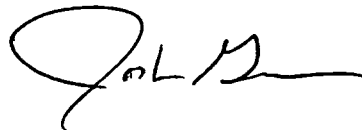


1 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:   
By Request  
JAN 17 2023

APPROVED this 19th day of April , 2023



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



HB No. 138

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: February 13, 2023  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023.



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: APR 04 2023  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023.



Ronald D. Kono  
President of the Senate



Carol T. Taniguchi  
Clerk of the Senate