

JAN 18 2013

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTION OBSERVERS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-8.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[~~f~~]§11-8.5[~~f~~] **Elections review program.** The elections  
4 commission shall develop and implement an elections review  
5 program to:

6 (1) Review the operation and performance of elections;  
7 (2) Make recommendations to the chief election officer on  
8 methods to improve elections;

9 (3) Establish policies for the administration of an  
10 elections observer program, [~~to include ensuring~~]  
11 which the chief election officer shall implement and  
12 maintain for the purposes of:

13 (A) Ensuring the validity and reliability of election  
14 results;

15 (B) Providing independent observers from the general  
16 public to secure the integrity and security of  
17 the ballot processing and tabulation systems;



- 1           (C) Verifying that the ballot counting program used
- 2           to process and tabulate election results
- 3           functions correctly and accurately;
- 4           (D) Certifying the receipt of ballots from the United
- 5           States post offices, counties, and precinct
- 6           polling places;
- 7           (E) Observing the operations of each ballot counting
- 8           center and reporting all procedural
- 9           irregularities, discrepancies, and other special
- 10          conditions to the counting center management;
- 11          (F) Verifying election results; and
- 12          (G) Maintaining the security of ballots and other
- 13          sensitive elections documents throughout the
- 14          tabulation process and the final storage of all
- 15          such documents.
- 16          (4) Conduct a biennial evaluation of the operation of
- 17          elections;
- 18          (5) Submit the findings and recommendations from the
- 19          biennial evaluation to the legislature, not less than
- 20          twenty days prior to the convening of each regular
- 21          session held in odd-numbered years; and



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1 (6) Adopt rules in accordance with chapter 91 to carry out  
2 the purposes of this section."

3 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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# S.B. NO. 834

**Report Title:**

Elections Observer Program

**Description:**

Specifies the purposes of the elections observer program and the duty of the chief election officer to implement and maintain the program.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

