



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
www.hawaii.gov/elections

SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

**TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 321
RELATING TO ELECTIONS**

February 21, 2013

Chair Rhoads and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 321. The purpose of this bill is to provide a process for voter registration on election day at polling places.

The Office of Elections is in support of election day voter registration as it provides qualified individuals the opportunity to register and vote on election day at their designated polling places based on their current residence address.

Presently, if a citizen does not register by the voter registration deadline, which is the thirtieth day prior to the election, that person cannot vote in that election. House Bill No. 321 would allow a person to register and vote on election day.

In previous discussions regarding "election day registration," the issue of voter fraud has always been a concern. Hawaii's voting system has built-in checks and balances to prevent voter fraud from occurring. For example, any registered voter, rightfully in the polling place on election day, may challenge the right of a person to be, or to remain registered as a voter in that precinct, on the bases that: (1) the voter is not the person he/she claims to be; or (2) the voter is not a resident and therefore not entitled to vote in that precinct. HRS § 11-25.

The right to challenge a voter's registration safeguards the integrity of the election process by ensuring that only qualified individuals are allowed to register and vote. Voters that are challenged have the fundamental right to appeal to the Board of Registration and subsequently to the Intermediate Court of Appeals. HRS §§ 11-26 & 11-51.

With this in mind, we would recommend that subsection (c) in Section 1, which provides that the decision of the county clerk or registration clerk assigned to the polling place shall be final, be deleted. This would permit individuals seeking to register to vote

on election day the same ability to appeal to the Board of Registration and subsequently to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as all other registrants are entitled to.

Additionally, the bill should clarify that an individual can only vote in the voting precinct corresponding to where they legally reside, as opposed to any polling place within the county, as the contests that a voter is eligible to vote on will differ, depending on the specific boundaries of the precinct associated with the polling place. HRS §§ 11-11 & 11-12.

As such, we would recommend that subsection (a) in Section 1 be changed from "appearing in person at a polling place for the county in which the individual maintains residence" to "appearing in person at the polling place associated with the individual's legal residence." Administratively this would require individuals to call the Office of Elections or the county clerk's office to determine the proper polling place, associated with their legal residence, they would go to on election day to register and vote.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 321.

RICKY R. WATANABE
County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4800
TTY: (808) 241-5116



JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
Deputy County Clerk

Facsimile: (808) 241-6207
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ELECTIONS DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
4386 RICE STREET, SUITE 101
LIHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAII 96766-1819

TESTIMONY OF RICKY R. WATANABE
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUA'I
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 321
RELATING TO ELECTIONS
February 21, 2013

Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 321. This Bill provides a process for voter registration on Election Day at polling places.

We take no position on the Bill but offer some thoughts on proposed provisions and their impacts to our office and operations, and to voters and other election stakeholders.

Implementing an Election Day registration (EDR) process is much more complicated than it appears. To simply allow someone to register and vote on the same day is easy, the real issue is to ensure that the established process is not overly burdensome for voters and poll workers, yet is sound enough to ensure that the overall voting process is not compromised.

We are particularly concerned with the additional burden being placed on poll workers or the "registration clerk" as noted in the Bill. Though the EDR process for most voters should be fairly straightforward, situations involving questionable voter residency and related issues frequently occur, and are sometimes quite difficult to resolve. Since poll workers (or registrations clerks) are essentially volunteers, we do not believe they should be handling such complex and potentially contentious issues.

Additionally, the Bill will likely increase operating costs for both the State and Counties. "Registration clerks" will require fairly intensive training on the various statutes and administrative rules governing voter registration and residency, and would likely require related support documents or devices to properly fulfill their responsibilities. Provisions requiring the mailing of a registration confirmation notice to each Election Day registrant would be solely a County expense since County Clerks are statutorily responsible for voter registration. A well-developed voter education campaign would also be necessary to ensure all election stakeholders are aware of the upcoming changes.

House Bill No. 321
Testimony of Ricky R. Watanabe
Page 2

Finally, under current law, once the voter registration deadline passes, the “universe” of voters participating in a given election remains relatively static. With EDR, this will no longer be the case and all election stakeholders, particularly candidates, need to be comfortable with the fact that there could be significant increases in the number of voters added to the voter rolls on Election Day.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 321.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ricky R. Watanabe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

RICKY R. WATANABE
County Clerk



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. KUWADA
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF MAUI
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 321
RELATING TO ELECTIONS
FEBRUARY 21, 2013

Chair Rhoads and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. 321. The purpose of this bill is to provide a process for voter registration on election day at the polling places.

The Office of the County Clerk (Clerk's Office), County of Maui, expresses the following grave concerns. Currently, the Clerk's Office recruits up to 839 election day volunteers to operate 34 polling places, spread throughout Maui County, and the control and counting centers in Wailuku. We envision that the Bill will require us to recruit and train at least 40 additional personnel to staff the 34 polling places and to provide the control center computer support necessary to register individuals on Election Day. In order for the envisioned system to work, we believe there must be a computer connection at each polling place, statewide. The polling place voter registration computers must be connected to the real-time statewide voter registration system. These connections presently do not exist.

Operators of the polling place voter registration computers must be well trained relative to the provisions of Hawaii Revised Statutes, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and Federal law applicable to voter registration. Currently, the cadre of such highly trained individuals, i.e., election clerks, is limited and can be found only in election day control centers, not in polling places.

The Bill will result in additional cost to the State and the counties. There is no appropriation included in the Bill for additional personnel and equipment.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill 321.

STEWART MAEDA
County Clerk



MAILE DAVID
Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Elections Division
County of Hawaii
Hawaii County Building
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

TESTIMONY OF STEWART MAEDA
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 321
RELATING TO ELECTIONS
February 21, 2013

Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

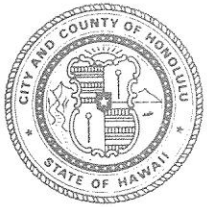
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 321. This bill provides a process for voter registration on Election Day at polling places.

The Office of the County Clerk, County of Hawai'i offers some comments and concerns on the bill.

Election Day Registration although well intended poses serious concerns. The responsibility of voter registration is a statutory responsibility of the counties. Completing the Affidavit on Application for Voter Registration is a simple process for the voter. The responsibility of ascertaining whether the information provided is acceptable for voter registration will be the burden of a precinct official or registration clerk. The official will be required to determine what an acceptable form of voter identification is, what an acceptable residence address is and most importantly assigning the voter to their correct district/precinct. These functions are currently the responsibility of permanent staff in the County Elections office. In the Election office these employees have access to all of the necessary information needed to determine that voters are registered correctly before voting on Election Day.

We believe maximizing voter registration is one of the most important functions of our office as well as maintaining the integrity of the voter registration list.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 321.



LATE

ELECTIONS
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BERNICE K.N. MAU
City Clerk

Comments on HB321
Relating to Elections.

House Committee on Judiciary
February 21, 2013
Rm. 325, 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Rhoads and members of the Committee:

We provide the following comments on HB321 which proposes to authorize election day voter registration.

While the prospect of universally enfranchising any eligible person appears progressive and unobjectionable in an age where instant access to services is increasingly expected, we remind the Committee that a voter registration deadline continues to serve several noteworthy purposes.

Most notable is the purpose of establishing a reasonable level of “certainty” for election planning and resource allocation. This certainty also benefits candidates in their “get out the vote” campaign efforts, ensures that precinct officials are not unexpectedly overwhelmed, and allows voters to have a more or less predictable voting experience (in terms of wait times/lines, etc.).

Secondly, while there is debate as to where the proper balance should be struck, a voter registration deadline also serves the purpose of providing a layer of integrity by essentially limiting the number of last minute additions to the general register. The “limitation” on last minute additions creates an important mindset for stakeholders in establishing that only voters in their proper precincts are allowed to cast a ballot.

Finally, if it is the intent of the Legislature to allow a person to register on election day and to cast a ballot simultaneously, it should be aware that a cast ballot cannot be retrieved (nor election results amended) if that election day ballot was issued either fraudulently (albeit unlikely) or perhaps erroneously (i.e. without proper authorization/documentation, in the wrong precinct, or if not in adherence to established procedure).

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comment.



House Judiciary Committee
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Sharon Har

Thursday 02/21/13 at 02:00PM in Room 325
HB321– Relating to Elections

TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB321. This bill would establish a process that would enable eligible voters to register to vote (and thus, vote) on Election Day.

Our current voter registration method is archaic and burdensome for citizens, and excludes many eligible voters from participating in our democracy. The current registration system favors those who are highly motivated, very interested in politics early on in the election/campaign season, plan far in advance to ensure that they are registered to vote, and does not allow residents who have moved to vote unless they have re-registered to vote. For others, the voter registration system is a major hurdle. The 30-day registration deadline makes it more difficult for those who are less involved in politics, unfamiliar with the voter registration process and its associated deadlines, or have recently moved residences. We need to stake strides in voting modernization, and create a system that empowers all eligible citizens to vote -- enacting Election Day registration is one step we can take to modernize our voting system.

“Election Day Registration” (EDR) has proven successful in nine other states, and the District of Columbia, for many years: Maine, Minnesota, and Wisconsin have had EDR since the early 1970s; Wyoming, New Hampshire, and Idaho have had EDR laws since the early 1990s; Montana, Iowa, and North Carolina approved their EDR laws in 2006 and 2007. And as of 2007, 23 states have considered EDR.⁽¹⁾

Prior to 2006, six states that have implemented Election Day Registration saw an increase in voter turnout: approximately 10-17 percent higher than the national average.⁽²⁾

A 2008 Hawaii-focused EDR study by California Institute of Technology and New York University – commissioned by Demos, a multi-issue policy development and advocacy firm -- used statistics from Hawaii’s 2004 elections and concluded the following results for EDR in Hawaii:

- Overall turnout in Hawaii could increase by 5.7 percent;
- Turnout among those aged 18 to 25 could increase by 9.9 percent;
- Turnout among the poorest citizens could increase by 5.7 percent;
- Turnout among the wealthiest citizens could increase by 3.3 percent.⁽³⁾

As a state with the lowest voter turnout in the nation, we must take action to encourage citizen participation in the voting process.

Knowing that this is a leap in how we currently run elections, we'd like to share some findings which address some EDR concerns.

A 2007 study conducted by Demos addressed four key concerns relevant to EDR: administrative load, associated/additional expenses, possible confusion at the polls, and voter fraud. The study concluded the following:

- **Is EDR a burden to administer?**

“About one-third of the respondents characterized the workload impact as modest or marginal.... A number of officials brought up compensating benefits. While EDR creates more work on Election Day itself, about half the survey respondents suggested that it had reduced or eliminated the familiar pattern (in non-EDR states) of a pre-deadline surge of registrations.”

- **Does it make elections more expensive?**

“Most of the respondents described the incremental cost of EDR as minimal... But the overall effect, a number of respondents indicated, was not to add work or expense, but merely to shift the cost burden from one time and place to another.”

Participants also noted that EDR was a cost-saving move because more money was spent on election “judges” (i.e., those registering voters on election day) at the polls, and less money on in-house staff or temporary workers at the election office(s).’

- **Does it cause confusion at the polls?**

Election Day Registration makes things harder for election workers but easier for voters—that was the overall judgment of a number of respondents.

- **Does it encourage fraud?**

“The great majority of respondents rated current fraud-prevention measures sufficient to protect the integrity of elections.”⁽¹⁾

Especially in light of redistricting and changes in polling places, we must create a voting system that encourages eligible voters to participate in our elections. Election Day Registration would help to diffuse confrontations three scenarios that many voter precinct workers and eligible voters have expressed to us:

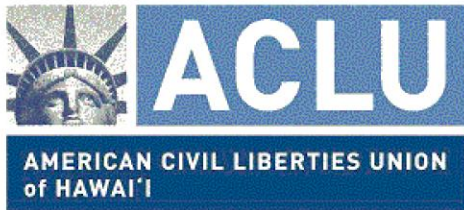
- 1) When voters’ names are missing from registration lists for that particular precinct, they are instructed to commute to a different precinct.
- 2) When eligible voters have moved and did not renew their “voting address” (i.e., re-register to vote), they are not allowed to cast a ballot. Often, they did not know that they had to re-register to vote “just because” they’ve moved.
- 3) When eligible voters – and many times would-be-first-time-voters—who have not had a history of participating in politics and government, show up to the polls not realizing that: 1) they need to register to vote prior to voting 2) not knowing what the voting registration deadlines were

In all three scenarios, eligible voters have expressed frustration, a loss of confidence in our voting systems, and a disinterest in attempting to participate in future elections.

We urge the Committee to pass this bill and ask all the Committee members to champion this and other efforts for improving voter participation in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB321.

- 1) Demos, Election Day Registration: A Ground Level View. 2007
<http://www.demos.org/publication/election-day-registration-ground-level-view>
- 2) National Conference of State Legislatures: Same Day Voter Registration. Feb. 19, 2013.
<http://www.ncsl.org/legislatures-elections/elections/same-day-registration.aspx>
- 3) Demos. Election Day Registration in Hawaii. Nov. 11, 2008
<http://www.demos.org/publication/election-day-voter-registration-hawaii>



LATE

Committee: Committee on Judiciary
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 21, 2013, 2:00 pm
Place: Conference Room 325
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support to H.B. 321, Relating to Elections

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU of Hawaii”) writes in support to H.B. 321, which provides a process for voter to register to vote on election day at polling places.

H.B. 321 seeks to ensure that all Hawaii’s people are able to exercise their fundamental right to vote by reducing the barriers that make it harder to cast a ballot. The people who would be most affected are students, anyone who moves near election time, younger/new/infrequent voters, or simply busy working folks. We should be in the business of encouraging participation in our democracy, not turning people away from the polls who would otherwise be eligible to vote.

In 2012, Hawaii had the lowest voter turnout rate in the country with only sixty two percent of registered voters casting their ballots.¹ At least ten other states, plus the District of Columbia, have adopted same day voter registration laws. Additionally, fourteen states have proposed legislation to allow same day registration this year.² Election day registration has been shown to increase voter turnout by 10-12%, which means that H.B. 321 will go far towards increasing voter access and voter turnout and making sure that all Hawaii’s people are able to exercise their right to vote.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. Temple
Staff Attorney and Legislative Program Director
ACLU of Hawaii

¹ Hawaii General 2012 State of Hawaii Summary Report, available at <http://hawaii.gov/elections/results/2012/general/elections/results/2012/general/files/histatewide.pdf>.

² National Conference of State Legislatures, <http://www.ncsl.org/legislatures-elections/elections/same-day-registration.aspx> (last visited February 20, 2013).

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
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Chair Rhoads and Members of Committee on Judiciary
February 21, 2013
Page 2 of 2

The ACLU has been the nation's guardian of liberty since 1925 and the ACLU of Hawaii since 1965. The ACLU works daily in the courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties equally guaranteed to all by the Constitutions and laws of the United States and Hawaii. The ACLU works to ensure that the government does not violate our constitutional rights, including, but not limited to, freedom of speech, association and assembly, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, fair and equal treatment, and privacy. The ACLU network of volunteers and staff works throughout the islands to defend these rights, often advocating on behalf of minority groups that are the target of government discrimination. If the rights of society's most vulnerable members are denied, everyone's rights are imperiled.

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LATE

League of Women Voters of Hawaii

49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
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COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair and Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice-Chair
Thursday, February 21, 2013, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325
H.B. 321, Relating to Elections

TESTIMONY
Janet Mason, Vice-President, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Har, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports House Bill 321 that provides a process for voter registration on election day at polling places (this is sometimes called “election day registration” or “same day registration”).

Why are there so many people in Hawaii not registered to vote? Today, approximately 270 thousand residents of Hawaii who are eligible to vote are still not registered to vote. This represents almost 28% of eligible persons.¹

The League of Women Voters does not fully understand why Hawaii residents are not registering to vote. Some of the people who are eligible choose not to vote or have let their registrations lapse; others might want to vote, but are very busy, haven't bothered to register or don't know how to register. In Hawaii we can even register to vote by mail, and elections officials are committed to registering voters. But this measure would open up our registration process further, where the current options present a barrier to unregistered but eligible voters.

We think lack of registration is probably the leading reason for Hawaii's consistently low voting rate. In the 2012 Hawaii general elections, the voting rate for all eligible persons of voting age was only 44.5% percent, while the voting rate for people who were registered to vote was considerably higher at 61.9%, showing that registration is key to turnout.²

¹ Source: Number of eligible voters is from City and County Data released in November 2012; estimated number of voting eligible population is from [U.S. Elections Project](#), 2012 general election figures.

² Hawaii Office of Elections Factsheet - FSVS505H Rev. 01/08/13



League of Women Voters of Hawaii

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Eight states plus the District of Columbia presently offer same-day registration (SDR), allowing any qualified resident of the state to go to the polls on Election Day, register that day, and then vote. Another two states--California and Connecticut--have enacted same-day registration but have not yet implemented it.³ These states are taking steps to ensure that eligible voters are not turned away because of errors in their registrations or failure to register before Election Day.

States that allow same day registration have consistently led the nation in voter participation. The evidence demonstrates that same day registration leads to increased voter turnout. In the six Same Day Registration (SDR) states that had SDR prior to 2006 and North Dakota (which has no voter registration), turnout is 10 percent to 17 percent higher than the national average. Minnesota estimates that Election Day registrations account for five percent to ten percent of voter turnout.⁴

Experts have also projected substantial voter turnout increases in states that are considering adopting SDR, including Hawaii. In a 2011 study, overall turnout here was estimated to go up by 5.3 percent. Turnout among those aged 18 to 25 could increase by 9.2 percent, and turnout for those who have moved in the last six months could increase by 7.3 percent.⁵

And speaking of changing residences, we point out that it is a tremendous challenge for our County Clerks to keep voter registration records current. A major reason is our residents move **frequently**.⁶ Election Day registration should make it easier for our election officials to update registration records for accuracy when voters move and/or change their name.

³ National Conference of State Legislatures, February 19, 2013.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Alvarez, R. Michael and Jonathan Nagler, "ELECTION DAY VOTER REGISTRATION IN HAWAII," Demos, February 16, 2011.

⁶ Over a three-year period, 2005-2007, 163,000 people moved into Hawaii and 190,000 moved out, according to the Pew Research Center Social and Demographic Trends. This figure about frequency of moving doesn't include the number of residents who are moving within Hawaii, but it does illustrate the challenge facing our County Clerks.



League of Women Voters of Hawaii

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In Hawaii, the deadline to register for elections is one month before each election. The League of Women Voters does not think this date is arbitrary, because it allows sufficient time for the hard-working County elections officials to receive and process manual voter registration affidavits and re-registration affidavits in time for Election Day. But does the thirty-day deadline still make sense, particularly when Hawaii will have a statewide online voter registration database by 2016?

In spite of diligent efforts on the part of elections officials, inevitably some voters are left without recourse when faced with registration problems on election day that threaten their right to vote. While we do not believe it will ever be possible to eliminate all human error, the Election Day registration proposed in HB 321 can be an important fail-safe against the unintentional disenfranchisement that can result from administrative error or voter confusion in the registration process. Poll workers do report to the League that inaccurate rolls take their toll on Election Day. Poor registration data can slow down the check-in process and lengthen voter lines (and raise tempers).

The League of Women Voters recognizes that elections officials reasonably worry that SDR would make their jobs more difficult or would be expensive to implement. About one-third of respondents to an elections official survey reported the workload impact as modest or marginal, and the incremental cost of SDR as minimal.⁷

Safeguards to prevent fraud must be adopted along with SDR, and we are pleased to see these are proposed in this measure:

- A signed affidavit from the voter affirming they are qualified to vote, will not vote at any other polling place for that election, and will not cast an absentee ballot for that election;

⁷ "Election Day Registration: a Ground-Level View: What Local Officials have Learned about Letting Americans Register and Vote on the Same Day," **Demos**, February 6, 2013.



League of Women Voters of Hawaii

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- Requiring proof of residence showing current address, and to verify the address, a second document that contains the name and address of the individual ;
- It appears from Section 11-1 (e) that Office of Elections would segregate SDR ballots, and refrain from counting them until verification letters have been sent out to the voter and undeliverable letters are returned.

The League respectfully suggests that in addition to the safeguards enumerated in the measure, your Committee should specify that fraud associated with SDR is subject to the election fraud provisions of Chapter 15, Hawaii Revised Statutes. As reported in a survey of elections officials in states that already provide SDR, the great majority of respondents rated fraud protection measures sufficient to protect the integrity of elections. This was the opinion in both large and small jurisdictions.⁸

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii encourages all people who are eligible to vote to register and to cast an informed vote in all elections. We believe that government should make registration and re-registration easy, while assuring that the basic requirements of citizenship, age, and residency are met.

We are encouraged that last year Hawaii enacted a law to provide for online voter registration by 2016, but we think HB 321 would also encourage registration and voting. This measure would establish one-stop voting where a person would be permitted to register to vote and immediately vote on Election Day or at any time prior to Election Day when ballots may be cast.

Hawaii's democracy needs an upgrade, and there's no better place to start than with our voter registration processes and records. We urge you to pass HB321. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

⁸ Ibid.

HB321

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 21, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lee Aldridge	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. I oppose this bill. Although it is desirable to increase voter registration and turnout, I sincerely believe that this is the wrong way to do it. This bill may make it easier and more convenient for voters, but it does not address the more serious problem our State faces with overall voter ignorance and apathy. Moreover, I believe that this bill if passed into law only serves to increase the potential for voter fraud which is a very real and present danger to the survival of our constitutional republic. If nothing else, the bill should have at least stated that a County Clerk shall assign a poll official to designated polling sites for the purpose of handling voters who attempt to register at the polls on Election Day. The bill only states that a County Clerk "may" assign a responsible official. What happens if the County Clerk Does not assign someone to be in charge of this at a polling place, or what if ther isn't anyone to this or to do the required checking to insure that the process is performed legally? My wife has been a paid volunteer poll worker. Many poll workers are not experienced or well trained at the job. The counties are almost always short of volunteers. If this bill becomes law, there will be an increased need for competent experienced poll workers to make it work to prevent mistakes and fraud which casts a cloud over the validity of elections.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HB321

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 21, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emmons Connell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill opens up more chances for FRAUD on election day. The citizens of Hawaii have the duty and the honor to inform themselves about the voting process and the candidates before election day. Registering and voting on the same day will cause trouble at the polls. Please vote no on this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HB321

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 21, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luke Campbell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: While this bill sounds "good", polling day workload and busy-ness at polling places are ALREADY VERY HIGH .. and instituting paperwork such as this in a time-constrained area makes the probability for error VERY HIGH. There are ALREADY MANY avenues for people to register all year long .. but some people simply choose not to. Constance to purpose with "get out the vote" information within communities (churches, schools, businesses, etc.) is the best method for registration.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HB321

Submitted on: 2/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 21, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Connell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am against this bill because there are many forms of communication these days, eg.: radio, tv, snail mail, internet, phone call reminders, etc. announcing voter registration deadlines for absentee mailing and polling place. Registration at the poll will cause longer lines and a chance for fraud. If a citizen of this country really cares and knows it is an honor to cast their vote then we also know it is our patriotic duty to take the time to register before election day. It is something to cherish.

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HB321

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 21, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosemary Aldridge	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill. Very concerned about Section 1., b. where it is written "the county clerk MAY designate a registration clerk" in order to process same day registrations. "Should" should be substituted for "MAY" . I would state that as someone who has worked as a volunteer several times in polling stations, having same day voter registration is going to require more on site poll workers, will lost Hawaii more money, and could have the potential for voter fraud.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HB321

Submitted on: 2/18/2013

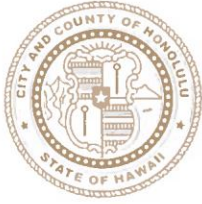
Testimony for JUD on Feb 21, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

February 20, 2013
TESTIMONY OF STANLEY CHANG
COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
On
H.B. No. 321, RELATING TO ELECTIONS
Thursday, February 21, 2013
2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.B. 321 Relating to Elections as a Councilmember for the City and County of Honolulu.

The purpose of this H.B. 321 is to make it easier for the public to register for and vote in elections. By providing a process for voter registration on Election Day at the polling places, this Bill could potentially increase voter turn out.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for your favorable passage of H.B. 321 Relating to Elections and thank the Committee for allowing me to provide testimony.

Sincerely,


Stanley Chang
Councilmember, District IV