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High court rejects challenge to Hawaii campaign finance laws

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WASHINGTON (AP) - The Supreme Court won't hear a challenge to Hawaii campaign finance laws that require a private company buying campaign ads to register as a political action committee.

The justices on Monday rejected an appeal from a Hawaii electrical construction company that spent about \$9,000 on political newspaper advertisements during the 2010 election cycle. The ads from A-1 A-Lectrician, Inc. were critical of Blake Oshiro, a Democratic incumbent candidate for Hawaii's state legislature.

Hawaii law requires any entity that spends more than \$1,000 to influence elections to register as a PAC, triggering reporting and disclosure requirements. The company argues that the law is too burdensome and should apply only to entities whose primary purpose is political activity.

State officials say the law encourages transparency and prevents corruption in political campaigns.

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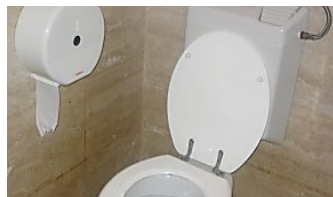


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