

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 8, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2565
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 2565 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds to the Office of Elections (OE) to provide printed and electronic forms of voter registration, voter information, and educational materials for voters in the Korean language.

OE and the League of Women Voters of Hawaii testified in support of this bill.

OE has indicated that it currently provides election materials in Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino (Ilocano), as determined by the U.S. Department of Justice using population data from the 2000 census and pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act.

Your Committee finds that other sizable populations of individuals, including Samoans, Laotians, and Vietnamese, may also benefit from having election materials translated into their respective languages. Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Allowing the Chief Election Officer to use the appropriation to provide voter information, voter registration, and voter educational materials in any language deemed appropriate by the Chief Election Officer; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2565, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2565, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



