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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the participation of  
2 eligible voters in elections is vital to American democracy.  
3 More than fifty-one million eligible citizens nationwide remain  
4 unregistered to vote, one in eight voter registration records  
5 contain a serious error, and many voter registration systems  
6 remain inefficient and largely based on outdated technology.

7           The Electronic Registration Information Center, or ERIC, is  
8 a nonprofit organization that was formed in 2012 to help states  
9 improve the accuracy of voter registration rolls by using secure  
10 data-matching tools. ERIC uses the voter registration rolls of  
11 member states and several other databases, such as driver's  
12 licensing records, Social Security Administration records, and  
13 the United States Postal Service's national change of address  
14 registry to compare voting lists. Fifteen states and the  
15 District of Columbia now participate in ERIC and receive, as  
16 member states, reports that show voters who have moved within  
17 the respective states, voters who have moved out of the state,  
18 voters with duplicate registrations within the state, voters who



1 have passed away, and individuals who are potentially eligible  
2 to vote and have not yet registered to vote.

3 The legislature further finds that many persons reside in  
4 Hawaii on a part-time basis. This mobile population may be  
5 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated  
6 registration records, thus challenging the accuracy of Hawaii's  
7 and other states' voter registration rolls. Accordingly, the  
8 legislature finds that modernizing Hawaii's system of verifying  
9 voter registration data is essential to ensuring the integrity  
10 of Hawaii's voter registration rolls.

11 The purpose of this Act is to require:

- 12 (1) The office of elections to join the Electronic  
13 Registration Information Center;
- 14 (2) The State and each county to use the Electronic  
15 Registration Information Center to verify their voter  
16 rolls; and
- 17 (3) Any documents or images of driver's licenses and civil  
18 identification card information maintained by the  
19 department of transportation or the counties to be  
20 electronically provided to election officials and the  
21 statewide voter registration system.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§11- Driver license and state identification card  
5 databases. The databases maintained or operated by the counties  
6 or the department of transportation containing driver's license  
7 and civil identification card information, including any  
8 documents or images, shall be provided electronically to  
9 election officials and the statewide voter registration system  
10 to allow for the timely processing of voter registration  
11 applications and ensure the integrity of the voter registration  
12 rolls or for any other government purpose, as determined by the  
13 chief election officer."

14 SECTION 3. No later than May 8, 2017, the office of  
15 elections shall join the Electronic Registration Information  
16 Center. The office of elections shall share with each county  
17 the information and services provided by the Electronic  
18 Registration Information Center pursuant to terms of the  
19 office's membership agreement with that organization.

20 The office of elections and each county office that  
21 administers elections shall use information and services



1 provided by the Electronic Registration Information Center to  
2 verify their respective voter registration rolls.

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$25,000 or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
6 office of elections to join the Electronic Registration  
7 Information Center.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
9 elections for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 5. Beginning prior to fiscal year 2017-2018, the  
11 office of elections shall request as part of its annual budget  
12 an appropriation from the legislature to pay annual dues for  
13 Hawaii's participation in the Electronic Registration  
14 Information Center.

15 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2059.



**Report Title:**

Voter Registration; Verification; Appropriation

**Description:**

Authorizes the electronic transmission of databases containing driver's license and civil identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system. Requires the Office of Elections to join the Electronic Registration Information Center and share information with counties to encourage voter participation and ensure integrity of voter registration rolls. Appropriates moneys. Effective 1/7/2059. (SD2)

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

