

National Officeholder Conduct and Accountability Policy Act

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Preamble

Whereas the state has made some questionable financial decisions that make no sense

Whereas there is a need for more accountability in general.

The following is enacted into law by the Senate of SimDemocracy.

Article 1: Definitions

§1. **Conflict of Interest:** A situation in which a public official's personal or financial interests could reasonably be expected to improperly influence the impartial performance of their official duties or responsibilities.

§1.1. A conflict exists only where a decision creates a foreseeable and substantial benefit to the official's private interests beyond the impact experienced by the general public or a broad class of similarly situated individuals.

§2. **Public Official:** An individual who works in or heads a publicly funded organisation.

§2.1. Private Organisations that simply do business with the government shall not be considered publicly funded organisations.

§3. **Prominent Role:** A position of significant authority, influence, or public visibility.

§4. **Public Office :** Any position in a publicly funded organisation.

§4.1. The President, Vice President, Judges, Justices and Senators of SimDemocracy may not be removed from their positions.

Article 2: Prohibitions

- §1. Public Officials must not make, participate in, or influence decisions in which they have a conflict of interest.
- §2. Public Officials must not use their position to benefit:
 - a. Themselves.
 - b. A business they own or work for.
 - c. Any organization or foreign government where they hold a prominent role.
- §3. Public Officials must not accept gifts, services, or favors worth more than 50 tau from individuals or entities that:
 - a. Do business with the government.
 - b. Are regulated by the official's office.
 - c. Have interests pending before the official.
- §4. The legislative conduct, including proposing, debating and voting on bills, of Senators shall be exempt but conduct that could not reasonably be considered legislative conduct shall not be exempt.

Article 3: Conflict of Interest Procedure

- §1. A public official must recuse themselves from any decision-making process where a conflict of interest exists.
- §2. Such a decision to recuse oneself must be promptly communicated to all direct superiors and to the next person in command, if applicable.
- §3. Any decisions made in a conflict of interest shall remain in effect unless altered by another authority.

Article 4: Amendments to Criminal Code

- §1. The criminal code shall be amended to add an article, named "Breach of Public Accountability," as Article 30b which shall read :
 - "§1. A violation of any provision of Article 2 of the [National Officeholder Conduct and Accountability Policy Act](#) shall constitute the crime of Breach of Public Accountability.
 - §2. Any citizen of SimDemocracy may prosecute a charge of Breach of Public Accountability regardless of any other laws regarding criminal prosecution.
 - §3. Any case of Breach of Public Accountability may be dismissed in Pre-Trial if the conflict of interest is extremely minor and inconsequential.
 - §4. Any person convicted of Breach of Public Accountability shall be fined up to 5000 tau.

§5. Any person convicted of Breach of Public Accountability shall also :

a. Be Removed from any Public Office(s), used in the commission of the crime, as defined in [National Officeholder Conduct and Accountability Policy Act](#).

b. Be Prohibited from holding any new Public Officers as defined in [National Officeholder Conduct and Accountability Policy Act](#) for a period of up to 4 weeks.

§5.1. The Judge may ignore this last provision if the offense is deemed to be minor.