

MAR 13 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR TO
CONVENE HEARINGS TO DETERMINE THE RATIONALE FOR SELECTING
THE NEW VOTING SYSTEM AND ASSESS THE PREPAREDNESS OF THE
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS FOR THE 2008 ELECTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the Office of Elections intends to implement a new
2 statewide voting and vote counting equipment system in time for
3 Hawaii's 2008 Primary Election, to be held on September 20,
4 2008; and

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6 WHEREAS, the announcement of the selection of a new voting
7 and vote counting equipment system was not made until January
8 31, 2008; and

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10 WHEREAS, citizens have voiced concerns that it will be very
11 difficult to effectively install and implement a new voting
12 system in time for the 2008 elections; and

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14 WHEREAS, the cost of the new voting system was offered at
15 \$52,875,944, the highest bid among the four submitted, and the
16 lowest bid was offered at \$18,126,865; and

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18 WHEREAS, the new Hawaii Chief Election Officer officially
19 began his duties and responsibilities on February 1, 2008, the
20 day after the selection of the new voting and vote counting
21 equipment system was announced; and

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23 WHEREAS, the new Chief Election Officer does not have
24 recent or significant experience in managing or implementing
25 statewide elections; now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
29 that the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor is requested to
30 convene hearings to determine the rationale for selecting a
31 voting system that is approximately \$34 million more than the
32 lowest bid submitted and to also assess the preparedness of the
33 Office of Elections for the 2008 elections; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the assessment of the Senate
2 Committee on Judiciary and Labor include the following:

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4 (1) The readiness of the Office of Elections to implement
5 the new voting and vote counting equipment system;
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7 (2) The legitimacy of concerns surrounding the technology
8 to be employed by the new voting and vote counting
9 equipment system; and
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11 (3) The ability of the new Chief Election Officer to
12 implement the new voting and vote counting equipment
13 system and effectively run and manage the election;
14 and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the President of the
18 Senate, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and
19 Labor, and the Chief Election Officer.
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OFFERED BY: 

