Board of Ethics

"We hold the public's trust"

7(B) Presentation, GREAT Committee, March 17, 2026

BOE Establishment

BOE Board Meeting in Feb '26, L to R: Member Ching-Johnson, Vice Chair Lilly, Secretary Parker, EDLC Akitake, Chair Sturdevant, Member Leach, & Member Gomes

- BOE 43 years old (1983)
- Duties: Complaints, Financial Disclosure Statements, Informal & Formal Advisory Opinions
- Charter Amendment (2024)

Department Launch

- STAFFING & OFFICE BLESSING
- FIRST 100 DAYS – VOICES AND VIEWS
- WORKLOAD

BOE Staff @ Office Blessing: Gail Raikes, Lauren Akitake, & Ryssa Tam Ho

2026 Goals:
WHERE THE RULES ARE MISSING

TOPIC	CURRENT POLICY	Process
Countywide Nepotism Rule	∅	BOE recommendation, MCC amendment via Council
Lobbyists	almost ∅ (Maui is only county without comprehensive rules)	BOE recommendation, MCC amendment via Council
Gifts	(little more than) ∅	BOE Admin Rules
Jurisdiction over former Employees & B/C members	∅	BOE recommendation, MCC amendment via Council

Countywide Nepotism Rule

Recognized Best Practice

Council Last Discussed in 2013 and 2014

👏🏻 Maui Firefighters Nepotism Guidance eff. 8/1/25, Hawaii County eff. 5/28/25, C/C Honolulu, and State eff. 2023.

DEC 2025 & FEB 2026

Board Discussion w/Kee Campbell, Esq., State Ethics Commission

JAN & FEB 2026

BOE Staff met with GREAT & OCS

APR 2026

Draft rule for Board review

Post-Budget 2026 - Draft Rule to Council

“Lobbyist”

means any person who engages himself or herself for pay or other consideration for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action of the County. Rule §04-101-3

Only County Without Comprehensive Rules

E.g. - Lobbyist Expenditure Report = ∅

When **required** to register = ∅

DEC 2025

Board Discussion

JAN & FEB 2026

BOE Staff meetings with GREAT and OCS Staff

MAR 2026

OCS Staff Assisting with drafting rules based on State’s rules

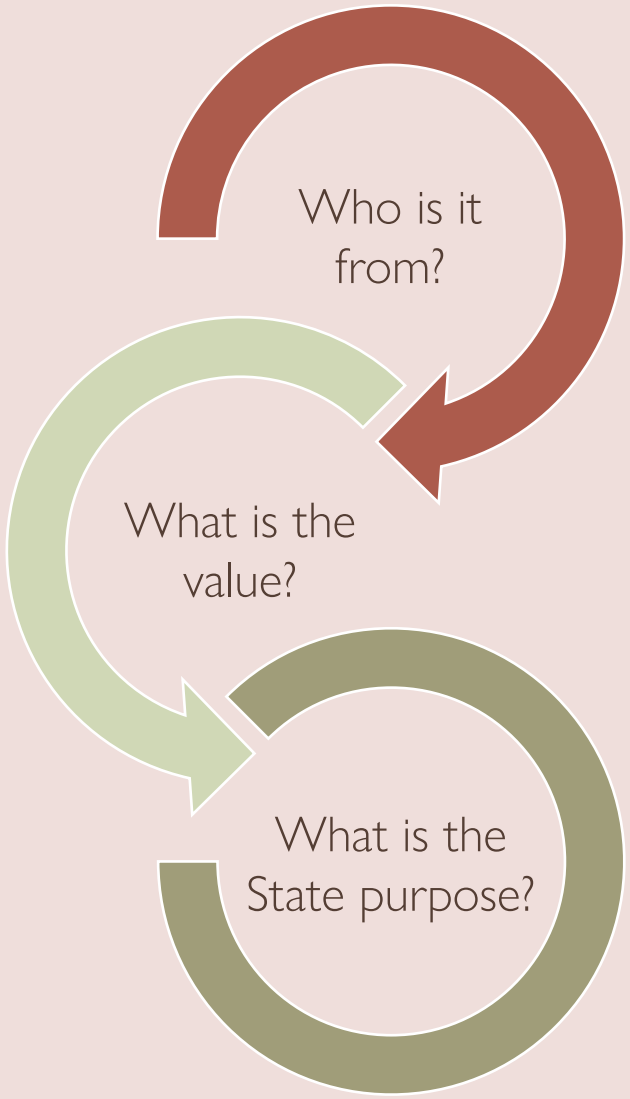
APR 2026

State Ethics to join meeting for Q&A

MAY 2026

Board review draft rules before presenting to Council

Gifts



Current rule – Charter Article 10, Section 10-4.1.a

Reasonably be inferred .. intended … to influence .. or reward.

FDS Disclosure – aggregate $50+ from a single source

MCC § 04-101-142(a)(9)

$25 "Gifts of Aloha" is not our rule.

State's experience: set dollar amount leads to abuses.

Gift Permitted Interaction Group formed

Considering adopting the State's rule – 3-part test (2020)

"You don't have to bring me manapua to meet with me."

Additional Priorities

- Charter Amendment – 2 terms for BOE members
- Extend BOE Jurisdiction to 6 Years (mirrors the State's rule)
- Training – after initial e'ee onboarding, Ø

BOE Board Meeting in Feb '26

EDLC Akitake presenting to Ka Iʻpu Kukui Fellows in Council Chambers

Statistics

Item	MEASUREMENT	COMP (2024)
Informal Advisory Opinions	100 in 7 months	N/A
Formal Advisory Opinions	15 in 2025, 21 so far in 2026	19
Complaints	34 in 2025, 10 so far in 2026	16
FDSs 2026 Annual	52 public 152 private	same
Staffing	3 to start, 5 approved, currently 4	∅
Registered lobbyists	Total 143 registered lobbyists, representing 203 organizations	-

Mahalo
for supporting our vision!

BOE Members @ Office Blessing in Feb '26, L to R: Vice Chair Lilly, Member Dodson, Member Swann, EDLC Akitake, & Chair Sturdevant

Available as a resource for questions:

LAUREN M. AKITAKE
Executive Director & Legal Counsel
(808) 270-8078
boardofethics@mauicounty.gov
https://www.mauicounty.gov/170/Board-of-Ethics

Great Committee

From: Board Of Ethics <BoardOfEthics@co.maui.hi.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 4:11 PM
To: Great Committee
Cc: Lauren M. Akitake; Keone J. Hurdle
Subject: RE: GREAT 9, 15, and 16
Attachments: 2026-07-28 GREAT Materials-BOE 7(B) Presentation 3-17-26.pdf

Please use this updated file, we added the date of our presentation to the pdf.

Mahalo,

Ryssa

Ryssa K. Tam Ho
Board of Ethics
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From: Board Of Ethics
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 4:01 PM
To: great.committee@mauicounty.us
Cc: Lauren M. Akitake <Lauren.M.Akitake@co.maui.hi.us>
Subject: GREAT 9, 15, and 16

Aloha,

Please see the attached pdf of our 7(b) presentation on 3/17/26, per Chair's request. Please add this to the 7/28 public materials.

Mahalo,

BOE Staff

Board of Ethics
County of Maui

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