



STATE INNOVATION EXCHANGE

## **Request for Proposals: Hawaii Legislative Consultant, Democracy and Economic Empowerment Innovations**

The State Innovation Exchange (SiX) seeks a senior consultant to build legislator knowledge and capacity to champion innovative democracy and economic reforms, and to directly support legislators and advocates on policy campaigns in Hawaii. We expect this contract to last for nine months (approx. November 2021 to July 2022), with a consultant on retainer for \$6,000 per month.

### **About the State Innovation Exchange**

We are a national resource and strategy center that collaborates with state legislators to improve people's lives through transformative public policy. SiX works in close coordination with legislators, advocacy groups, think tanks, and activists to provide the tools and information legislators need to be successful. We provide state legislators with policy support, communication products, research, training, convenings, technical assistance and strategic advice. We are committed to building power at the state level by providing lasting and personalized support for state legislators.

### **Project Overview**

The Innovations Accelerator project will support and organize state legislators to advance a new wave of transformative, race-forward democracy and economic empowerment policies. The Accelerator will catalyze learning, idea-generation, and innovation among state legislators. In close partnership with local and national advocates, SiX aims to expose legislators to cutting edge policy initiatives, facilitate strategy conversations with peers and partners, and deploy our unique set of services to enact bold, race-forward democracy and economic reforms. Participating legislators in the Democracy and Economy Accelerators will explore topics such as universal voting rights restoration, voter language access, Native community voting access, legislative modernization, labor and worker power, corporate governance, new forms of taxation, and consumer protections. These policies reflect the spectrum of new, cutting edge reforms, each of which has a demonstrated ability to expand access to the ballot, improve true representation in government, and advance true economic empowerment for communities.

### **Position Summary**

We are seeking a senior consultant to deepen our organization's connections with Hawaii lawmakers and advocates, to build legislator knowledge and capacity to champion innovative democracy and economic reforms, and to directly support policy campaigns in Hawaii. The consultant will collaborate closely with state and national partners and SiX staff to support state legislators in pursuit of transformative policy change.

## Scope of Work

- *Legislator & Partner Outreach*: Increase the depth and breadth of relationships with legislators and advocates in Hawaii. Increase legislator and partner knowledge and use of SiX's suite of services.
- *Deepen SiX's engagement with and support to democracy and economic empowerment advocacy ecosystems in Hawaii*: Conduct outreach to appropriate partners in target states to build relationships, awareness, and engagement in SiX's two Innovation Accelerator initiatives. Ensure that state-level policy work aligns with local priorities and is inclusive of local partner voices.
- *Organize in-state briefings and strategy sessions for legislators and partners*: Identify opportunities to educate legislators on key democracy and economy policy reforms and/or opportunities for in-state strategy conversations to advance policy innovations.
- *Connect legislators to cross-state learning opportunities*: Collaborate with SiX Democracy and Legislative staff to organize cross-state democracy learning opportunities and facilitate target state legislator presence in these virtual gatherings.
- *Support caucuses and coalitions during session*: As specific legislative battles arise, help legislators internally organize and respond rapidly inside the dome. This could include support with political strategy or communications.
- *Documentation, Reporting & Connecting*: Share regular updates and check-in with SiX's Democracy and Legislative Teams. Facilitate connections between legislators and partners and SiX staff.

**Consultancy Rate:** \$6,000 per month

## How to Apply

Interested consultants should submit the following materials to [sunila@stateinnovation.org](mailto:sunila@stateinnovation.org) with "Hawaii Legislative Consultant" in the subject line:

- A CV detailing relevant work experience
- A cover letter detailing why you are interested in this role and why you are a strong fit to achieve these project objectives
- At least two references relevant to the scope of work

## Application Timeline

October 22, 2021: Priority application deadline

→ *Applications reviewed on a rolling basis.*

October 25 - November 1, 2021: Target deliberation & selection period

→ *Email [sunila@stateinnovation.org](mailto:sunila@stateinnovation.org) with questions or for updates on the position status.*

November 8, 2021: Target project start date

July 31, 2022: Approximate project end date

## Selection & Evaluation Criteria

Candidates should ideally have:

- Proven commitment to furthering an equitable, participatory democracy and an economy that works for all
- Expertise and relationships in the Hawaii legislature and advocacy ecosystem, with the ability to develop new trusting relationships
- Experience working in policy, campaigns, and/or advocacy in the democracy or economic empowerment spaces
- Strong attention to detail, initiative, and organizing skills

We will evaluate proposals on several dimensions:

- Qualifications (What level of risk do we perceive based on the bidder's qualifications?)
- Approach (Do we believe the approach will help us reach our objectives and syncs with the mission of our organization?)
- Feasibility (Do we believe the engagement will set us up for success in implementation?)

*The State Innovation Exchange is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from all qualified individuals including women, people of color, persons with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) individuals.*