

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3526

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 08 2016

RE: H.B. No. 1654
H.D. 1
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1654, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ABSENTEE BALLOTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to clarify and modernize the process of casting an absentee ballot for an election.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Authorizes a permanent absentee voter to request that an absentee ballot be forwarded, temporarily, to an address other than the voter's registered address;
- (2) Removes restrictions on the class of voters that may request a replacement absentee ballot within five days of an election; and
- (3) Authorizes an absentee voter to request that a replacement absentee ballot be forwarded by electronic transmission and authorizes the absentee voter to submit that ballot electronically.



Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of Elections, the League of Women Voters, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that over the past five years, absentee voting has grown in popularity. Your Committee further finds that expanding the class of voters eligible to request and cast replacement absentee ballots within five days of an election, and allowing the casting of those replacement absentee ballots through additional methods, will help to modernize the voting process and increase voting participation in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of style, clarity, and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1654, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1654, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

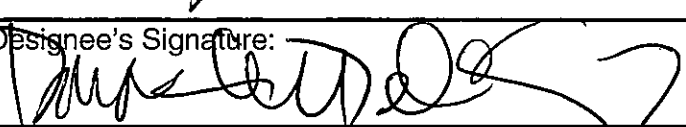


JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1654, HD1, SD1	SDL, WAM	7/28/16		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				/
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	/			
HARIMOTO, Breene				/
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	/			
RIVIERE, Gil	/			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	/			
WAKAI, Glenn	/			
SLOM, Sam	/			
TOTAL	9			2
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes