L A S V E G A S H A W A I I A N C I V I C C L U B
***Kulia E Loa'a Ka Na'auao* -- Strive to obtain wisdom**
7260 West Azure Drive Suite 140-1052, Las Vegas, NV 89130

Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Political Activity and Representation Policy
(Updated October 10, 2026)

1. Reference. The Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club (LVHCC) is a 501(c)(4) entity as designated by the Internal Revenue Service in July 1989. Accordingly, the below summary provides a short summary of political campaign and lobbying activities.[1]

- Organizations described in Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 501(c)(4) may engage in an unlimited amount of lobbying, provided that the lobbying is related to the organization's exempt purpose
- IRC 501(c)(4) organizations may engage in political campaigns on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office provided that such intervention does not constitute the organization's primary activity
- IRC 501(c) organizations may generally make expenditures for political campaign activities if such activities (and other activities not furthering its exempt purposes) do not constitute the organization's primary activity
- Political activity is not the primary purpose of the LVHCC but such activity can assist in impetus to the Purposes and Objectives of our organization (LVHCC's Constitution Article II)

2. LVHCC will remain non-partisan in its approach to political rallies, support to political candidates, and members running for political office will follow certain constraints.

- LVHCC cannot be seen as backing, endorsing, or fully supporting one candidate in any local, city, state, or federal election over another unless related lobbying, campaigns, or expenditures of funds achieve the Purpose and Goals of this organization and have full Membership support as defined below. To do so would be an ethical and tax code violation and fall under the conduct of partisan politics
- LVHCC can provide information to the Membership related to candidates of political parties and even host candidates during various events to provide information to members
- LVHCC can provide politically oriented Letters of Support, which become matters of public record, as long as the current Pelekekina discusses the intent to support with the Mainland Council Pelekekina AND the Letter requestor provides suitable input related to Native Hawaiian issues they intend to support

[1] Reilly, John Francis and Braig Allen, Barbara A., "Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities of IRC 501(c)(4), (c)(5), and (c)(6) Organizations," *Exempt Organizations-Technical Instruction Program for FY 2003*, (Internal Revenue Service), https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/eotopicl03.pdf, Accessed 12 Nov 2022.

3. Intent: this policy is established to ensure civil and political rights of individual members are maintained within LVHCC and, with greater understanding, that LVHCC seeks collective support for its goals and purposes.

POLITICAL CANDIDATES

a. Information on political events and candidate discussion forums may be announced during LVHCC meetings, LVHCC hosted events, on LVHCC social media sites, via the Club's website, and/or recurring emailed notices.

b. LVHCC may invite candidates from differing political parties to present their platforms at General Membership Meetings (GMM) and LVHCC hosted events with oversight by the Pelekikena assuring that the presence of the candidate(s) is in alignment with LHVCC's Purposes and Goals.

c. LVHCC may endorse or protest a political candidate running for Federal, State, County, City, Agency, or Organization levels should the purpose of the candidate promote or be in conflict with the Purposes and Goals of LVHCC. Such endorsement or protest must have a unanimous vote at an LVHCC GMM prior to any endorsement or protest. Such endorsement or protest also covers a candidate being appointed to an elected or unelected position.

POLITICAL FORUMS AND TESTIMONY:

a. LVHCC may host, participate, or endorse political forums for Federal, State, County, City, Agency, or Organization levels should the purpose of the forum promote or serve interest in the Purposes and Goals of LVHCC. An endorsement or protest of the forum must have a unanimous vote at an LVHCC GMM.

b. LVHCC may afford testimony (written or verbal) to Federal, State, County, City, Agency, or Organization levels should the purpose of the testimony promote or serve interest with the Purposes and Goals of LVHCC. LVHCC members providing testimony as an LVHCC representative must first seek a majority vote of support at the GMM before providing testimony. If time is essential (i.e., the GMM occurs after the event) the Board of Directors are to be notified, will review testimony, and require 2/3rd vote of support for the request. Subsequent to the testimony, the individual(s) giving testimony will provide a report at the next occurring GMM.

c. Should a member of LVHCC also be a member of a different Hawaiian Civic Club, is an elected as a Board Member of an Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC) Council, or be elected as a Board Member of AHCC they may provide testimony without LVHCC approval if that testimony is specific to support the other Club, Council or AHCC. LVHCC will request the member provide a summary of their testimony to enable potential LVHCC support of the other Club, Council, or AHCC issue should the testimony promote or serve interest with the Purposes and Goals of LVHCC.

d. Member testimony provided on subjects outside of the Hawaiian Civic movement does not fall under this policy.

CONDUCT OF MEMBERS:

a. Members attending political events do so as regular members of the community.

b. The wearing or display of LVHCC identity items brings the presence of LVHCC to the public's eye, shows solidarity, and gets candidates to acknowledge the Club's presence and issues. It is with this that the Membership of the LVHCC has oversight as to the importance and purpose of LVHCC exposure. Therefore, the Pelekikena, Officer(s), Board of Director(s), or member(s) requesting to wear or display LVHCC identity items to support or protest candidates; promote, support, or protest issues; or attempt to represent LVHCC at non-regular occurring LVHCC events, must first seek permission with a unanimous vote at a GMM prior to the requested effort. If the GMM occurs after the event, the Board of Directors, via a unanimous vote, can approve the individual(s) attendance and representation of LVHCC and the Board will immediately report the occurrence to the Membership as a point of information at the next occurring GMM.

c. If the vote at the GMM is negative those requesting to wear or display LVHCC identity items or represent LVHCC in any way to support candidates, promote or support issues, or attempt to represent LVHCC at non-regular occurring LVHCC events will acknowledge they are not to represent LVHCC in any way.

d. LVHCC members will not coerce other LVHCC members to attend, nor will they discourage LVHCC members from attending political events or rallies, providing testimony, or other related political activities nor will they solicit political contributions on the part of the Club—the Club does not conduct fund raising for any political candidates or related causes nor does the Club block anyone from civic or political events when not representing LVHCC. Individual fund raising or financial support conducted outside of LVHCC does not fall under this policy.

MEMBERS AS CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE:

a. LVHCC members running for political office will not use LVHCC as a basis for their candidacy. Unless approved by the Membership of the LVHCC, LVHCC members running for political office will not wear LVHCC shirts, use the LVHCC logo in advertisements or literature, or use LVHCC property or LVHCC resources to further their campaign.

b. LVHCC members running for office may seek endorsement from LVHCC and such endorsement must have a unanimous vote at a GMM. The member will adhere to the Conduct of Members section above.

c. Any LVHCC member wishing to support another LVHCC member running for political office as a member of that campaign must do so on their own and without committing LVHCC to financial or other support aspects.

d. A LVHCC member running for non-partisan public office may inform voters of their status and achievements as a member of LVHCC. The member may not, however, use their status as an LVHCC member, or position on the LVHCC Board of Directors, when signing campaign communications and/or solicitations or identifying themselves on campaign signs. This would create the impression that they are running in their official capacity with the backing of, or authority to do so by, LVHCC.

e. Moreover, LVHCC members running for office may not use their title and/or position when endorsing other candidates or political parties nor may they use the LVHCC Club email address, phone number, or mailing address nor send emails, letters, or leave phone messages for their campaign using LVHCC contact information.

VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY

a. A member of LVHCC who violates this policy will become the action of the Board of Directors to review. If a review finds intentional violation, they will have their Membership immediately revoked with no refund of any dues paid. Documentation of the infraction by the member and the Board of Directors' judgment will be read into, and recorded, in the next occurring GMM's minutes.

b. Continued violation of this policy is cause for barring future admission to the Club.

4. The LVHCC Executive Board will annually review this policy.

/s/
KALANI HEU
Pelekikena
Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club

1st Review: November 3, 2020 (Completed)
2nd Review: November 2, 2021 (Completed)
3rd Review: December 7, 2022 (Completed)
4th Review: December 6, 2023 (Completed)
5th Review: November 5, 2024 (Completed)
6th Review: October 10th, 2026