

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

727

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 12, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 300

H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 300 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INFORMED VOTING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to promote voter education concerning constitutional and county charter amendments by requiring the Chief Election Officer:

- (1) To publish a ballot pamphlet that contains a "plain language" description of any proposed amendments to be prepared by the Legislature, or county clerk or the county clerk's designee, as applicable; and
- (2) To publish a website that incorporates the information contained in the ballot pamphlet, and other related information, and allows for public discussion of the amendments.

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii, Common Cause Hawaii, Councilmember of District IV of the Honolulu City Council, and a concerned individual testified in support of this measure. The Office of the County Clerk of the County of Maui testified in opposition to this bill. The Office of Elections and Office of the County Clerk of the County of Kauai provided comments.

HB300 HD1 HSCR JUD HMS 2013-1713



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Legislative Reference Bureau, instead of the Legislature, to prepare summaries for proposed amendments to the Hawaii State Constitution;
- (2) Requiring that any summaries prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau, or the county clerk or the county clerk's designee, as applicable, be submitted to the Office of Elections no later than ninety days prior to the general election;
- (3) Narrowing the scope of the required features of the website to be maintained by the Office of Elections; and
- (4) 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. 300, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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



---

KARL RHOADS, Chair



