
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PARTIAL PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The amounts of funds available to candidates in
2 Hawaii's partial public financing program were last amended in
3 1995. The legislature finds that since 1995-1996, the value of
4 the dollar has risen to approximately \$1.92. The purpose of
5 this Act is to increase the amount of funds available to
6 candidates who qualify to participate in the partial public
7 financing program. This Act increases the amount of funds
8 available to candidates for the board of trustees of the office
9 of Hawaiian affairs, who run state-wide. This Act increases
10 matching fund payments from \$1 for each \$1 of qualifying
11 contributions in excess of the minimum qualifying contribution
12 amounts to \$2 for each \$1 of excess qualifying contributions.
13 Finally, this Act appropriates funds from the general revenues
14 of the State to increase the amount of funds available in the
15 partial public financing program and to permit the campaign
16 spending commission to hire more staff to address the
17 anticipated increase in participation in the financing program.



1 SECTION 2. Section 11-425, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§11-425 Maximum amount of public funds available to**
4 **candidate.** (a) The maximum amount of public funds available in
5 each election to a candidate for the office of governor,
6 lieutenant governor, or mayor of city and county of Honolulu and
7 county of Hawaii, shall not exceed [~~ten~~] fifteen per cent of the
8 expenditure limit established in section 11-423(d) for each
9 election.

10 (b) The maximum amount of public funds available in each
11 election to a candidate for the office of state senator, state
12 representative, mayor of the county of Kauai and county of Maui,
13 county council member, and prosecuting attorney shall not exceed
14 [~~fifteen~~] 22.5 per cent of the expenditure limit established in
15 section 11-423(d) for each election.

16 (c) For the office of Hawaiian affairs, the maximum amount
17 of public funds available to a candidate shall not exceed
18 [~~\$1,500 in any election year.~~] ten per cent of the expenditure
19 limit established in section 11-423(d) for each election.



1 (d) ~~[For all other offices, the maximum amount of public~~
2 ~~funds available to a candidate shall not exceed \$100 in any~~
3 ~~election year.~~

4 ~~(e)]~~ Each candidate who qualified for the maximum amount
5 of public funding in any primary election and who is a candidate
6 for a subsequent general election shall apply with the
7 commission to be qualified to receive the maximum amount of
8 public funds as provided in this section for the respective
9 general election. For purposes of this section, "qualified"
10 means meeting the qualifying campaign contribution requirements
11 of section 11-429."

12 SECTION 3. Section 11-429, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

14 "(a) As a condition of receiving public funds for a
15 primary or general election, a candidate shall not be unopposed
16 in any election for which public funds are sought, shall have
17 filed an affidavit with the commission pursuant to section
18 11-423 to voluntarily limit the candidate's campaign
19 expenditures, and shall be in receipt of the following sum of
20 qualifying contributions from individual residents of Hawaii:



- 1 (1) For the office of governor--qualifying contributions
2 that in the aggregate exceed \$100,000;
- 3 (2) For the office of lieutenant governor--qualifying
4 contributions that in the aggregate exceed \$50,000;
- 5 (3) For the office of mayor for each respective county:
- 6 (A) County of Honolulu--qualifying contributions that
7 in the aggregate exceed \$50,000;
- 8 (B) County of Hawaii--qualifying contributions that
9 in the aggregate exceed \$15,000;
- 10 (C) County of Maui--qualifying contributions that in
11 the aggregate exceed \$10,000; and
- 12 (D) County of Kauai--qualifying contributions that in
13 the aggregate exceed \$5,000;
- 14 (4) For the office of prosecuting attorney for each
15 respective county:
- 16 (A) County of Honolulu--qualifying contributions that
17 in the aggregate exceed [~~\$30,000;~~] \$25,000;
- 18 (B) County of Hawaii--qualifying contributions that
19 in the aggregate exceed [~~\$10,000;~~] \$5,000; and
- 20 (C) County of Kauai--qualifying contributions that in
21 the aggregate exceed [~~\$5,000;~~] \$3,000;



- 1 (5) For the office of county council--for each respective
2 county:
- 3 (A) County of Honolulu--qualifying contributions that
4 in the aggregate exceed \$5,000;
- 5 (B) County of Hawaii--qualifying contributions that
6 in the aggregate exceed \$1,500;
- 7 (C) County of Maui--qualifying contributions that in
8 the aggregate exceed [~~\$5,000;~~] \$4,000 and
- 9 (D) County of Kauai--qualifying contributions that in
10 the aggregate exceed \$3,000;
- 11 (6) For the office of state senator--qualifying
12 contributions that, in the aggregate exceed \$2,500;
- 13 (7) For the office of state representative--qualifying
14 contributions that, in the aggregate, exceed \$1,500;
- 15 (8) For the office of Hawaiian affairs--qualifying
16 contributions that, in the aggregate, exceed [~~\$1,500;~~]
17 \$5,000; and
- 18 (9) For all other offices, qualifying contributions that,
19 in the aggregate, exceed \$500.



1 (b) A candidate shall obtain the minimum qualifying
2 contribution amount set forth in subsection (a) once for the
3 election period.

4 (1) If the candidate obtains the minimum qualifying
5 contribution amount, the candidate is eligible to
6 receive:

7 (A) The minimum payment in an amount equal to the
8 minimum qualifying contribution amounts; and

9 (B) Payments of [~~\$1~~] \$2 for each \$1 of qualifying
10 contributions in excess of the minimum qualifying
11 contribution amounts; and

12 (2) A candidate shall have at least one other qualified
13 candidate as an opponent for the primary or general
14 election to receive public funds for that election."

15 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
18 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
19 year 2024-2025 to be deposited into the Hawaii election campaign
20 fund.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the Hawaii
2 election campaign fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof
3 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum
4 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025
5 for the purposes of this Act.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the campaign
7 spending commission for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
12 2024-2025 for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent
13 positions to be placed within the campaign spending commission.
14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the campaign spending
15 commission for the purposes of this Act.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the campaign
17 spending commission for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 7. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
19 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
20 begun before its effective date.



1 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

4

INTRODUCED BY: *Stan*

By Request

JAN 17 2023



Report Title:

Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission Package; Partial Public Financing; OHA; Maximum Amount of Public Funds Available; Minimum Qualifying Contribution Amounts; Appropriations

Description:

Increases the amount of partial public financing available for all offices. Amends section 11-425, HRS, by increasing the maximum amount of public funds available for all offices by 50%. Increases the maximum amount of public funds available for a candidate for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from \$1,500 to 10% of the expenditure limit established in section 11-423(d), HRS, for each election. Amends section 11-429(a), HRS, by increasing the amounts of qualifying contributions for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from more than \$1,500 in the aggregate to more than \$5,000 in the aggregate. Provides a downward adjustment of the amounts of qualifying contributions for the Office of Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu, County of Hawaii, and County of Kauai and for the Office of County Council for the County of Maui. Appropriates unspecified sums for each of the 2 fiscal years of the next biennium to pay for the increase in the partial public financing program. Appropriates \$200,000 for each of the 2 fiscal years of the next biennium for the Commission to hire 2 additional staff members.

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