

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2012

RE: H.B. No. 2181

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred
H.B. No. 2181 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VACANCIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend the
deadline to file nomination papers associated with the filing of a
vacancy in the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Office
of Hawaiian Affairs.

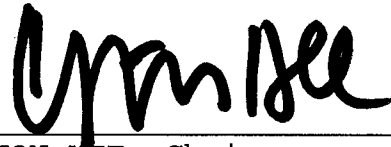
Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of Elections, Office of the County Clerk of the
County of Maui, and Office of the County Clerk of the County of
Kauai. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs submitted comments.

Your Committee finds that the State risks violating federal
election laws during this year's Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board
of Trustees vacancy election. The National Defense Authorization
Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law No. 111-84, requires mailing
absentee ballots to uniformed and overseas voters no later than
forty-five days prior to an election. Under existing state law,
candidates for the vacancy election may file their candidacy
papers up to fifty days prior to a general election. By placing
the deadline for candidates to file at sixty days prior to the
general election, which this measure proposes, the Office of
Elections will have sufficient time within which to print and mail
ballots to overseas and uniformed voters, consequently increasing
the likelihood of complying with the federal election law.



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 H.B. No. 2181, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



CLAYTON HEE, Chair



