

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING



HAWAI'I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Komikina Ho'opono Kulekele o Hawai'i Moku'āina

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE HAWAI'I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Commissioners:

Wesley Fong, Chair

Beverley Tobias, Vice-Chair • Robert Hong • Cynthia Thielen • Roderick Becker

Date: June 25, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom Videoconference or Phone:

Videoconference: [Join Zoom Meeting](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88217552397?pwd=xEYnHWhjdrELV17N6mGTbSamzI8kTL.1)
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88217552397?pwd=xEYnHWhjdrELV17N6mGTbSamzI8kTL.1>

Phone: +1 (669) 900-6833 +1(719) 359-4580

Phone passcode: 746053

Meeting ID: 882 1755 2397

Passcode: ZqTPE1

Public Meeting Location:

Hawai'i State Ethics Commission Conference Room
1001 Bishop Street
American Savings Bank Tower, Suite 970
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 92-3.7, the State Ethics Commission will meet remotely using interactive conference technology. The public may either attend the meeting in person, at the public meeting location above, or participate remotely by using the above Zoom meeting information. If participating remotely, please mute your phone/device except while testifying. If the Commission's videoconference connection is lost during the meeting, please visit the Commission's website (www.ethics.hawaii.gov) for more information, including reconnection information.

Public meeting materials for this meeting are available on the Commission's website at www.ethics.hawaii.gov.

A G E N D A

CALL TO ORDER

I. Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the May 21, 2025 Meeting

Attachment 1: Sunshine Law Meeting Minutes of the May 21, 2025, Hawai'i State Ethics Commission Meeting

II. Discussion of Legislative Approaches to Prohibit Campaign Contributions from State or County Contractors, Grantees, Officers, and Immediate Family Members

Description: The Commission will discuss potential legislative efforts for the upcoming session to prohibit campaign contributions from state or county contractors, grantees, their officers, and immediate family members. Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director of the Campaign Spending Commission, will join the discussion to provide insights and explore possible collaboration between agencies.

Attachment 1: [HB 371 HD1 SD1](#)

III. Directors' Report

1. Education/Training Report

Attachment 1: 2025 Training Schedule

2. Guidance and Assignment Statistics – May 2025

Attachment 2: 2025 Guidance and Assignment Statistics/Website Traffic

Attachment 3: Lobbying Statistics

3. Miscellaneous Office Projects/Updates

IV. Discussion of Media Reports Concerning Ethics or the Ethics Commission Since the Last Meeting

Description: The Commission will discuss recent media coverage related to ethics in

government or the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission. The discussion may include consideration of potential responses, clarification of public information, or other appropriate actions.

V. 2025 Legislative Matters

The results of ethics-related bills introduced in 2025 are described briefly below. The blue House or Senate bill number is a clickable hyperlink that goes directly to the bill language online. If the hyperlink does not work, bills can be looked up at "capitol.hawaii.gov" by typing the bill number in the box near the top of the window.

Budget

- [HB 1440 HD1](#). This bill proposes appropriations to cover the operational expenses of several key legislative bodies and offices, including the Legislature, the Auditor, the Legislative Reference Bureau, the Ombudsman, and the Ethics Commission. This bill became Act 001 on March 12, 2025.
- [HB 1439 HD1 SD1 CD1](#). This bill proposes appropriations to cover public employment costs and cost adjustments for employees of the Senate, the House of Representatives, and various legislative service agencies. It proposes an additional \$64,679 in salary adjustments for the Ethics Commission in fiscal year 2025-26. This bill became Act 127 on May 29, 2025.

Commission Procedures

- [SB 289](#). This bill proposes establishing uniform provisions for assessing administrative penalties under the State Ethics Code and the Lobbyist Law. The bill aims to create a streamlined process for the Commission to impose administrative penalties for minor violations, thereby enhancing the efficiency and consistency of enforcement actions. This bill became Act 13 on April 10, 2025.

Lobbyist Law

- [HB 412 HD1 SD2](#). This measure expands the definition of "lobbying" in the state lobbying law to include specific communications with high-level government officials regarding procurement decisions. Additionally, it establishes certain presumptions regarding testimony provided by a lobbyist and potentially renders contracts voidable when entered into in violation of the state lobbying law. This bill became Act 63 on May 16, 2025.
- [HB 413 HD1 SD1](#). This bill clarifies the administrative oversight of statutory restrictions concerning prohibited lobbyist contributions during the legislative session. It also specifies that the regular or special sessions in which lobbyist contributions are banned are

periods when both houses of the legislature are in session. This bill became Act 64 on May 16, 2025.

Nepotism

- [SB 1545 HD1](#). This bill repeals language in the code of ethics that exempts the Legislative Branch from prohibitions against nepotism in public employment. As of April 9, 2025, this measure failed to pass the House and is deferred till next year.

VI. Discussion of Possible Legislative Proposals within the Commission's Jurisdiction

Description: The Commission will discuss potential legislative proposals for the upcoming legislative session, including possible amendments to the State Ethics Code (Haw. Rev. Stat. Chapter 84), the Lobbyists Law (Haw. Rev. Stat. Chapter 97), or other matters within the Commission's jurisdiction. The Commission may provide direction to staff regarding research, drafting, and consultation with stakeholders.

VII. *Akana v. Hawai'i State Ethics Commission and Daniel Gluck, Civil No. 18-1-1019-06 (JHA); Akana v. Hawai'i State Ethics Commission, Civil No. 19-1-0379-03 (JHA); State of Hawai'i, Ethics Commission v. Rowena Akana, Civil No. 20-1-0453 (BIA)*

Discussion of case status.

The Hawai'i State Ethics Commission may convene an executive session pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 92-5(a)(4) to consult with the Commission's attorneys and/or the Department of the Attorney General on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities.

VIII. Adjournment

Disruption of Interactive Technology:

If the Commission loses internet or Zoom connection, the meeting will be automatically recessed for up to 30 minutes to restore communication. **Audio-Only Communication:** If audio-only communication is available, all Commissioners, staff, members of the public, and other interested individuals may continue to participate in the meeting via teleconference by dialing the telephone number and Meeting ID number noted above. If communication cannot be restored within thirty minutes, the meeting will be automatically continued to a date and time to be posted on the Commission's website at www.ethics.hawaii.gov. Alternatively, if a decision is made to terminate the meeting, the termination will be posted on the Commission's website.

Public Testimony:

Anyone wishing to testify may do so during the meeting or may submit written testimony in advance of the meeting by email (info.ethics@hawaii.gov), facsimile (fax) (808-587-0470), or U.S. postal mail (State Ethics Commission, 1001 Bishop Street, American Savings Bank Tower, Suite 970, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813). Public testimony must be related to an item on the agenda, and the testifier must identify the item to be addressed by the testimony. Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 92-3 and Hawai'i Administrative Rules section 21-1-6(c), oral testimony is limited to three minutes per testifier per agenda item, subject to the reasonable discretion of the Chair.

Auxiliary Aid or Accommodation Due to a Disability:

If you require an auxiliary aid or accommodation due to a disability, please get in touch with the State Ethics Commission at (808) 587-0460 or email the Commission at info.ethics@hawaii.gov as soon as possible, preferably at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Last-minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fill.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
AGENDA ITEM I

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE
May 21, 2025 MEETING

Attachment 1: Sunshine Law Meeting Minutes of the May 21, 2025
 Hawai'i State Ethics Commission Meeting

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
MINUTES OF THE HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 21, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Hybrid meeting held via Zoom video and audio conference

Recorded video available at

https://ethics.hawaii.gov/category/commissionmeetings/comm_videos/

Public Meeting Location

Hawaii State Ethics Commission Conference Room

1001 Bishop Street

American Savings Bank Tower, Suite 970

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Present: State Ethics Commission Members

Wesley F. Fong, Chair (present in the conference room)

Beverley Tobias, Vice Chair (via video conference)

Robert Hong, Commissioner (via video conference)

Cynthia Thielen, Commissioner (present in the conference room)

Roderick Becker, Commissioner (present in the conference room)

State Ethics Commission Staff

Robert D. Harris, Executive Director (present in the conference room)

Kee M. Campbell, Enforcement Director (via video conference)

Bonita Y.M. Chang, Compliance Director (via video conference)

Nancy C. Neuffer, Staff Attorney (via video conference)

Jennifer M. Yamanuha, Staff Attorney (via video conference)

Jodi L. K. Yi, Staff Attorney (via video conference)

Patrick W.C. Lui, Computer Specialist (via video conference)

Jared Elster, Investigator (via video conference)

Barbara A. Gash, Investigatory Analyst (via video conference)

1 **CALL TO ORDER (0:03)**

2
3 Chair Fong called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present at the meeting were Chair
4 Fong, Vice Chair Tobias, Commissioner Hong, Commissioner Thielen, Commissioner
5 Becker, and Commission staff. All participating Commissioners confirmed that no one was
6 in the room with them at their respective remote locations.
7
8

9 **Agenda Item No. I: Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the March 19, 2025**
10 **Meeting (1:45)**

11
12 Commissioner Hong moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2025 meeting, and
13 Vice Chair Tobias seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all Commissioners
14 present voting in favor.
15
16

17 **Agenda Item No. II: Directors' Report (3:12)**

18
19 **Compliance and Education:**

20 Compliance Director Chang reported on recent training sessions, including one for Tier 1
21 state officials subject to the live training requirement and a second one for the State
22 Charter School Commission's annual conference for public charter school administrators
23 and governing board members. Staff will be working on making updates to the self-
24 directed training modules to reflect recent changes in the law.
25

26 **Annual Filings:**

27 Annual financial disclosure filings are ongoing. Over 100 boards were contacted for
28 updated member lists. Continuing filers have until June 2, 2025, to file their annual
29 disclosures, while new board filers have until the end of July to do so. Staff have been
30 receiving a high volume of emails and calls for assistance.
31

32 **Statistical Reporting:**

33 Enforcement Director Campbell presented new statistical dashboards illustrating
34 complaint trends, attorney-of-the-day data, and resolution types. The data shows
35 significant increases in the number of complaints over the past five years. The Commission
36 discussed making the information publicly available and including it in future reports to the
37 Governor, the Legislature, and the Chief Justice.
38

39 **Quarterly Financial Report:**

40 Executive Director Harris reported that the Commission remains on track and under
41 budget for the fiscal year. He noted that temporary hazard pay related to COVID-19 had
42 been disbursed and that any unused funds would lapse back to the general fund.

1 **COGEL Annual Conference (December 2025):**

2 The Commission discussed attendance at the 47th Annual COGEL Conference in Atlanta,
3 Georgia. Commissioners Fong, Becker, and potentially Vice Chair Tobias (pending
4 reappointment) expressed interest in attending.
5

6 **Staffing Updates:**

7 Executive Director Harris announced the departure of Administrative Assistant Myles
8 Yamamoto. He noted that Melissa Vomvoris was recently hired, who brings over 20 years
9 of legislative experience.
10

11 **Brand Guidelines:**

12 The Commission reviewed updated branding and logo materials, including a Hawaiian-
13 language translation of the Commission's name.
14
15

16 **Agenda Item No. III: Discussion of Commission Jurisdiction & Complaint Management**
17 **(26:20)**
18

19 Executive Director Harris provided an overview of the Commission's jurisdiction under the
20 State Constitution and Chapters 84 and 97, emphasizing that the Commission does not
21 address issues of policy disagreements, allegations of incompetence, or county-level
22 conduct. Commissioners requested that a binder of key jurisdictional documents be kept in
23 the conference room for reference.
24
25

26 **Agenda Item No. IV: Discussion of Media Reports Concerning Ethics or the Ethics**
27 **Commission Since the Last Meeting (33:40)**
28

29 Executive Director Harris highlighted a recent PBS Insights appearance where he
30 discussed ethics and campaign finance legislation alongside representatives from Common
31 Cause and the League of Women Voters. Commissioners were invited to raise other
32 reports as appropriate.
33
34

35 **Agenda Item No. V: Discussion of Ethics Oversight over the Judicial Branch (35:27)**
36

37 Staff Attorney Yamanuha reported on changes to the Judiciary's ethics rules, including new
38 gift disclosure requirements and the establishment of an administrator for the Commission
39 on Judicial Conduct. Commissioners discussed ongoing concerns about administrative
40 independence and potential future engagement with the new Chief Justice.
41
42

1 **Agenda Item No. VI: 2025 Legislative Matters (41:33)**

2
3 Executive Director Harris summarized the status of ethics-related bills:

- 4
- 5 • **SB 289:** Authorizes streamlined enforcement procedures, allowing the Commission
 - 6 to issue small fines akin to a “parking ticket.”
 - 7 • **HB 412:** Expands lobbying definitions to include pre-procurement discussions with
 - 8 executive officials.
 - 9 • **HB 413:** Clarifies jurisdictional roles between the Ethics Commission and Campaign
 - 10 Spending Commission for lobbyist contributions.
 - 11 • **SB 1545:** Sought to extend nepotism laws to legislators but was deferred in the
 - 12 House. The Commission discussed the political dynamics and philosophical
 - 13 opposition to external oversight.
 - 14

15 Commissioner Thielen advocated for the Commission to consider introducing legislation

16 addressing pay-to-play practices. The Commission agreed to place the matter on the June

17 agenda and directed staff to begin researching potential approaches, including

18 constitutional and jurisdictional limitations.

19

20

21 **Agenda Item No. VII: Akana v. Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission and Daniel Gluck, Civil**

22 **No. 18-1-1019-06 (JHA); Akana v. Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission, Civil No. 19-1-0379-03**

23 **(JHA); State of Hawai‘i, Ethics Commission v. Rowena Akana, Civil No. 20-1-0453 (BIA)**

24 **(1:04:56)**

25

26 Executive Director Harris reported that there were no new developments in the matter.

27 The appeal remains pending before the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

28

29

30 **Agenda Item No. VIII: Adjournment of Sunshine Law Meeting (1:06:29)**

31

32 At approximately 10:06 a.m., Commissioner Thielen moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice

33 Chair Tobias seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

34

35 The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

36

37 Minutes approved on _____.

38

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
AGENDA ITEM II

DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE APPROACHES TO PROHIBIT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM STATE OR COUNTY CONTRACTORS, GRANTEES, OFFICERS, AND IMMEDIATE
FAMILY MEMBERS

Description: The Commission will discuss potential legislative efforts for the upcoming session to prohibit campaign contributions from state or county contractors, grantees, their officers, and immediate family members. Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director of the Campaign Spending Commission, will join the discussion to provide insights and explore possible collaboration between agencies.

Attachment 1: [HB 371 HD1 SD1](#)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 371
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11-302, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "immediate family" to read as follows:

"Immediate family" means a ~~[candidate's]~~ spouse or reciprocal beneficiary, as defined in section 572C-3, and any child, parent, grandparent, brother, or sister ~~[of the candidate]~~, and the spouses or reciprocal beneficiaries of such persons."

SECTION 2. Section 11-355, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"~~[+]§11-355[+]~~ **Contributions by state ~~[and]~~ or county contractors, state or county grantees, officers or immediate family members of state or county contractors, officers or immediate family members of state or county grantees; prohibited.** (a) It shall be unlawful for any person who enters into any contract with the State, any of the counties, or any department or agency thereof either for the rendition of personal services, the buying of property, or furnishing of any material, supplies, or equipment to the State, any of the counties, any department or agency thereof, or for selling any land or building to the State, any of the counties, or any department or agency thereof, if payment for the

performance of the contract or payment for material, supplies, equipment, land, property, or building is to be made in whole or in part from funds appropriated by the legislative body, at any time between the execution of the contract through the completion of the contract, to:

(1) Directly or indirectly make any contribution, or promise expressly or impliedly to make any contribution to any candidate committee or noncandidate committee, or to any candidate or to any person for any political purpose or use; or

(2) Knowingly solicit any contribution from any person for any purpose during any period.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any officer or immediate family member of any state or county contractor under subsection (a), at any time between the execution of the contract through the completion of the contract pursuant to subsection (a), to directly or indirectly make any contribution to any candidate committee or noncandidate committee, or to any candidate or to any person for any political purpose or use.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person who receives a grant or subsidy from the State pursuant to chapter 42F, or from a county pursuant to a county charter or code, at any time between the execution of the contract through the completion of the contract for the grant or subsidy to:

(1) Directly or indirectly make any contribution, or promise expressly or impliedly to make any contribution to any candidate committee or noncandidate committee, or to any candidate or to any person for any political purpose or use; or

(2) Knowingly solicit any contribution from any person for any purpose during any period.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any officer or immediate family member of a state or county grantee under subsection (c), at any time between the execution of the contract through the completion of the contract for the grant or subsidy pursuant to subsection (c), to directly or

indirectly make any contribution to any candidate committee or noncandidate committee, or to any candidate or to any person for any political purpose or use.

(e) Any candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee that receives a contribution made unlawful by this section shall return the unlawful contribution to the contributor within thirty calendar days of receipt. If any unlawful contribution is not returned to the contributor within thirty calendar days of receipt, the unlawful contribution shall escheat to the Hawaii election campaign fund.

[~~(b)~~] (f) Except as provided in [~~subsection~~] subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d), this section [~~does~~] shall not prohibit or make unlawful the establishment or administration of, or the solicitation of contributions to, any noncandidate committee by any person other than the state or county contractor, the state or county grantee, or the officers and immediate family members of a state or county contractor or grantee, for the purpose of influencing the nomination for election, or the election of any person to office.

(g) At the time of the execution of a contract subject to this section, the state or county contractor or grantee shall provide to the state or county office executing the contract a list of the names of any officers and immediate adult family members of the state or county contractor or grantee. For the purposes of assessing compliance with this section, the state or county office shall make the reported information available electronically to the commission, which shall then make the information available to candidate and noncandidate committees on a password-protected section of the commission's website; provided

that the state or county office shall not be required to make the reported information available for procurements of less than \$100,000 for goods or services or \$250,000 for construction.

[~~(e)~~] (h) For purposes of this section, "completion of the contract" means that the parties to the government contract have either terminated the contract [~~prior to~~] before completion of performance or fully performed the duties and obligations under the contract, no disputes relating to the performance and payment remain under the contract, and all disputed claims have been adjudicated and are final."

SECTION 3. Section 11-364, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) Any candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee that receives in the aggregate more than the applicable contribution limit in section 11-357, 11-358, 11-359, or 11-360 shall return any excess contribution to the contributor within thirty calendar days of receipt of the excess contribution. Any candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee that receives in the aggregate more than the applicable contribution limit in section 11-362 shall return any excess contribution to the contributor within thirty calendar days of the end of the election period; provided that the candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee may choose which contributions to return. Any excess contribution not returned to the contributor within thirty calendar days shall escheat to the Hawaii election campaign fund."

SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.

SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.

Report Title:

CSC; State or County Contractors; State or County Grantees; Officers; Immediate Family Members; Prohibited Contributions

Description:

Prohibits state or county grantees and officers and immediate family members of state or county contractors or grantees from contributing to candidate or noncandidate committees, candidates, or any person for any political purpose for the duration of the contract. Requires any unlawful contribution to be returned to the contributor or it will escheat to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund. Requires disclosures of the names of any officers and immediate adult family members of a state or county contractor or grantee for contracts exceeding a certain amount. Effective 7/1/3000. (SD1)

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

SUNSHINE MEETING
AGENDA ITEM III

DIRECTORS' REPORT
June 25, 2025

1. Education / Training Report

Attachment 1: 2025 Training Schedule

2. Guidance and Assignment Statistics – May 2025

Attachment 2: 2025 Guidance and Assignment Statistics / Website Traffic

Attachment 3: Lobbying Statistics

3. Miscellaneous Office Projects / Updates

HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION 2025 EDUCATION PROGRAM (Ethics Workshops and Presentations)			
DATE	PRESENTATIONS	IN PERSON PARTICIPANTS	WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS
1/2/2025	WEBINAR: Lobbyists Law Training	0	25
1/10/2025	WEBINAR: Lobbyists Law Training	0	22
1/17/2025	IN PERSON: Ethics Refresher, Capitol House Members	46	0
1/23/2025	WEBINAR: General Ethics Training	0	18
2/10/2025	WEBINAR: Universal Access Advisory Council, Custom Advisory	0	24
3/5/2025	WEBINAR: General Ethics Training	0	3
4/17/2025	WEBINAR: General Ethics Training, Charter Schools	0	34
5/8/2025	WEBINAR: General Ethics Training	0	15
7/18/2025	WEBINAR: Ethics for State Board & Commission members		
8/6/2025	WEBINAR: General Ethics Training		
9/25/2025	WEBINAR: Ethics for State Board & Commission members		
10/22/2025	WEBINAR: General Ethics Training		
11/7/2025	WEBINAR: Ethics for State Board & Commission members		
TOTAL	13 Presentations	46 participants	141 participants

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Training statistics													
# of In-Person Trainings	1	0	0	0	0								1
# of People Trained In Person	46	0	0	0	0								46
# of On-Line Trainings (Self-Directed)	698	511	411	419	441								2,480
# of Lobbyists Law Trainings	180	62	117	11	8								378
# of Training Webinars	3	1	1	1	1								7
# of Participants in Training Webinars	65	24	3	34	15								141
Attorney of the Day	97	89	87	88	87								448
New assignments													
Advisory Opinion	0	0	0	0	0								0
Anti-Fraud	6	2	3	6	11								28
Complaint	22	20	37	25	31								135
Gifts/Invitations/Travel	46	33	31	49	32								191
Guidance	2	5	0	2	1								10
Judicial Selection Comm'n	2	4	4	1	2								13
Nepotism	0	0	0	0	0								0
Training Request	1	0	2	0	0								3
Record Request	0	0	1	0	0								1
Project/Other	9	3	2	6	8								28
Total	88	67	80	89	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	409
Closed Assignments													
Advisory Opinion	0	0	0	0	0								0
Anti-Fraud	2	5	13	3	5								28
Complaint	25	26	29	28	20								128
Gifts/Invitations/Travel	46	35	26	43	43								193
Guidance	1	5	0	3	1								10
Judicial Selection Comm'n	2	4	4	1	2								13
Nepotism	0	0	1	0	0								1
Training Request	4	1	1	1	1								8
Record Request	0	0	1	0	0								1
Project/Other	5	3	1	1	4								14
Total	85	79	76	80	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	396

COMPENSATION FOR TOP 20 LOBBYISTS FOR 2025 (January 1 - April 30, 2025)

This table shows total reported compensation paid to the 20 highest-paid lobbyists registered in the State of Hawai'i as of June 11, 2025.

Lobbyist Name	Sum of Compensation Amount
Michael L. Iosua	\$ 258,174.72
Ross Yamasaki	\$ 211,130.56
Blake K. Oshiro	\$ 205,610.09
Kimberley W. Yoshimoto	\$ 202,400.00
Stefanie Sakamoto	\$ 194,158.66
Melissa Pavlicek	\$ 193,075.00
Evan Oue	\$ 182,420.00
Bruce A. Coppa	\$ 154,106.86
Allicia Thompson	\$ 143,000.00
Michael Iosua	\$ 136,600.00
Henry Weissmann	\$ 121,556.80
Emmanuel Zibakalam	\$ 121,214.44
Ann Chung	\$ 117,032.00
Stephen Teves	\$ 106,900.00
Daniel Cup Choy	\$ 94,844.00
Mihoko E. Ito	\$ 90,892.98
William Henry McClellan	\$ 80,500.00
David M. Louie	\$ 80,099.34
Marvin Dang	\$ 78,400.00
Gordon Arakaki	\$ 73,500.00
Grand Total	\$ 2,845,615.45

State Legislative Bills with the most Lobbyist Activity (January 1 – April 30, 2025)

This list includes the 20 legislative bills most frequently reported by lobbyists as having taken lobbying action as of June 11, 2025.

Bill Title & Number	Number of Lobbyists Reporting Activity
HB300 - Budget	52
HB1369 - Taxation; General Excise Tax; Use Tax; Sugarcane Producers; Vessel Use; Securities Exchange Fees, Dues, and Amounts Received	50
HB982 - DCCA; Wildfire Recovery Fund; Working Group; Report (\$)	47
HB420 - Contractor Repair Act; Statute of Repose; Notice of Claim; Inspection; Repair; Rejection of Claims; Construction Defect; Mediation; Statute of Limitations	42
SB897 - DCCA; PUC; Energy; Electric Utilities; Aggregate Liability Limit; Securitization; Electric Utility Infrastructure Resilience; Study; Report; Appropriation	42
SB1396 - Transient Accommodations Tax; Increase; Natural Resources; Climate Change Mitigation; Special Land and Development Fund; Cruise Fares; Mass Transit Special Fund	36
SB1281 - Telehealth; Interactive Telecommunications Systems; Insurance Reimbursement	34
HB504 - DLNR; DOA; HTA; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Transportation; Transient Accommodations Tax; Minimum Tax; Increase; Natural Resources; Working Group; Fees; Reports; Appropriations (\$)	33
HB756 - Keiki Caucus; Prohibition; Sale; Labeling; Flavored Nicotine Products; Nicotine Product Flavor Enhancers; E-Liquids; Penalties; Appropriation	30
HB560 - Judiciary; Community-Based Organizations; Appropriations (\$)	29
HB244 - DHS; Community-based Organizations; Social Services; Appropriations (\$)	28
HB739 - Kamaaina Homes Program; Voluntary Deed Restrictions; Counties	27
SB1300 - Department of Education; Meal Subsidies; Appropriations (\$)	27
SB933 - Chapter 42F; Grants; Executive Branch; Appropriation (\$)	26
HB441 - Cigarette Tax; Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund; Tax Increase; Revenue; Disposition; Debt Reduction	26
HB755 - Keiki Caucus; Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program; Family and Medical Leave Insurance Benefits; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations	25
SB299 - Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program; Appropriation (\$)	25
SB1201 - Wildfire Recovery Fund; Securitization	24
SCR145 - Requesting the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to convene a working group to develop recommendations for establishing and implementing a paid family and medical leave program for the state	23
HB712 - AG; Affordable Health Care; Prescription Drugs; 340B Drug Pricing Program; Pharmacies; Covered Entities; Discriminatory Practices; Reports	23

TOP 20 STATE LOBBYING ORGANIZATIONS BY REPORTED EXPENDITURES (January 1 - April 30, 2025)

This table lists the 20 state lobbying organizations that reported the highest total lobbying-related expenditures in Hawai'i as of June 11, 2025.

Lobbying Organization	Sum of Total Expenditures
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (HEC)	\$ 168,611.85
D.R. Horton Hawaii LLC	\$ 120,652.23
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii	\$ 114,499.00
Kamehameha Schools	\$ 105,763.12
Young Brothers, LLC	\$ 98,300.00
Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters	\$ 95,897.89
Boyd Gaming Corporation	\$ 92,222.11
Altria Client Services LLC and its Affiliates-Philip Morris USA Inc., John Middleton Co., U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Co., Helix Innovations LLC, & NJOY, LLC.	\$ 88,633.29
National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT)	\$ 80,312.34
Resources Legacy Fund	\$ 80,067.64
Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA)	\$ 78,696.48
Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund	\$ 77,540.32
Purple Mai'a Foundation	\$ 73,864.02
Hawaii Association of Realtors	\$ 73,092.57
Lahaina Town Action Committee	\$ 65,729.21
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii Foundation	\$ 61,897.14
State Farm Insurance	\$ 60,320.37
Hawaii Ironworkers Stabilization Fund	\$ 58,000.00
Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc. (HEI)	\$ 56,313.54
AARP Hawaii	\$ 56,050.59
Grand Total	\$ 1,706,463.71

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
AGENDA ITEM IV

DISCUSSION OF MEDIA REPORTS CONCERNING ETHICS OR THE ETHICS COMMISSION
SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Description: The Commission will discuss recent media coverage related to ethics in government or the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission. The discussion may include consideration of potential responses, clarification of public information, or other appropriate actions.

No Attachments.

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
AGENDA ITEM V

2025 LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

No attachments.

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
AGENDA ITEM VI

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS WITHIN THE COMMISSION'S
JURISDICTION

Description: The Commission will discuss potential legislative proposals for the upcoming legislative session, including possible amendments to the State Ethics Code (Haw. Rev. Stat. Chapter 84), the Lobbyists Law (Haw. Rev. Stat. Chapter 97), or other matters within the Commission's jurisdiction. The Commission may provide direction to staff regarding research, drafting, and consultation with stakeholders.

No Attachments.

SUNSHINE LAW MEETING
AGENDA ITEM VII

AKANA v. HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION AND DANIEL GLUCK,
CIVIL NO. 18-1-1019-06 (JHA); AKANA v. HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION, CIVIL NO.
19-1-0379-03 (JHA); STATE OF HAWAII, ETHICS COMMISSION v. ROWENA AKANA, CIVIL
NO. 20-1-0453 (BIA)

Discussion of case status.

The Hawai'i State Ethics Commission may convene an executive session pursuant to
Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 92-5(a)(4) to consult with the Commission's attorneys on
questions and issues pertaining to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities,
and liabilities.

No attachments.