#### EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

May 16, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate, and Members of the Senate Thirty-Third State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 The Honorable Nadine Nakamura Speaker, and Members of the House of Representatives Thirty-Third State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 16, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 413, H.D. 1,

RELATING TO LOBBYIST CONTRIBUTIONS.

S.D. 1

**ACT 064** 

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

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## Approved by the Governor

on <u>MAY 1 6 2025</u>

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025 STATE OF HAWAII ACT 064
H.B. NO. 413
S.D. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LOBBYIST CONTRIBUTIONS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. This Act clarifies administrative oversight of
- 2 statutory restrictions relating to prohibited lobbyist
- 3 contributions enacted in Act 128, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023
- 4 (Act 128). Act 128 left concurrent administrative oversight to
- 5 the campaign spending and state ethics commissions.
- **6** For the purpose of administrative efficiency and
- 7 streamlining of function, this Act clarifies that with respect
- 8 to the statutory provisions created and amended by Act 128, the
- 9 campaign spending commission shall have oversight of elected
- 10 officials, candidates, candidate committees, and others required
- 11 to file an organizational report with the campaign spending
- 12 commission, and the ethics board or commission having
- 13 jurisdiction over the lobbyist shall have oversight of
- 14 lobbyists.
- 15 This Act further clarifies that the regular or special
- 16 sessions in which lobbyist contributions are prohibited are

periods during which both houses of the legislature are in 1 2 session. 3 SECTION 2. Section 11-365, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 4 amended to read as follows: 5 "[f]\$11-365[f] Contributions and expenditures by lobbyists 6 prohibited during legislative session. (a) During any regular 7 session or special session of the [state] legislature, including 8 any extension of any regular session or special session and any 9 legislative recess days, holidays, and weekends, and for five 10 calendar days before and after a session, no lobbyist shall 11 make, or promise to make at a later time, any contributions or 12 expenditures to or on behalf of an elected official, candidate, 13 candidate committee, or any other individual required to file an 14 organizational report pursuant to section 11-321. No elected 15 official, candidate, candidate committee, or other individual 16 required to file an organizational report pursuant to section 17 11-321 shall accept, or agree to accept at a later time, any 18 contribution from a lobbyist during the specified period under this subsection. Any contribution prohibited by this subsection 19 20 shall escheat to the Hawaii election campaign fund. An elected 21 official, candidate, candidate committee, or any other

- 1 individual required to file an organizational report pursuant to
- 2 section 11-321, alleged to have received a prohibited
- 3 contribution in violation of this section, shall be
- 4 administratively referred by the state ethics commission
- 5 executive director to the campaign spending commission.
- **6** (b) For the purposes of this section:
- 7 "Elected official" has the same meaning as in
- 8 section 11-342.
- 9 "Lobbyist" means any person actively registered as a
- 10 lobbyist with a state or county ethics board or commission.
- "Session" means a period in which both legislative houses
- 12 are in session."
- 13 SECTION 3. Section 97-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 14 amended to read as follows:
- 15 "\$97-5 Restricted activities. (a) No lobbyist shall
- 16 accept or agree to accept any payment in any way contingent upon
- 17 the defeat, enactment, or outcome of any proposed legislative or
- 18 administrative action. During any regular session or special
- 19 session of the [state] legislature, including any extension of
- 20 any regular session or special session and any legislative
- 21 recess days, holidays, and weekends, and for five calendar days

- 1 before and after a session, no lobbyist shall make, or promise
- 2 to make at a later time, any contributions or expenditures to or
- 3 on behalf of an elected official, candidate, candidate
- 4 committee, or any other individual required to file an
- 5 organizational report pursuant to section 11-321.
- 6 (b) A state lobbyist alleged to have made a prohibited
- 7 contribution to an elected official, candidate, candidate
- 8 committee, or any other individual required to file an
- 9 organizational report pursuant to section 11-321 in violation of
- 10 this section shall be administratively referred by the executive
- 11 director of the campaign spending commission to the state ethics
- 12 commission.
- (c) Any contribution prohibited by this section shall
- 14 escheat, as directed by the campaign spending commission, to the
- 15 Hawaii election campaign fund.
- 16  $\left[\frac{b}{a}\right]$  (d) For the purposes of this section  $\left[\frac{a}{a}\right]$ :
- "Elected official" has the same meaning as in
- **18** section 11-342.
- "Session" has the same meaning as in section 11-365."

## H.B. NO. 413 H.D. 1 S.D. 1

- 1 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 3 begun before its effective date.
- 4 SECTION 5. If any provision of this Act, or the
- 5 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
- 6 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
- 7 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
- 8 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
- 9 of this Act are severable.
- 10 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 12 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED this 16th day of May , 2025

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

# HB No. 413, HD 1, SD 1

#### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 21, 2025 Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.

Nadine K. Nakamura Speaker

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House of Representatives

With , le

Brian L. Takeshita

Chief Clerk

House of Representatives

# THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: April 2, 2025 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025.

President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate