



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. 92
RELATING TO VOTING
FEBRUARY 22, 2013

Chair Rhoades and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 92. The purpose of this Bill is to provide that the ballot of an absentee or military-overseas voter is valid even if the voter becomes ineligible to vote after casting the ballot.

The Office of the County Clerk (Clerk's Office), County of Maui, understands that this is a policy matter for the Legislature. The Clerk's Office notes for the reference of the Legislature that we do not segregate one type of absentee ballot from another. Therefore, House Bill No. 92, if enacted, will not have an adverse impact on our handling of absentee ballots.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 92.

The Uniformed Service Member's Voice in Government
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES
Hawaii Chapter (HI-1)

February 19, 2013

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 92

RELATING TO VOTING

.HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL

**HEARING ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND AT 2:00PM,
IN CONFERENCE ROOM 325**

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Vice Chair Har: Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 92. The National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is honored to be recognized as "The Service Member's Voice in Government." Here, in the great State of Hawaii, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) serves at the pleasure of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed service community.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) is extremely grateful for your efforts to Provide that the ballot of an absentee or military - overseas voter is valid even if the voter becomes ineligible to vote after casting the ballot

Amending SECTION 1. Chapter 15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by adding a new section to assure eligibility of the deployed military voter after absentee ballot is fitting recognition of their selfless service to our country.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) respectfully urges your committee to consider passing House Bill 92 as written.

At your service,

D Egge

Dennis Egge; Chapter President



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
Naushawaii1@yahoo.com; 808-382-5833

RICKY R. WATANABE
County Clerk

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



JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
Deputy County Clerk

Facsimile: (808) 241-6207
E-mail: elections@kauai.gov

**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. 92
RELATING TO VOTING
February 22, 2013**

Chair Rhoads and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 92. The purpose of this Bill is to provide that the ballot of an absentee or military-overseas voter is valid even if the voter becomes ineligible to vote after casting the ballot.

Our office takes no position on the Bill but wishes to note that we foresee no issues with implementing its provisions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 92.

RICKY R. WATANABE
County Clerk



Hawaii Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 1185
Kailua, Hawaii 96734-1185

**Testimony of
Thomas Smyth
Military Officers Association of America, Hawaii Chapter
Before the
Committee on Judiciary
Friday, February 22, 2013, 2:00 pm, Room 325
HB 92 Relating to Voting
Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har and Committee Members**

Our chapter of 500 retired and currently serving officers of the Uniformed Services strongly supports HB 92, which provides that a military-overseas ballot of an eligible voter not be deemed invalid solely because the voter became ineligible after casting the ballot.

This measure will allow military-overseas voters the same privileges as provided for any other eligible voters who later become ineligible to vote after casting the ballot. We note that while Hawaii has a commendable record of dealing with military and others voting while overseas, when it comes to voting procedures, it is only fair to provide specifically for this situation of subsequent ineligibility, however unlikely it is to occur.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



**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. 92
RELATING TO VOTING
February 22, 2013

Chair Rhoads and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 92. The purpose of this bill is to provide that the ballot of an absentee or military-overseas voter is valid even if the voter becomes ineligible to vote after casting the ballot. The Office of Elections supports the intent of this bill.

Election officials must have official proof of a person's death before they can be removed from the voter registration rolls and deemed ineligible to vote. This frequently occurs in the form of reports from the Department of Health. Given the short time between casting an absentee mail ballot and the actual election, deaths during this time, generally cannot be officially confirmed, therefore we cannot invalidate the ballot.

Additionally, the Office of Elections notes that administratively there is no consistent means by which an absentee ballot that has been cast can be readily segregated and retrieved from other properly cast ballots so as to be invalidated under HRS § 15-13. The present bill ensures the consistent treatment of all ballots that were cast by voters who were eligible at the time of casting their ballots, but who subsequently became ineligible, by providing that their ballots will be deemed valid.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 92.