

JAN 23 2009

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that voter registration  
2 is stagnant in the State. The legislature further finds that  
3 voter registration should be encouraged to increase the number  
4 of eligible voters, as a fundamental principle of participatory  
5 democracy.

6           SECTION 2. This Act shall be known as the Universal Voter  
7 Registration Act.

8           SECTION 3. All residents of the State of Hawaii who are  
9 eligible to register to vote shall register to vote under  
10 procedures set forth in law. A resident who declines to  
11 register to vote must do so by affirmatively declining to  
12 register.

13           The deadline for registration or to affirmatively decline  
14 to register shall be the first Tuesday in January of the first  
15 federal election year following the November 2008 elections, and  
16 the same date of every federal election year thereafter.



1 SECTION 4. The chief election officer shall adopt rules  
2 pursuant to chapter 91 necessary for purposes of this Act,  
3 including the provision of forms.

4 SECTION 5. A person who is eligible to register to vote  
5 and who fails to do so or to affirmatively decline to register,  
6 as required under this Act, shall:

- 7 (1) Be subject to a fine not to exceed \$ ; and
- 8 (2) Be ineligible for state-sponsored benefits or
- 9 employment;

10 provided that a person may show proof of compliance with this  
11 Act to avoid penalty under this section.

12 SECTION 6. All fines received by the State under section  
13 4(1) of this Act shall be deposited into the general fund for  
14 expenditure to defray expenses of the office of elections to  
15 register votes and conduct election education.

16 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**  
Voter Registration

**Description:**  
Enacts the Universal Voter Registration Act.

