

FEB 12 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1956

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred
S.B. No. 1956 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE STATES
TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to add a new chapter to the
Hawaii Revised Statutes to enact an interstate compact, the
Agreement among the States to Elect the President by National
Popular Vote, to enable the winner of the presidential election to
be determined by national popular vote.

The compact would take effect only upon adoption by states
collectively possessing a sufficient number of electoral votes to
elect the president. Each member state would conduct a general
election in which votes are cast for slates of candidates for
president and vice president of the United States. The chief
election officer of each member state would report to each other
member state the number of votes cast for each presidential slate.
The "national popular vote total" for each presidential slate
would be tallied. All of each member state's electoral votes
would be awarded to the slate with the highest national popular
vote total.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from FairVote, National Popular Vote, and a concerned individual.

Your Committee finds that a national popular vote system
addresses a deep concern among many of Hawaii's citizens about an

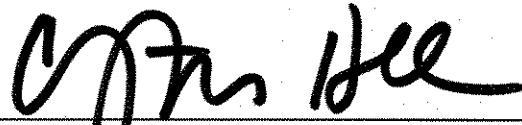


electoral college system that can, and has, let our nation's leader be someone other than the individual most voters selected.

Your Committee is mindful that all states must adopt this interstate compact in substantially identical form. Accordingly, your Committee is passing this measure unamended, with the understanding that as this measure moves through the legislative process, it may be appropriate to include additional language to enact the compact into law, and to amend section 14-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to require the chief election officer's compliance with election procedures in the compact.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1956 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.


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


CLAYTON HEE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 1956		2-6-07
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____		
The Recommendation is:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit		
<small>2312 2311 2310 2313</small>		
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)
Nay	Excused	
HEE, Clayton (C)	/	
KOKUBUN, Russell S. (VC)	/	
INOUE, Lorraine R.	/	
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	/	
GABBARD, Mike	/	
TOTAL	5	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">  </div>		
Distribution:	Original	Yellow
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Pink
		Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes